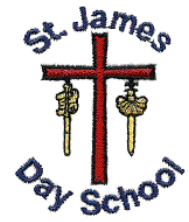


St. James Day School

Sixth Grade Curriculum



Reading/English

- Reading for the main idea and identifying supporting details
- Prefixes & root words
- Distinguish between statements of fact and statements of opinion
- Reading selections to correlate with Ancient Civilizations
- Outlining
- Writing notes, cards, and memos
- Autobiographical writing
- Writing process
- Expository writing
- Researching for a paper
- Using reference resources
- Writing a research paper
- Increasing speed in reading
- Oral speaking
- Parts of speech
- Action verbs & being verbs
- Active & passive voice
- Helping verbs and double negatives
- Writing a business letter
- Clauses & subordinating conjunctions
- Participles & Participle phrases
- 4 kinds of sentences
- Quotation marks, underlining, italics
- Subjects, predicates, & capitalization



Spanish

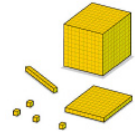
Sixth grade students travel to the Spanish room twice weekly for a 25 minute Spanish class with the Spanish teacher.

- Review singular and plural subject pronouns
- Read & write sentences without error
- Write sentences in the negative
- Internet research on Spain
- Review use of *tomar* and *beber*
- Research famous person in Spanish history
- Verbs: *deber* + infinitive; *poder* + infinitive
- Sentence dictation - Use of *y*, *si*, *pero*, and *para*
- Verbs: *entender*, *nadar*, *jugar*, *hablar*, *leer*, *escribir*, *comer*, *escuchar*, *comprar*, *saber*, *conducir*, *dibujar* & *tocar*
- Review of possession *su* and *sus*, *mi* and *mis*, etc.
- Review clothing vocabulary
- Christmas in Spain
- Write a short story

Math

The math program is a sequential one, building on the foundation of earlier increments. The multisensory approach enables all children to develop a solid foundation in the language and basic concepts of mathematics. Sixth grade math includes, but is not limited to:

- Simplifying expressions containing parentheses
- Operations with signed numbers
- Graphing functions
- Word problems
- Powers and roots
- Ratios and proportions
- Percents
- Fractions, decimals, and mixed numbers
- Divisibility concepts
- Prime factorization
- Estimation
- Real world connections
- Integers
- Functions
- Unit multipliers
- Statistics and Probability
- Frequency tables
- Data collection, display, and analysis
- Formulas
- Geometric constructions
- Scale factor
- Capacity and volume
- Complementary and supplementary angles



Physical Education

All students travel to the gym for P.E. activities daily.

Activities include, but are not limited to:

- Daily fitness activities
- Push-ups, sit-ups, and shuttle-run drills
- SOCCER: rules, positions, dribbling, passing, kicking, defense, trapping, goal tending
- FOOTBALL: rules, positions, throwing, catching, punting, hiking
- VOLLEYBALL: rules, positions, passing, serving
- DANCE: Square dance, line dance, swing dancing
- GYMNASTICS: Balances appropriate to individual skill level; inverted positions, rolling skills, weight transferring skills
- Presidential Physical Fitness Test
- Field Day Activities

Science

Our program is a hands-on method of exploring scientific concepts. Sixth grade units include, but are not limited to, the following investigations, including many with live organisms.

•Food & Nutrition (4 Investigations)

- Observe & investigate properties of foods
- Carbohydrates, proteins, fats, & vitamins
- Test for vitamin C, sugar, and fat in foods
- Apply scientific process to find and record data
- Compare fats in common lunch foods
- Describe evidence of yeast metabolism
- Chemical reaction between baking soda & acids



•Mixtures & Solutions (4 Investigations)

- Fundamentals of chemistry
- Makeup of substances; how they can be taken apart and put together
- Observe behavior of solid materials in liquid
- Solubility of materials in water
- Determine quantity of solid material required to saturate a volume of water
- Changes in chemical reactions
- Concentration & saturation
- Chemical reactions
- Determine relative concentrations
- Atoms, particles, molecules

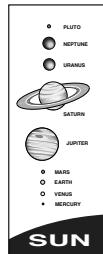


•Electricity (4 Investigations)

- Variables that effect solar energy
- Electrical Theory
- Simple Circuit Design
- Electro Magnetism
- Ohm's Law

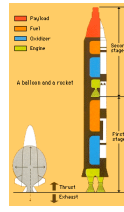
•Solar Energy (4 Investigations)

- Science Fair projects
- Magnetic force and reaction
- Observe differences in size & position of shadows
- Determine positions of earth and sun by shadows
- Become proficient in using a thermometer to monitor temperature change in a variety of materials
- Variables involved in energy transfer
- Solar water heaters & passive solar space heaters
- Identify several light sources
- Define photon and show understanding of its use
- Describe how light travels - path and speed
- Distinguish between transparent, translucent, and opaque
- Characteristics of mirrors
- Refraction of light



•Rocket Science

- Rocket history and development
- Rocket principles
- Math & physics as related to rocket design and construction
- Build, test, and launch
- Bottle rocket with launcher
- Solid fuel rocket
- Launch circuit to ignite the solid rocket booster



