

## St. Louise de Marillac Catholic School

### 2020-2021 Course Descriptions

#### 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading

##### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading:**

In 5th grade, we use the Wonders Curriculum, by McGraw Hill. This series is aligned with the Diocesan and Pennsylvania State Standards. It is a complete Language Arts curriculum that encompasses Reading, English, Writing, Spelling, and Vocabulary skills. *Wonders* focuses on the essential question, vocabulary, skills, and strategies throughout a given week. It is designed to connect students to inspiring literature. The series is filled with exemplars, award-winning and other high-interest literature and informational texts that range across many genres, eras, and cultures. As the children engage with the essential questions, they are gaining access to complex texts, collaborating with their peers, and becoming accomplished at writing to sources. *Wonders* makes the connections that prepare students to succeed.

Students also participate in the Accelerated Reader program, which stresses choice of genre and the students' responsibility for taking a computerized, multiple choice test for each book read. Students also read novels throughout the year that align with the comprehension skills that are learned in the *Wonders* curriculum.

##### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading:**

Our 6th grade reading curriculum follows the Diocesan and Pennsylvania State Standards encouraging students to apply higher-order thinking skills. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade students utilize StudySync, a twenty-first century English Language Arts program that uses cutting edge technology and relevant multimedia to engage student learning. The program consists of 4 thematic units. Each unit is organized around a unique theme that challenges students to examine texts through an engaging, challenging lens. Each thematic unit contains ten to twelve text excerpts from a variety of genres in addition to an anchor text that is meant to be read in conjunction with the excerpts.

Students also participate in the Accelerated Reader program, which stresses choice of genre and the students' responsibility for taking a computerized, multiple choice test for each book read. Students also read novels throughout the year that align with the comprehension skills that are learned in the *Wonders* curriculum.

#### 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English

##### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Fifth Grade English Language Arts is designed to meet the needs of all learning abilities, as tiered activities are integrated in differentiated instruction. In fifth grade, students focus on grammatical concepts, such as capitalization, punctuation, and both independent and peer editing skills. Beyond the grammatical concepts, students focus on increasing sentence variation and length throughout their writing. Students explore informational, persuasive, descriptive, and poetry writing, as well as, oral presentations in these genres. They are engaged in technological project-based learning to display their

knowledge. This approach requires them to work closely with their peers. The McGraw Hill Wonders Curriculum allows students to “write to the text” that they are reading in Reading class. All content in fifth grade English is aligned to both Diocesan and Pennsylvania State Standards.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Sixth Grade English Language Arts is designed to meet the needs of all learning abilities, as tiered activities are integrated in order to differentiate instruction. In sixth grade, students focus on grammatical concepts, in which they are required to apply to their writing. This includes improving sentence fluency, sentence expansion, and word choice. Students explore informational, persuasive, descriptive, and poetry writing, as well as, oral presentations in each of these genres. Students are exposed to technology that will enhance both their writing skills, as well as, their speaking and listening skills. Students participate in higher-level questioning, discussions, and activities, in which they are encouraged and required to work closely with their peers. The McGraw Hill StudySync Curriculum allows students to “write to the text” that they are reading in reading class. It also bridges the gap between grammatical concepts and how they appear in textual writing. StudySync has a strong emphasis on using textual evidence in writing. All content in sixth grade English is aligned to both Diocesan and Pennsylvania State Standards.

### The 4 Thematic Units and the Essential Questions

Turning Points – “What happens when life changes direction?”

Ancient Realms – “How does history inform and inspire us?”

Facing Challenges – “When should we stand up for others and ourselves?”

Our Heroes – “What does it mean to be a hero?”

### Anchor Texts:

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor

Freedom Walkers by Russell Freedman

### The skills/strategies interspersed throughout the Thematic Units on a spiral review:

Point of View, Main Idea, Greek and Latin Affixes and Roots, Textual Evidence, Connotation and Denotation, Informational Text Structure, Figurative Language, Story Structure, Poetic Structure and Elements, Argument and Claim, Theme, Tone, Compare and Contrast, Plot, Author’s Purpose

In addition to StudySync, students participate in the Accelerated Reader program which helps further develop skills in independent book selection and comprehension.

