

Social Studies

The curriculum focuses extensively on civics, economics, and the geography of the United States and North America. There is a strong emphasis on the study of historic documents including the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. Students learn about the political process through a study of upcoming elections, and the workings of the U.S. government. Emphasis is placed on civics and the responsibilities and duties of citizens. Economics is studied both from a national perspective and a personal perspective, with activities including developing personal budgets and comparing these to the development of the federal budget. The study of economics culminates in a trip to Finance Park in Pinellas County. Students use a variety of maps, diagrams, charts, internet resources, and worksheets. There is extensive note-taking, with stress on critical thinking and writing skills, as well as group work and hands-on activities.

Spanish

Seventh grade Spanish is a continuation of sixth grade curriculum with more emphasis on writing. More intensive grammar is introduced. Students work with audio and visual materials to increase comprehension.

Homework

Homework is assigned on a daily basis. Students must complete all assignments and are expected to turn them in on the assigned date. Projects are assigned well in advance. Students must plan their time accordingly to meet deadlines.

Conferences

Two formal parent and teacher conferences are scheduled each school year. Parents are also encouraged to meet with their child's teacher to discuss academic progress.

Specials

Students participate in a variety of classes to enhance the basic curriculum which include: Art, Music, Physical Education, Media Science, Spanish, Computer and Study Skills.

"Act justly, love tenderly, walk humbly with God"

-Micah 6:8

SEVENTH GRADE CURRICULUM

Religion

Language Arts

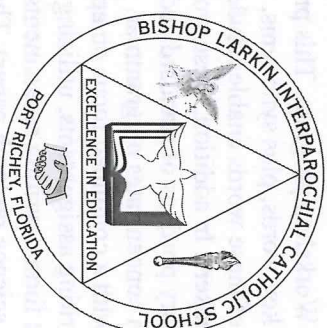
Math

Science

Social Studies

Spanish

Homework



Bishop Larkin Catholic School

8408 Monarch Drive
Port Richey, FL 34668
(727) 862-6981

Accredited by Florida Catholic Conference

Religion

The seventh grade program is the New Testament which focuses on the liturgy and the sacraments. The main theme here is JESUS. Students study the life, values, and teachings of Jesus and are challenged to live a Christian lifestyle. Through Scripture, students will learn to appreciate the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation as signs of hope. Students are encouraged to develop Christian attitudes toward themselves and others.

Language Arts

Reading: The basis of the reading program utilizes Prentice-Hall literature. Each text is divided into 10 themes that incorporate a variety of genres. Each piece of literature focuses on a different literary skill that is reinforced by several activities included at the end of each piece of work. Students demonstrate their comprehension of the literature and related skills through on-going assessments, including independent and group activities, quizzes, selection tests, and theme tests. Each class also reads at least one novel and completes various projects, quizzes, and tests based on the novel. Students also are expected to read independently and have a reading goal each quarter, for a project grade.

Vocabulary: In addition to the literature-based vocabulary, middle school utilizes the Vocabulary Workshop program. This program introduces students to hundreds of key words, plus synonyms, antonyms, and other related words. Mastery of these words enables students to become better readers, writers, and speakers. In addition, these words serve to prepare students for the vocabulary portions of standardized tests.

English: The curriculum concentrates on grammar, sentence structure, usage, and mechanics, with a continued focus on application. Students complete a variety of writing assignments, utilizing the Six Traits of Writing, including three formal writing assessments, as well as cross-curriculum writing (i.e. science research paper). The web-based Criterion writing program is used on a weekly basis.

Spelling: Students are introduced to a phonics lesson based on the selection of study in their literature series. An emphasis is placed on related skills such as vocabulary, word structure, and affixes. Quizzes are generated from these lessons.

Math

The McGraw-Hill math series provides the basis for the 7th grade math program. There are two tracks in the program – grade-level and accelerated. In the grade-level class, the course of study involves developing an understanding of proportional relationships and how to apply them, including scale drawings. They use rational numbers to solve a variety of Algebraic expressions and equations, using a variety of problem-solving strategies. Different areas of Geometry, such as finding the area, surface area, volume, and circumference of different figures, are explored. And they will learn how to draw inferences from statistical information and about populations based on samples. The textbook for the 7th grade class is *Mathematics Applications and Concepts Course 2*.

In the accelerated class, the course of study involves the formulation and reasoning of Algebraic expressions and equations, including multi-step equations and systems of equations. They use the concept of functions and using functions when describing relationships, including graphing and using a graph for predictions. They further analyze the different aspects of Geometry including area, surface area, volume, and circumference of different figures. Students then learn to identify and classify polynomials and nonlinear functions, including quadratic functions. The textbook for the accelerated class is *Pre-Algebra*.

Science

Utilizing the Glencoe Science Series the seventh grade science program focuses on science as an inquiry process. The use of hands-on activities and labs provide educational opportunities for students to develop the ability to critically evaluate information, to solve novel problems and to make connections between the science content they learn and things that they encounter in their everyday lives. This approach allows students to use critical and logical thinking, to use scientific instruments and equipment, and to develop scientific habits of mind.

The practice of science is spread throughout the year as students formulate questions, construct investigations and evaluate data. All students also complete a long-term, individual scientific investigation and participate in the school science fair with winning projects continuing on to the regional and state levels.

Specific topics covered during Earth structures include the layers of the Earth, the rock cycle, human impact on the Earth and movement of material within the Earth. During the unit on energy and waves, students learn about the electromagnetic spectrum, sound and energy transformations. The unit on the diversity of life, heredity and reproduction covers genetic variations, chromosomes, DNA, biotechnology, meiosis and mitosis.