

## **Social Studies**

The course of study is World History with a focus on ancient civilizations around the world. Our studies include the Mesopotamians, Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans, as well as the ancient peoples of China, India, Central America, and South America. There is an emphasis on geography, economics, and civics as these topics are revealed through the study of world history. Students utilize the textbook, The World, as an important tool; however, they also work with a variety of maps, diagrams, charts, internet resources, and supplemental materials. There is extensive note-taking, as well as stress on critical thinking and writing skills, as well as group work and hands-on activities.

## **Spanish**

All sixth grade students continue their study of Spanish in the level I textbook. Students are introduced to new vocabulary which is reinforced with visual and audio materials. Emphasis is placed on speaking, listening, writing and reading. Students speak with a partner and work in small groups.

## **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*

## **SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM**

**Religion**

**Language Arts**

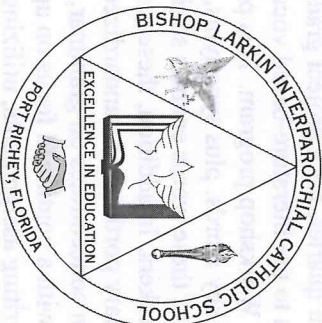
**Math**

**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

Religion is the core of our Catholic Education. This program is the old testament which integrates life, faith, liturgy, and family.

Sixth graders learn that the Bible is the book of the church, our family story of faith. Their text helps them understand the place of the Word of God in their lives, with special emphasis on our Old Testament roots.

## Language Arts

**Reading:** The reading program utilizes the literature-based Harcourt Storytown reading series. The text is divided into six themes that integrate higher-level thinking, writing, speaking, and listening skills. The literature blends a variety of genres to enhance students' essential reading, critical thinking, and comprehension of literal and inferential questions. The accompanying workbook reinforces comprehension, vocabulary, context clues, and other language skills. 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:** The spelling program consists of word lists that coincide with the literature from the reading series. Each spelling lesson is incorporated into the literature practice workbook, with an emphasis 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 sixth grade math program. There are two tracks in the program – grade-level and accelerated. In the grade-level class, the course of study involves using the concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems involving the multiplication and division of whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. An introduction to negative numbers is included. They will focus on writing, interpreting, and using Algebraic expressions and equations to solve problems, using a variety of problem-solving strategies. The text book for the grade-level class is *Mathematics Applications and Concepts Course 1*.

In the accelerated 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 accelerated class is *Mathematics Applications and Concepts Course 2*.

## Science

Utilizing the Glencoe Science Series the sixth 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 the unit on Earth structures, includes systems and patterns of weather and climate, the flow of energy and matter through the Earth's spheres, and physical and chemical weathering. During the unit on force, energy and motion, students learn about the Law of Conservation of Energy, contact forces as well as forces acting at a distance like gravity, and the relationships among motion, time and speed. The unit on organization and development of living things covers the structure and function of cells, organs and organ systems of humans and other organisms.