



## GRADE LEVEL CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

### GRADE 7

St. Martin of Tours Academy, in partnership with parents, is a Catholic parish elementary school that prepares students to be lifelong learners through a curriculum that has a strong moral, spiritual, and academic foundation. Students understand the need for peace and justice, and as responsible Catholics, are challenged to answer the call to service and become engaged citizens of the world.

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#### **RELIGION** (200 weekly minutes)

- Recognizes God as personal God who reveals His teaching through Christian scripture, and the Sacraments, which are visible signs of God's grace uniting us in faith
- Understands Mary's role in salvation, and the communion of saints as the union of all those who follow Jesus
- Understands and experiences prayer as memorized, spontaneous, meditative, and contemplative.
- Experiences participation in a variety of prayer forms and liturgical celebrations
- Reviews the parts of Mass and properly responds
- Witnesses to life as a Christian with uniqueness and human dignity
- Understands that service is a response to the message of Jesus, and that the people of God have been and are active throughout history
- Actively participates in community service projects
- Recognizes the moral guidelines for life as a guide for making good choices

#### **LANGUAGE ARTS** (530 Weekly Minutes)

##### **Word Analysis, Fluency, and Vocabulary Development**

- Infers word meanings through identification and analysis of analogies, idioms, multiple meaning words, connotations, denotations, and jargon
- Uses knowledge of root words and word etymologies to understand word origins and content vocabulary

##### **Reading Comprehension**

- Understands and analyzes the differences among various categories of informational materials such as textbooks, newspapers, Internet in terms of their structure and purpose
- Identifies the development of an author's argument, point of view, perspective in the text
- Makes predictions, infers and draws conclusions, or generalizations based on evidence
- Identifies the details, main idea, conflict, plot, and theme in various forms of literature

##### **Literary Response and Analysis**

- Identifies the elements of and understands the purpose of various forms of literature such as autobiography, short story fiction, nonfiction, and various poetry, essays, folk tales, myths, fables, and novels

##### **Study and Reference Skills**

- Previews titles, headings, summaries, and questions when studying
- Uses a variety of information sources to gather information: dictionary, maps, charts, graphs, schedules, newspapers, computerized card catalog, and internet resources

##### **Writing Strategies**

- Uses transition words between sentences, ideas, and paragraphs

- Employs description, facts, statistics, and examples to support claims
- Outlines, takes notes, and summarizes to ensure structure of drafts
- Edits, rewrites, and revises drafts in order to improve final composition using technology and word processing tools

##### **Writing Applications**

- Applies note taking, outlining, summarization, and inquiry techniques to enhance writing
- Defines thesis statements
- Writes various essays such as narrative (1st and 3rd person), expository, descriptive, informational, and persuasive
- Utilizes footnote techniques to cite data for research papers
- Prepares a bibliography including CD and internet resources
- Uses word processing skills to prepare essays and research papers.
- Applies editing tools to all revisions of various topics.

##### **Written and Oral English Language Conventions**

- Applies grade appropriate language and mechanics and capitalization, vocabulary, and spelling to all written work
- Utilizes correct usage including all parts of speech, cases and verb tenses when speaking and writing
- Demonstrates the use of simple, compound, and complex sentences

##### **Listening and Speaking**

- Asks questions designed to elicit purposeful information
- Discusses effectively and constructively.
- Determines speaker's attitude toward the subject.
- Responds to persuasive messages with questions, challenges, or affirmations
- Shapes information to achieve a particular purpose.
- Arranges details, reasons, descriptions, and examples effectively
- Defines roles and shares responsibility for a group project
- Provides constructive feedback to speakers
- Delivers narrative presentations, oral summaries, and research presentations

#### **MATHEMATICS** (225 Weekly Minutes)

##### **Number Sense**

- Knows the properties of and computes with rational numbers
- Understands decimals as a place value system
- Solves problems that involve the addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of fractions and integers
- Converts fractions to decimals and percents and uses these representations in estimation, computation, and application
- Identifies and uses the properties of integers

##### **Algebra and Functions**

- Explores algebraic expressions involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division
- Interprets and evaluates expressions

- Uses order of operations correctly to evaluate algebraic expressions\
- Uses variables and appropriate operations to write expressions and equations
- Solves inequalities

### Measurement and Geometry

- Converts within and between measurement systems to solve problems
- Reads, interprets, and make multiple graphs to plot simple figures
- Identifies cross sections of space figures
- Constructs and identifies basic elements of geometric figures
- Computes the perimeter, area, and volume of common geometric objects
- Identifies reflections, rotations and translates images

### Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability

- Identifies the mean, mode, and median for a set of data
- Represents two numerical variables on a scatter plot
- Lists outcomes and events for sample space
- Determines the probability of an event

