



**St. Lawrence**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# **Specials Curriculum**

# **GYM CURRICULUM**

# **GYM CURRICULUM**

## **Kindergarten**

- Performs locomotor skills with a mature form
- Demonstrates changing direction in response to a signal or obstacles and shows clear contrasts between slow and fast movement
- Demonstrates Balances on different body parts, at different levels
- Correctly identifies various body parts & planes (i.e., front, back, side)
- Explains that warm-up prepares the body for physical activity
- Recognizes that health-related physical fitness consists of several different components
- Repeats cue words for various skills and demonstrates/explains what is meant by each
- Corrects movement errors in response to corrective feedback
- Shows compassion for others by helping them
- Demonstrates the elements of socially acceptable conflict resolution during class activity

## **Grades 1-5**

The Avondale Elementary PE courses explore units in Personal /Social and Cognitive Skills, Activity Related Knowledge, Physical Fitness and Motor Skill Development. These courses focus on activities that contribute to lifelong health and well-being.

## **Grades 6-8**

Students participating in sixth-grade physical education will be challenged to become physically literate while developing lifelong healthy habits. Students will develop skills to be used to play a variety of team sports along with a basic understanding of team sport rules. Indoor and outdoor activities include; basketball, volleyball, soccer, floor hockey, and other various group games. Students will also participate in fitness testing. Sportsmanship, teamwork and leadership are emphasized.

Students participating in seventh-grade physical education will be challenged to become physically literate while developing lifelong healthy habits. Students will develop skills to be used to play a variety of team sports along with a basic understanding of team sport rules. Indoor and outdoor activities include; basketball, volleyball, soccer, floor hockey, and other various group games. Students will also participate in fitness testing. Sportsmanship, teamwork and leadership are emphasized.

Boys and girls participating in eighth-grade physical education will be challenged with a variety of fitness conditioning activities that will increase their muscular strength and endurance, flexibility, and cardiovascular endurance. Students will develop skills to be used to play a variety of team sports along with a basic understanding of team sport rules. Indoor and outdoor activities include; basketball, volleyball, soccer, speedball, floor hockey, softball and group games. Students will participate in fitness testing. Sportsmanship, teamwork and leadership are emphasized.

# **Spanish Curriculum**

# **SPANISH CURRICULUM**

## **Kindergarten - 2nd Grade**

### **Thematic Content Covered:**

- Family
- Pets/ Farm Animals
- Colors & Shapes
- Numbers 0-30
- Life Cycles
- Adjectives
- Body Parts
- Fruits and Vegetables
- Classroom Objects
- Hobbies
- Cultural Emphasis: Spain & Mexico
- Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century

## **3rd - 5th Grade**

### **Thematic Content Covered:**

- Calendar & Celebrations
- Weather & Seasons
- Telling Time
- Clothing
- Zoo Animals
- Alphabet
- Describing People

- In the House
- Community Places
- Food/Restaurant
- Numbers 0-100
- Cultural Emphasis: Central & South America Las aventuras de Isabela TPRS novel

### **Sixth Grade**

**Spanish 6** - Quarter-Long Students are introduced to the Spanish culture and language in this quarter-long course. The emphasis is on listening, reading, writing and speaking in Spanish. The curriculum will change each year so that students can take it in 6th and 7th grade and learn new material. We play games, do activities and end the course with a “fiesta”. **IMPORTANT:** This class is for students who are new to Spanish and do NOT already speak Spanish at home. Students who speak Spanish at home should instead take the Spanish for Spanish-Speakers class (Español para hispanohablantes) to focus on reading and writing in Spanish or take a different language instead.

**Skills for Success Seminar** - Quarter-Long Students participating in Study Skills Seminar will learn organizational and executive functioning skills to help them be successful in middle school. The course will help students utilize their agendas, communicate effectively with their teachers, plan and study for tests and assignments, and monitor their grades. The course will also provide reflection on balancing school, extracurriculars, and social obligations to maintain a healthy schedule. This course will help set students up for success!