•Plants

- Classify by leaves, stems, & flower
- Dicots
- Monocots
- Conifers
- Mosses & Ferns
- Spores, seeds, roots,
- Algae, chlorophyll, fungi



Computer

Sixth grade students go to the Middle School computer lab once weekly for one hour of instruction in specific skills. Teachers are encouraged to enrich the computer curriculum with technology-based projects which use the skills learned in the lab. Extra lab time can be scheduled by classroom teachers at their discretion. Skills to be taught include, but are not limited to:

- Digital editing of photographs
- Creation of Multimedia presentations
- Practice in choosing appropriate applications for assigned projects
- Database and Spreadsheet use
- Desktop Publishing for publication
- Advanced word processing and mail merge
- Collection, analysis, and evaluation of Internet information
- Knowledge and practice of copyright and plagiarism laws
- Web page design
- Multimedia presentations

Computer Tools

Library Skills

- Using an Atlas
- Dewey decimal system
- Using an Almanac
- Different kinds of literature

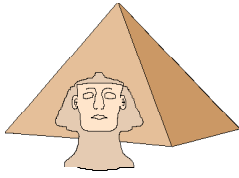
Religion

Christianity and its moral precepts are incorporated into the daily life of both students and teachers at St. James. Chapel is held daily in each classroom or the Commons. Big Chapel is held each Thursday in the gym, attended by the entire student body. The rector or curate of St. James Episcopal Church conducts Morning Prayer. Parents are welcome.



Social Studies (Ancient World Civilizations)

- Rise of Civilization
- Archaeology



- Geography of the Fertile Crescent, Ancient Mesopotamia, and birth of Judaism
- Ancient Egypt, Sumer, Giza, Cairo, Nile River

- Euphrates, Tigris, Babylon, Ur, Tutankhamen
- Prehistoric life, cuneiform, ziggurat, covenant
- Monotheism, pharaoh, dynasty, Great Pyramid
- Papyrus and hieroglyphics
- Mesopotamia and Ancient Egyptian inventions
- Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism,
- Ancient India and China
- Hinduism; Confucians
- Ancient Mayans & Incans
- Ancient Africa
- Ancient Greece
- City-states, Athens, Sparta
- Causes of Greek wars
- Greek & Roman myths
- Greek & Roman gods
- Ancient Rome
- Alexander the Great; Phillip II
- Early Roman government
- Everyday life in Rome
- Life and beliefs of Jesus of Nazareth
- How Byzantine spread Christianity
- Decline and Fall of Rome
- Rise of Islam
- Cultural change in Africa and East Asia
- Medieval Europe and Feudalism
- The Crusades; the Mongols
- The Renaissance and contributions to civilization
- The Reformation
- Ottoman Empire; Ming Dynasty
- The Age of Revolutions
- Geography of Europe in the modern era
- The Cold War and the fall of Communism
- Africa today
- Eastern Asia today
- The Far East today
- Geography of South America today
- Global politics and economics today, and its effects on America



- Sing in 2 and 3 part harmony
- Use the grand staff
- Recall major events from the lives of composers studied in class
- Echo melodic patterns after hearing
- Recognize solo instruments in recordings
- Identify characteristics from the classical and romantic periods of music
- Recognize major musical works
 - Rhythmic dictation
 - Melodic dictation
 - Be able to compose simple melodies
 - Candlelight Performance
 - Improve sight singing
 - Be able to read and perform 2-part choral music
 - Orff instruments-play simple harmonic accompaniments
 - Musical performance
 - Be able to write rhythms in 3/4, 4/4, 2/4, 6/8, and 2/2 time
 - Hear and recognize characteristics of music from other cultures
 - Demonstrate understanding of the following terms: 12 tone row, key, cadence, chord, inversion, meter accelerando, syncopation, scat, blue, notes, sharp, flat, natural, improvisation

Art

Art classes are held in the Morriss Building twice weekly for forty-five minutes. Students learn art techniques in relation to studies in art history and appreciation. Activities consist of, but are not limited to:

- Understanding media, techniques, & processes
- Principles & elements of art
- Murals & self-portraits
- Explore cultural heritage through art
- Balance, pattern, & symbols in artwork
- Andy Warhol & Pop Art
- Color, line, symmetry, design
- Photographic imagery, repetition, response/evaluation
- Drawing, pencil, charcoal, stump, tortillion, shading
- Function & beauty of ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics
- Gingerbread houses and Architecture
- Creation of a Grecian Urn
- Patriotic American flag design
- Torn paper art Christmas
- Consider the Face (Portraits)
- Things artists design; Art in Advertising
- Heraldry: creation of shields
- Royal Group Mural
- Monet, Seurat; pointillism
- Japanese printing
- Mosaic Crosses
- Folk art (Mexico)
- Art history: Rembrandt, Picasso, Michaelangelo
- Realism, Impressionism, cubism, & Surrealism



Music -

Students travel to the Morriss Building twice weekly for a 25 minute music class with the music teacher. Performance experience is a major part of our program.

Music concepts and activities consist of:

- Correct breathing
- Distinguish between program and absolute music
- Recognize melodic & harmonic intervals