### Mathematical Reasoning

- Applies strategies and results from simpler problems to more complex problems
- Uses estimation techniques of substituting compatible numbers and rounding
- Determines when and how to break a problem into simpler parts
- Uses inductive reasoning to make generalizations about number patterns and geometric patterns
- Discovers mathematical generalizations by observing relationships

## SOCIAL STUDIES (225 Weekly Minutes)

- Students analyze the causes and effects of vast expansion and disintegration of the Roman Empire
- Analyze the geographic political economic religious and social structures of civilizations of Islam in the Middle ages; the civilizations of China in the Middle Ages; the of sub Saharan civilizations of Ghana and Mali in Medieval Africa; the civilizations of Medieval Japan
- Compare and contrast geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of Meso-American and Andean civilizations
- Analyze the origin, accomplishments, and geographic diffusion of the Renaissance
- Analyze the historical development of the Reformation
- Analyze the historical developments of the Scientific Revolution and its lasting effects on religious, political, and cultural institutions
- Analyze political and economic change in the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries

## SCIENCE (225 Weekly Minutes)

### Introduction to Life Science

- Understands the role of technology, the Scientific Method, field and laboratory investigations, and the SI units of measurement as fundamental elements of Life Science

### Living Things

- Comprehends the characteristics and chemistry of living things, and understands the principles of organic compounds and energy as they apply to all life

### Cells

- Understands the basic structure and function of plant and animal cells and the major role of cell transport, energy processes, growth and division within these cells
- Utilizes the physiology and chemistry of plants and animals to fully identify and understand the evolutionary foundation and adaptation processes of both the plant and animal kingdom

### Heredity and Evolution

- Defines and comprehends the basic principles of heredity, patterns of inheritance, structure of chromosomes, genes, DNA, and the role of genetic engineering
- Correlates and analyzes the earth’s geomorphology with the basic principles of the evolutionary theory, the earth’s history, the origins of life and its adaptations, and Darwin’s theory of natural selection

### Basic Human Physiology

- Reviews the human body tissues, organs, and systems
- Comprehends various human disorders, their causes and cures, and the importance of research

## COMPUTER (40 Weekly Minutes)

- Develops an understanding of the development of computers and technology in the past, present and future
- Understands computer-related terminology and how computers function
- Discusses the advantages and limitations of technology
- Learns to use computers as tools for home and business
- Reviews, evaluates, and selects appropriate software and hardware.
- Discusses Internet safety, ethics and copy write issues pertaining to computer usage
- Increases touch type 40 words per minute with 80% accuracy
- Supporting and mastering spreadsheet objectives: builds formulas for cells, analyzes the effects of changes
- Supporting and mastering electronic presentation objectives

## FINE ARTS (90 Weekly Minutes)

### Visual and tactile perception

- Understands perspective (1 vanishing point), 3-dimensional composition, landscapes, recognizes line suggesting plane figures, distance; use pencil, pen and ink, markers, acrylics, oils and mixed media in producing art work

### Creative Expression

- demonstrates ability in drawing shaded for depth, proportion, figures
- emphasizes facial proportion in drawing
- demonstrates ability to work with a variety of crafts/media, printing, clay, papier-mache, weaving, collage, mosaics

### Visual Arts Heritage

- appreciates art work from a cultural perspective, art history, variety of artists and their work
- studies cultural diversity

### Analysis and Interpretation

- appreciates art work using these criteria: design elements, art media and processes, artistic mood and style, major artists and their works
- understands careers and future applications of arts

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION (90 Weekly Minutes)

### Exercise and Calisthenics and Sports Skills

- Plays organized agility games exercising Christian sportsmanship
- Acquires knowledge to build responsible decision making, healthy lifestyles, and general wellness.
- Participates in team sports to develop tolerance of others and cooperative skills.
- Understands and utilizes rules for organized sports like: Basketball, football, baseball, soccer, track and volleyball

### FIELD TRIPS:

- Scripps Birch Aquarium & Beach Clean-Up
- CYT performances
- San Diego Zoo “Animal Art” and Tour
- Tolerance Museum -Los Angeles (7th or 8th grade)
- J. Paul Getty Museum (7th or 8th grade)
- Class Retreat
- Rueben H. Fleet Science Center & IMAX
- Museum of Photographic Arts- Balboa Park

### BOOK LISTS:

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| <u>If a Tree Falls at Lunch Period</u> | Choldenko |
| <u>Beacon Street Girls Series</u>      | Bryant    |
| <u>The Castle Corona</u>               | Creech    |
| <u>Ethan Suspended</u>                 | Ehrehberg |
| <u>Eldest</u>                          | Paolini   |