St. Valentine School Curriculum Highlights Grade 6

Students entering Grade 6 will be expected to:

- Have materials needed for class organized and available
- Work independently without disturbing others
- Stay on task
- Follow directions
- Request assistance when needed
- Complete assignments neatly and on time
- Assume responsibility for his/her behavior
- Follow school and classroom rules
- Respect the opinions and property of others
- Develop positive peer relationships
- Make responsible decisions
- Use appropriate steps to solve social problems
- Make use of a student planner

*Parents will find an update on the school website classroom page each week, which outlines specific curriculum points that will be addressed throughout that week.

Religion

Students in Grade 6 will study the Faith Formation Benchmarks, which include:

- The Profession of Faith
- The Celebration of the Christian Mystery
- Life in Christ
- Christian Prayer

We will use the Pflaum weekly magazines, which focus on Sunday Gospels.

Students will also participate in planning liturgies, attending weekly masses, and participating in prayer services. Students will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent and Lent.

Language Arts

Inclusive of Reading, Writing, Grammar, Spelling, and Vocabulary

Students in Grade 6, through small group guided reading, will learn to:

- Read for enjoyment and understanding
- Build word recognition, fluency, and vocabulary
- Use Guided Reading Groups for small group instruction: fiction and non-fiction texts
- Build comprehension through a variety of new strategies:
 - Monitor and clarify
 - Predict and infer

- Evaluate
- o Summarize
- Use phonetic decoding
- o Making connections
- Questioning
- o Inferences
- o Cause/Effect
- o Author's purpose
- o Plot
- o Main Idea/Supporting Details
- Context clues
- Prior Knowledge
- o Visualizing
- Compare/Contrast
- o Theme
- o Sequencing
- Self-monitor individual reading
- Communicate effectively through written, oral, and listening experiences

Writing/Grammar

Students in Grade 6 will learn to:

- Utilize the Writing Process
- Use personal style and voice
- Develop various writing pieces, which include narratives, poetry, comparative pieces, persuasive pieces, and a research project
- Use cursive in their daily work
- Develop proper usage and mechanics of grammar
- Consistently use complete sentences with proper capitalization, punctuation, and spelling

Mathematics

Students in Grade 6, through differentiated instruction, will study:

- Whole numbers, order of operations, and place value
- Various concepts of multiplication and division
- Data, statistics, and probability/ratios: displayed in various ways
- Fractions and decimals
- Addition and subtraction of fractions and decimals
- Geometry: identifying angles, angle measurements, and various shapes
- Algebraic expressions and equations
- Rational numbers, negative numbers, and absolute value
- Measurement: area, surface area, and volume
- Factors and multiples

Social Studies

Students in Grade 6 will study the Western Hemisphere and learn of its:

- Various regions: Canada, United States, Mexico, Middle America and the Caribbean, South America, Eastern and Western Europe, and Russia
- Economic, political, religious, geographical, and cultural influences
- Purpose, structure, and function of government

Science

Students in Grade 6 will study:

- SCIENCE PROCESSES
 - The use of scientific inquiry
 - Scientific Method: observing, questioning, investigating, recording, and developing
 - Analysis of science investigations and communication of findings using technology
 - Understand the role of science in society and technology
- LIFE SCIENCE
 - Organization of living things
 - Ecosystems: interactions and relationships of organisms
 - Biotic and abiotic factors: light, water, range of temperature, and soil composition
- PHYSICAL SCIENCE
 - Energy: kinetic, potential, and gravity
 - Energy transfer
 - Changes in matter
- EARTH SCIENCE
 - Rock formations
 - Plate tectonics
 - Magnetic field of Earth
 - Fossils
 - Processes of the Earth
 - Soil composition
 - Solar system: stars and galaxies

Health

Studies in this area for Grade 6 will give the children information and opportunities to build life-long health habits. Studies will include:

- participation in the Think First Stay Safe program
- Healthy body awareness
- Importance of nutrition and exercise
- "Always changing" puberty education

Spanish

In Grade 6, students will continue to build upon their foundation of knowledge of the Spanish language and culture through various activities such as reading, writing, listening, speaking, constructing, singing, and discussing.

- Colors
- Numbers 1-100
- Days of the week
- Months of the year
- Holidays
- Food
- Common greetings and closings
- Questions
- Feelings
- Family
- Clothing
- Weather
- Common verbs
- Outdoors
- Household items
- Seasons
- Sports
- Body
- Characteristics
- Adjectives

Students in Grade 6 will also have Physical Education, Art, and Computers once a week. Music/Band and Spanish will occur twice each week. Students in Grade 6 will participate in field trips throughout the year as they relate to sixth grade studies.