### **Seventh Grade**

**Spanish 7** - Quarter-Long Students are introduced to the Spanish culture and language in this quarter-long course. The emphasis is on listening, reading, writing and speaking about topics such as colors, food, numbers, greetings, weather, seasons, days and months, sports, and likes and dislikes. Hispanic culture, such as greetings, customs, traditions, foods and holidays are also discussed. We play games, do activities and end the course with a “fiesta” where students sample Spanish food. Students who take Spanish 6 can take Spanish 7.

**Careers 7** - Quarter-Long This course is designed to develop an understanding of career pathways and employment opportunities for students to explore the world of work. Students will develop a clearer understanding of their personal interests, values, and emerging aptitudes. The class engages students in a variety of classroom exercises and will conclude with a project in which they research a career of their choice and present it to the class.

### **Eighth Grade**

**World Language** 8th grade courses are full year. This is a high school level course that will earn graduation credit. Students will work toward proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing. The goal is to prepare students to interact independently in Spanish speaking countries. Students will also be

introduced to the daily living and institutional cultures of their respective countries. Students will engage in a variety of activities to practice and promote language learning.



# **Music Curriculum**

## **MUSIC CURRICULUM**

The St. Lawrence Music courses explore units in melody, harmony, rhythm, and form. Students are provided the opportunity to describe, analyze, and evaluate various and diverse pieces of music and are provided with performance opportunities. The music curriculum is based on the Michigan Department of Education standards, benchmarks, and grade level content expectations.

### **Kindergarten - 2nd Grades**

- Demonstrate use of the voice, keep a steady beat, and sing melodies with confidence in large and small groups.
- Follow the cues of the conductor to begin, for a cut-off, and for dynamic and expressive qualities.
- Use a system to read quarter, half, and eighth notes and rests.
- Demonstrate solfa syllables do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti with hand signs.
- Play a steady beat in a group while other students sing a song.
- Play a variety of rhythmic and melodic instruments.
- Sing ostinatos and songs from several cultures.
- Replicate rhythmic and melodic patterns.
- Create songs about self and family, community, and a pentatonic instrumental song.
- Demonstrate audience appropriate behavior.
- Observe and identify cross-curricular connections.

### **3rd - 5th Grades**

- Demonstrate use of developmentally appropriate singing voice independently, and in large and small groups, with accurate rhythm, pitch, intonation, timbre, and tempo.
- Develop and expand repertoire from various genres and cultures.
- Respond to the cues of the conductor to express dynamic levels and blend timbres.
- Use a system to read quarter, half, whole, and eighth notes and rests.
- Play instrumental parts independently while other students sing.
- Describe, demonstrate, and sing an ostinato.
- Play rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic instruments.
- Create and arrange songs within specified guidelines.
- Describe music performed through moving, drawing, or other appropriate responses.
- Demonstrate audience appropriate behavior.
- Observe and identify cross-curricular connections.

### **6th - 8th Grades**

- Sing and play melodies with confidence in a large group from memory.
- Read whole, half, quarter, eighth, sixteenth, and dotted notes and rests, in simple meter, on the treble clef.
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic principles of rhythm, simple meter, and the intervals of a major scale.
- Sing ostinatos.
- Compose and arrange short pieces to communicate ideas and/or stories, within defined parameters, using standard notation.
- Arrange simple pieces for instrument or voice.

- Classify by genre and style, historical period, composer, and title, a varied body of exemplary musical works and explain the characteristics that cause each work to be considered exemplary.
- Describe the impact of technology on music and culture.
- Develop criteria based on musical knowledge and personal reflections to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of music performances.

# **Art Curriculum**

# Art Curriculum

## Grades Junior Kindergarten- 5<sup>th</sup>

The St. Lawrence Art goals are curriculum, and report cards are aligned with the State of Michigan Standards, Benchmarks, and Grade Level Content Expectations for Art Education, adopted by the Michigan Department of Education in 2011. Our elementary art program is discipline based, structured through four areas of study: **Art Production, Art History, Art Criticism, and Aesthetic**, commonly known as D.B.A.E.

**Art production** is the creation of artwork. It is through this process that children acquire higher level thinking skills such as interpretation, evaluation, and synthesis. There is no single solution; therefore, students can express their own unique vision.