## **5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Math**

Our diocesan curriculum, which is aligned with Pennsylvania State Standards for math, is a spiraling curriculum. With a spiraling curriculum, topics presented in earlier grades are reintroduced, reinforced, and then taken to the next conceptual level. This allows mathematical concepts and understanding to become more firmly rooted in the mind of the student. Students not only learn a process but understand why a process solves the problem and when to apply that process to a situation or problem.

### Textbooks:

**5<sup>th</sup> Math** – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt ‘GO Math!’-Grade 5 (consumable)

### 3-Big Ideas (Units)

*Fluency with Whole Numbers and Decimals* (Place Value, Multiplication, Expressions; Divide Whole Numbers; Add/Subtract Decimals; Multiply Decimals; Divide Decimals)

*Operations with Fractions* (Add/Subtract Fractions; Multiply Fractions; Divide Fractions)

*Geometry and Measurement* (Patterns and Graphing; Convert Units of Measure; Geometry and Volume)

\*Getting Ready for Grade 6 Concepts

### 6<sup>th</sup> Math – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt ‘GO Math!’-Grade 6 (consumable)

#### 4-Big Ideas (Units)

*The Number System* (Whole Numbers and Decimals; Fractions; Rational Numbers)

*Ratios and Rates* (Ratios and Rates; Percents; Units of Measure)

*Expressions and Equations* (Algebra) (Expressions; Equations and Inequalities; Relationships between Variables)

*Geometry and Statistics* (Area; Surface Area and Volume; Data Displays and Measure Centers; Variability and Data Distributions)

\*Getting Ready for Grade 7 Concepts

Students receive a login (username and password) for the **GO Math!** and **IXL Math** programs!

**GO Math! – DASHBOARD –** <https://www-k6.thinkcentral.com>

- GO Math **Interactive Student Edition** – will teach entire lesson from text –(excellent for students who are absent)
- GO Math **Math on the Spot** –provides a brief tutorial on each lesson – (very good if a student has some questions)
- GO Math **Student Edition 2016** – provides student their entire text at home –(great if textbook is forgotten at school)

### 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Religion

#### **5th Grade Religion:**

Sadlier We Believe- 'We Meet Jesus in the Sacraments'

In fifth grade, the students will analyze and apply the Sacraments of Healing through four units.

Students will connect lessons in the Bible with their daily lives while enhancing their knowledge of the Catholic teachings.

1. Jesus Christ Shares His Life with Us
2. Confirmation and Eucharist Complete Our Initiation
3. The Sacraments of Healing Restore Us
4. We Love and Serve As Jesus Did

#### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Religion:**

Sadlier We Believe – ‘We Are God’s People’

In sixth grade the students will learn about the Old Testament and the covenant that God made with his people. We explore all of the stories from the Old Testament in the Bible and the roots of our Catholic Faith.

1. Forming the Covenant
2. Building the Covenant Nation
3. Redefining the Covenant People
4. The Covenant Fulfilled in Jesus)

### **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**

Our fifth grade science curriculum is aligned with the Diocesan and Pennsylvania State Standards. Students in grades 5 and 6 use Pearson Interactive Science. Interactive Science will ignite students' natural interest in science and help to create lifelong critical thinkers. Science Interactive textbooks are more than typical science books. These write-in books have several key features such as inter-activities, science inquiries, online content and complete coverage of science content. Each chapter approaches the lesson using the five E's: Engage, Explain, Explore, Elaborate and Evaluate. Fifth and Sixth grade science students use our Science Lab for hands-on experiments continually throughout the year. Interactive Science features a complete online digital course where students can interact online with active art simulations, directed virtual labs, and get extra help.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Life, Earth and Physical Science

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Earth Surface, Ecology and the Environment

### **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Social Studies**

My World Building Our Country by Pearson

Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum is aligned with the Diocesan and Pennsylvania State Standards for Social Studies. Students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade social studies study early American history, from the earliest native cultures in North America through the beginnings of America as a nation. Through a combination of technology, interactive online lessons and collaborative projects, students apply skills learned across the curriculum to their understanding of American history. Students will also become fluent in map reading and sequencing events in a timeline.

