

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School

2016-2017 Middle School Curriculum



HEARTS + MINDS + SPIRITS

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Our Lady of the Lake 2016-2017 Middle School Language Arts Curriculum

Our Lady of the Lake Middle School is very pleased to continue to implement and refine *The Writer’s Workshop* by Lucy Caulkins as the model from which we designed our writing curriculum. This writing curriculum is used in grades K-8.

A day in our Writing Workshop might look like this:

Conventions Lesson: parts of speech, sentence construction, sentence elaboration

Mini-lesson: Teacher direct instruction on creating strong leads for editorial commentaries. The teacher might have students read an editorial from the newspaper and discuss with the class what makes a good editorial. Students will use the inquiry method to delve deeper into “real world” writing. They will then model their writing on these “real world” examples. (8-12 minutes)

Student-writing: Students work on the selection they are hoping to publish at their desks. Students will incorporate information from the mini-lesson into their writing. During this time the teacher will be conferring with students on their writing assignment. (30-40 minutes)

Sharing: Students might read their writing to a partner and the partner would share one aspect of the writing they enjoyed. On other days, students might share their writing with the whole class.(5 minutes)

Throughout the Writer's Workshop, students will follow the writing process. Students in one class may be at different points in the writing process:

1. pre-writing
2. drafting
3. revising
4. editing
5. publishing

Students in grades 6-8 will be writing in the *Narrative, Argumentative, and Explanatory/Informational* formats, as prescribed in the Common Core State Standards.

Speech will be integrated into the middle school language arts curriculum.

*****Student writers will be completing all their writing in class. Writers will leave their writing notebooks in the classroom. Writers may be asked to type their piece of writing as it is entering the editing phase to prepare for publishing their final draft.*****

Our Lady of the Lake 2016-2017 Middle School Literature Program

OLL's middle school has adopted the C.I.A. approach for literature instruction. In using the C.I.A. approach, we hope to instill in our students the abilities to Collect information from and about a text, to Interpret what they read with a critical mind, and to Apply their reading to their own lives. We believe that this approach to teaching literature will foster the habits and strategies of independent thinkers, readers and learners.

The structure of the C.I.A. approach:

- Teachers utilize novels to model the strategies of good readers in read-aloud sessions.
- Mini-lessons, class discussions, and formal writing prompts are used to guide students through the four Quadrants of each novel.
- Once students have been exposed to the C.I.A. approach, they have the opportunity to put what they have learned into practice in book clubs and independent projects.
- Fiction and nonfiction selections will be explored at each grade level.

This year we will be using **Vocabulary Workshop** by Sadlier. This program emphasizes extended vocabulary acquisition and precise reading comprehension skills.

Our Lady of the Lake 2016-2017 Middle School Social Studies Program

6th Grade Major Themes:

Ancient Civilizations 5000BC - 600AD:

- Mesopotamia
- Egypt
- China
- Greece
- Rome
- India

Geography- students complete daily geography activities on a variety of geographical subjects.

Current Events- Students will read non-fiction text in *Junior Scholastic* using skills required on the Common Core State Standards, such as summarizing text, annotating, citing evidence, etc.

7th Grade Major Themes:

Major World Cultures 600AD-1450AD:

- Medieval Times & the European Renaissance
- Islamic Empire
- West Africa
- Japan
- China
- Mayan, Incan & Aztec Empires

Geography- incorporated into units of study.

Washington State History from 1854 – present day.

Article of the Week (AOW) - Each week, students will be given an article to read, highlight, annotate, and respond to.

8th Grade Major Themes:

American History 1776-1960's

- Revolutionary War
- Civil War and Reconstruction
- Great Migration/Jim Crow
- Harlem Renaissance

- World Wars I & II
 - Vietnam War
- Geography- incorporated into units of study.

Current Events- Students asked to find a current event focusing on the region of the world 8th grade is studying.

Our Lady of the Lake 2016-2017 Middle School Religion Program

The middle school uses a religion curriculum adopted in 2012-2013 by Loyola Press. All students have been assigned a Bible as well.

6th Grade Religion

- ***Finding God: Old Testament***
- Parts of the Mass
- Second Step: A Violence Prevention Program 6th grade
- Mass every Friday- Mass Reflections due the following Tuesday.
- Service project

7th Grade Religion

- ***Finding God: Following Jesus***
- *Catholic Youth Bible* - New Testament
- Second Step: A Violence Prevention Program 7th grade
- Mass every Friday
- Maryknoll Missionary Discipleship service project

8th Grade Religion

- ***Finding God: Celebrating Church***
- Prayer- Students assigned to lead prayer throughout the year.
- Catholic Social Teaching
- Second Step: A Violence Prevention Program 8th grade
- Mass every Friday- Mass Reflections due the following Tuesday.

