

Current Events

Current events are discussed and taught weekly using the “Weekly Reader.”

Math

The *McDougal Littell Course I* math series continues with concepts learned from the fifth grade level. Math basics and fundamentals are reinforced at this level, and covers areas in fractions, decimals, place value, algebra basics, integers, statistics, graphing, geometry, and probability. Story problems along with review work on previous lessons are included with the math lesson for the day.

Music

Musicplay curriculum is used. The sixth grade joins the seventh and eighth grade for choir. Students learn breath control, good posture, expression, harmony, diction, and work on intonation. The students participate by singing in church, chapel, and special school programs. Sixth through eighth grade participate in a school musical every three years. There is also an opportunity for playing in the band or recorder.

Art

In art classes we make a variety of projects where children would be exposed to new ideas, various media, and techniques where they would discover ways to express their own ideas, experiences, and feelings. November is art appreciation month when volunteers bring in and discuss famous art works from the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. The sixth graders study the artist

Michelangelo. There is an Art Fair every three years.

Physical Education

Throughout our P.E. classes we pay special attention to social interaction and the improvement of self-concepts, cooperation, and sportsmanship with a strong emphasis on fitness and skill development. We practice and participate in learning vital skills for sports such as soccer, volleyball, basketball, hockey, track and field, softball, skiing, and bowling.

Computer

During computer time we have an opportunity to build our typing skills. Students also learn how to work on Power Point, research the Internet, and play interactive educational games.

D.A.R.E.

In sixth grade we have the complete DARE program and graduation.

St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran School

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CURRICULUM REVIEW

SIXTH GRADE

Teacher: Mr. David Inselmann

Principal

Gary L. Volberding

Religion

Through the *Voyages* series we have the opportunity to share the Good News of God's love and grace with one another by providing both Law and Gospel in each lesson. This New Testament curriculum is designed so that we may know God, especially His seeking and forgiving love in Christ. The series is Christ-centered so that students will have numerous opportunities to grow in their relationship of faith and life with God. As a class we may respond in faith and grow in Christian maturities. We will participate actively in God's mission to the church and the world and finally, that we may live in Christian hope with the blessed assurance of eternal life in heaven through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Memory

A graded memory curriculum has been developed for the sixth grade, which consists of the six chief parts of *Luther's Small Catechism*, selected Bible verses, prayers, and great hymns of faith.

Reading

The reading series, *EMC McMaster Piece 2001*, is focused on using quality literature. The students use stories to develop higher reading comprehension through the use of main ideas, details, sequence, and inference. Classroom discussion is used to gain different and deeper perspectives and interpretations into the stories. Students increase their vocabularies by understanding the meanings and connotations of selected words. Each term a novel is read by students and discussed as a class. Once a week

students visit the library. Students are encouraged to check out books for independent reading. These stories are evaluated by using the Accelerated Reader program in the computer lab..

English

The English series, *McGraw-Hill 2005*, focuses on two main areas. The first area is English grammar. In grammar we focus on the eight parts of speech, punctuation, and capitalization. Students have daily assignments that focus on one main skill. Daily oral language is used to review all of basic grammar skills. The second area is student composition. Essays are written by students to pull together the skills taught in English grammar and develop continuity of thought.

Spelling

In the *Zaner-Bloser* spelling, students pay special attention to the structural connections of English spelling. Students practice prefixes, suffices, inflectional endings, and words that are related by spelling pattern and meaning, thus focusing on comparing words and on discovering structural patterns and relationships among words. The program acknowledges that creative spelling is the result of a valid thinking process. Two religious words are included in the weekly test. Finally, it enables students to apply what they learned about spelling in their writing.

Science

The sixth grade uses Prentice Hall 2007 to study the intricacies of God's created,

incredible world. The areas of study focuses on electricity and magnetism; motion, forces and energy, astronomy, earth and animals. Science is taught by use of textbooks, demonstrations, lecture and labs. Sex education is taught every other year and a Science Fair is held every three years.

Social Studies

The *Harcourt Brace* social studies program focuses on early world history. The students learn about ancient cultures like the Sumerians, Egyptians, Indus Valley civilization, early Chinese's dynasties (Shang, Zhou, Han, Chin), Olmec, Greek, Roman, and Byzantine. A number of skills are also incorporated like time lines, latitude and longitude, compare and contrast, interpretation of climate maps, and cause and effect. Computer simulations are also used to give students a feel for what life was like in ancient times. The Minnesota history aspect focuses on the main events in Minnesota history and on taking a number of field trips to interesting locations with historical significance. There is a Social Studies Fair held ever three years.