Supplemental Text: The Catholic Textbook Project from Sea to Shining Sea: The Story of America will be integrated throughout the year to provide a Catholic perspective of our country's history. This text is told as a series of historically accurate stories and includes biographies, lives of the saints, maps and illustrations.

my World by Pearson

Our 6<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum examines several ancient civilizations and cultures including Egypt, India, Greece, Rome, and medieval times. Through a combination of technology integrated lessons, quizzes and collaborative activities, students' journey back in time to understand how influences from the ancient world continue to be evident in our world today. Students will also continue to work toward fluency in map reading and sequencing events in a timeline.

### **Computer Technology Course Description K-8**

Through the use of technology integrated across the curriculum, students will develop skills needed to become 21st Century lifelong learners. Activities and lessons focused on communication, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and problem solving will prepare students to be future-ready. The curriculum is aligned with the International Society for Technology in Education Standards and the Computer Science Teacher Association standards. During the year students will focus on basic computer skills and responsible computer use. Students will develop a basic understanding of Internet safety, evaluating websites, and ethical computer using resources from Common Sense Media and the National Association for Media Literacy in Education. This course will cover the basics of Google Apps for Education, accessing and saving files locally and to their Google Drive, copying and pasting files or text, understanding copyright laws, searching the Internet, and finding and citing images, video, and audio from the internet for school projects as well as keyboarding practice and drill with Typing Web, Typing Club and other online programs. Students will use the Microsoft Office Suite on the desktop computers. Students will be introduced to the use of digital cameras, photo editing, video production, audio recording and editing, computer programming and coding, Virtual Reality, engineering concepts, 3D design, robotics, circuits, online drawing and design tools, and numerous apps for learning and productivity on the school devices in the lab and classroom

## **Art**

Students participate in Art one time per week. Artwork consists of 2D and 3D works. We explore many different techniques. Students study art history, multiple genres, color theory, sketching, painting, printmaking, metal, plaster, chalk pastels, oil pastels, fabric and clay.

Students in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 concentrate on the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. The Elements of Art are the ingredients to all Art or the building blocks of Art. The Elements of Art are: Line, Space, Value, Form, Texture, Color and Shape. The Principles of Design organize the Elements of Art. The Principles of Design are: Unity, Contrast, Movement, Pattern, Emphasis, Rhythm and Balance.

## **Physical Education**

The aim of the physical education program at St. Louise de Marillac School is to develop and improve students' personal fitness and motor skills by providing developmentally appropriate activities through purposeful, creative and enjoyable instruction. By incorporating challenging yet achievable tasks, the students will attain positive attitudes about physical activity and movement. The FITNESSGRAM, a comprehensive health-related fitness assessment, will form the "backbone" of the STL physical education program. A fitness based approach will help to expand upon quality information regarding physical activity, sports, and good nutrition and to empower Americans of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to adopt a healthy lifestyle through: regular physical activity, participation in sports, and healthy eating.

ALL students (grades 5, 6, 7, 8 boys and girls) MUST change into proper attire for each physical education class:

- Clean, modest shorts (no shorter than mid-thigh)/sweat/workout (long) pants
- Clean, modest (no inappropriate logo/print) T-shirts preferably short sleeved (no sleeveless or "crop" tops)
- Tennis shoes/socks (student will not be able to participate without proper footwear)

## **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Library**

Students in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades will spend 40 minutes one period per week with Ms. Valenti, our school librarian and certified English teacher. Our St. Louise de Marillac Library features an online library catalog, a wide variety of books, and 20 Kindles for student use. The curriculum focuses on research

skills, M.L.A. documentation, and student support in conjunction with school projects (Race for Education, Heritage Day, poetry, biography and autobiography, creative writing, listening skills, public speaking, and literary analysis). Students are able to take Accelerated Reader quizzes during library class and compete in various trivia competitions created by the students and teachers.