Our Lady of the Lake 2016 - 2017 Middle School Science Program

The Middle Grade Science Program covers topics in Life, Physical, and Earth/Space Science, Chemistry, Intro to Physics, and Engineering. The inquiry method and scientific method are central to all curricular investigations; as is a sense of global understanding and the importance of sustainability. The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students will participate in a predominantly project based curriculum integrated with regular labs and experiments. Furthermore, students will be engaged in monthly discussions regarding current events in the field of science, medicine, engineering, and exploration. The Our Lady of the Lake School science program is aligned with Next Generation Science Standards.

6th Grade Major Concepts:

- Molecules to Organisms
- Gene and Trait Variance
- Biological Unity and Diversity

7th Grade Major Concepts:

- Motion and Forces(Energy and waves)
- Life Science: Ecosystems
- Earth and Human Activity

8th Grade Major Concepts:

- Physical Science: Matter and Its Interactions
- Robotics
- Earth and Space Science

Our Lady of the Lake 2016-17 Middle School Mathematics Program

Emphasis is placed on using exploration and problem solving to build understanding of new concepts, as well as on having a growth mindset towards learning mathematics. Concepts are connected to the real world through application problems. This year, middle school mathematics is using Eureka Math to teach the Common Core State Standards.

6th Grade Major Themes:

- Ratios and Unit Rates
- Arithmetic Operations, Including Dividing by a Fraction
- Rational Numbers

- Algebraic Expressions and Equations
- Area, Surface Area, and Volume
- Data & Statistics

7th Grade Major Themes:

- Ratio & Proportional Relationships
- Rational Numbers
- Expressions and Equations
- Percent & Proportional Relationships
- Statistics & Probability
- Geometry

8th Grade Major Themes:

- Integer Exponents & Scientific Notation
- Congruence & Similarity
- Linear Equations
- Examples of Functions in Geometry
- Linear Functions
- Irrational Numbers through Geometry

8th Grade Algebra

Major topics:

- Linear Equations In One Variable
- Linear Inequalities in One Variable
- Linear Equations In Multiple Variables
- Higher Degree Equations In One Variable
- Radicals and Exponents
- Fractional Expressions and Equations
- Relations, Functions, and Graphing
- Quadratic Functions

Accelerated Algebra is a high school equivalent introductory algebra class, in a fast-paced student-driven environment.

Our Lady of the Lake 2016 – 2017 Middle School Physical Education Program

Class Description: Physical Education like all subject areas shares in the responsibility of developing positive intellectual, emotional, and social skills in students. Physical Education is unique in that it has the opportunity to teach about differences among people, healthy competition, teamwork and sportsmanship. This year the Five for Life program will be introduced which focuses on understanding the importance of fitness and health in everyday life.

The following are behaviors necessary for success in PE class and will form the basis of your grade each Trimester:

- *Follow directions and class rules
- * Dress in PE clothes
- * Participate to the best of your ability 100% of class time
- * Exhibit sportsmanship at all times
- * Show respect for yourself and others

Daily grading for participation:

- 3 = following all of the above listed
- 2 = following 4 or more of the above
- 1 = following 3 or less of the above
- 0 = removal or suspension from class

Students who are absent or excused due to injury will be deducted one point for each class they miss. If they will be out of class for more than 3 days in one trimester extra credit work can be done to earn points back. Students will receive one free pass each trimester that they can use for either a day in which they are absent or a day in which they forget their PE clothes.

Overall Grading Criteria will be as follows:

- Participation: 70%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Worksheets 10%

PE Dress Code:

- v Athletic shorts (please make sure they are not too short or tight) or sweatpants
- v T-shirts with sleeves(must be in compliance with free dress code)
- v Tennis shoes with laces or velcro (no slip on) and socks
- v Uniform sweatshirts can be worn on colder days

Our Lady of the Lake 2016 – 2017 Middle School Multi-Arts Program

Class Description: The Multi-Arts Curriculum will include the four Arts disciplines; Music, Art, Drama and Dance. Students will understand concepts and apply skills in creative projects involving these four areas of study. Quality creative process will be the primary goal in each class; whether students are singing, acting, dancing or producing Art. Performance opportunities include the Advent Concert and the Middle School Musical. The OLL Multi-Arts program is aligned with OSPI Arts Standards and integrates with Core Curriculum.

Please see the Multi-Arts webpage link for a detailed outline of the curriculum.