Students also have the opportunity to participate in several enrichment projects which incorporate music, art, and writing activities:

5th grade highlights include interactive book presentations with Preschool, a book cover designing project, Reader's Theater Script writing, and Performance Poetry

6th grade highlights include Duolingo elective study in French, German, or Italian along with a Travel Journal and Google Slide Presentation, Book Buddies (visits to Kindergarten to share books 1 on 1) digital storytelling, and opportunities for online publishing.

### **5<sup>th</sup> and 6th Grade Spanish**

- Students will begin to use the introductory book in our junior high book series, ¿Como te va?, Intro
- Students will build on some basic Spanish vocabulary & will learn how to conjugate present tense verbs.
- Students will learn some facts and culture about most of the Spanish speaking countries.

All 6th, 7th & 8th graders are invited to join KIVA club in the fall & Spanish club in the spring. KIVA club is a service-based club where students learn about people around the world and their hopes to build a business to help provide for themselves and their families. We meet once a week during lunch and students research and lend to a small business owner. Spanish Club is also a service-based club where students are assisting with our school's fundraiser for the Diocese mission in Chimbote, Peru. We meet once a week during lunch.

### **Music 5-8**

The music general music program at St. Louise de Marillac School is grounded in the National Standards for Arts Education. Throughout the school lessons include singing, composition, improvisation, musical movement, games, playing instruments, listening to performances, learning about historical and cultural contexts, and responding thoughtfully and appropriately to music.

Grades 5-8 see an increase in the academic expectations in music class with short quizzes, classwork, and projects in addition to the participatory singing and playing activities used in the younger grades. Students in grades 6-8 are also responsible for weekly questions on various music topics.

### **Band**

Students in grades 4-8 also have the opportunity to join the STL Band. Students can choose to learn flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, or percussion instruments. Pull-out lessons occur during the school day, and students perform at concerts in the winter and spring. Students in grades 6-8 have the opportunity to audition for and perform with Diocesan Honors ensembles in the spring.

## 6-8 Grade Electives 2019-2020

6th Grade-during Library class (1 day per week)

7-8 Grade-during Computer/Latin class (1 day per week)

GRADE	TRADITIONAL CURRICULUM	LANGUAGE STUDY	DIGITAL MEDIA	FINANCIAL EDUCATION/ STEM & CAREER READINESS
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	1st Nine Weeks	2nd Nine Weeks	3rd Nine Weeks	4th Nine Weeks
6th Grade	Traditional Library Classes	<a href="#">French</a> <a href="#">German</a> <a href="#">Italian</a>	<a href="#">Digital Storytelling</a>  <a href="#">Website Creation</a>  <a href="#">Digital Tools</a> with Adobe Spark  <a href="#">Applied Digital Skills</a>	<a href="#">Vault</a>  <a href="#">Future Goals</a>  <a href="#">FutureSmart</a>
7th Grade	Traditional Latin/Computer Classes	<a href="#">French</a> <a href="#">German</a> <a href="#">Italian</a> Latin	<a href="#">Digital Storytelling</a>  <a href="#">Website Creation</a>  <a href="#">Digital Tools</a> with Adobe Spark  <a href="#">Applied Digital Skills</a>	<a href="#">Future Goals</a>  <a href="#">FutureSmart</a>  <a href="#">Entrepreneurial Expedition</a>  <a href="#">Endeavor-STEM Career Exploration</a>  <a href="#">Character Playbook</a>
8th Grade	Traditional Latin/Computer Classes	<a href="#">French</a> <a href="#">German</a> <a href="#">Italian</a> Latin	<a href="#">Digital Storytelling</a>  <a href="#">Website Creation</a>  <a href="#">Digital Tools</a> with Adobe Spark	<a href="#">FutureSmart</a>  <a href="#">Entrepreneurial Expedition</a>  <a href="#">Endeavor-STEM Career Exploration</a>

			<a href="#">Applied Digital Skills</a>	
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