The study of **Art History** enables students to gain an understanding and appreciation of people of various cultures and time periods throughout history. Children learn how art plays a vital role in developing and defining culture.

**Art Criticism** is the ability to understand and respond to a work of art through discussion, collaboration, and written activities. As students learn how to describe and evaluate art they develop the visual literacy that is crucial to living and working in the 21st Century.

**Aesthetics** is the branch of philosophy that focuses on the nature and necessity of art. This area helps children to understand their personal perceptions of art and develops skills to discuss art.

Each year concepts are revisited within units of study. In Kindergarten, students are introduced to basic art materials and techniques. They explore various media, view and discuss artwork, learn about other cultures, and get a sampling of art history. These concepts are repeated using a variety of media, techniques, discussions, and activities throughout the elementary years.

The goal for the elementary Visual Arts program is to provide a smooth transition for students studying art in their middle school years. To achieve this goal, we hope that by Fifth Grade, students have mastered several art techniques, are able to use art vocabulary to communicate ideas, describe personal artwork, and recognize art of various cultures and historical periods

# **Middle School Art Curriculum**

## **Grade 6**

### **ART**

This class is an introduction to Middle School Level Visual Arts Curriculum including experiences in a variety of 2D and 3D media. No Prerequisite Required. Students will participate in concentrated efforts to apply design elements and principles in organization, creation, reflection and self-evaluation of all projects. Extensive explanation, instruction, demonstration and skill practice prior to major project work. Students will explore visual examples of various designs through world and art history, contemporary work, multi-disciplinary connections and problem solving. Minimal homework required. Please be prepared for rigorous thinking, problem-solving and art-activities in this middle school level art class.

## **Grade 7**

This is a Middle School Level Visual Arts Curriculum class including experiences in a variety of 2D and 3D

media. Prerequisite: Sixth-grade Art is not required. Students will participate in concentrated efforts to apply

design elements and principles in organization, creation, reflection, and self-evaluation of all projects.

Extensive explanation, instruction, demonstration, and skill practice prior to major project work. Students will

explore visual examples of various designs through world and art history, contemporary work, multi-disciplinary

connections, and problem-solving. Minimal homework required.

## **Grade 8**

This 8th grade class will develop students' skills in production, evaluation, judgment and art appreciation. We will look at examples in history to help us learn about creating art realistically, with expressive distortion and in

abstraction. The materials we use may include: pencils, inks, pastels, various papers, clay, paper Mache, plaster, fibers, found objects, recycled materials and various glazes, stains and paints. In order to help cover

some of the costs of the art materials, a lab fee/donation is requested. Students will own their work. We will apply the Elements and Principles of Design using a wide variety of techniques. Students' self-evaluation,

quizzes, some homework, group critiques, displays and a final exam are included in the experience. 7th grade Art is NOT a prerequisite; however this is a more "advanced" class. Expect to fully participate in daily WORK;

some homework is also required



# **Extra-Curricular Specials**

**Skills for Success Seminar 6** - Quarter-Long Students participating in Study Skills Seminar will learn organizational and executive functioning skills to help them be successful in middle school. The course will help students utilize their agendas, communicate effectively with their teachers, plan and study for tests and assignments, and monitor their grades. The course will also provide reflection on balancing school, extracurriculars, and social obligations to maintain a healthy schedule. This course will help set students up for success!

**Careers 7** - Quarter-Long This course is designed to develop an understanding of career pathways and employment opportunities for students to explore the world of work. Students will develop a clearer understanding of their personal interests, values, and emerging aptitudes. The class engages students in a variety of classroom exercises and will conclude with a project in which they research a career of their choice and present it to the class.

**Leadership** - Quarter-Long This course is for students who desire to make a positive impact at AMS and beyond. Students will learn how to be a leader by leading collaborative projects and learning the foundational skills of leadership. This class is a project-based class where students collaborate on initiatives to implement Mustang MANIA and create a positive impact on the school or community. Students will learn individual and team-based leadership skills. Examples of steps in the collaborative process include writing a proposal, advertising, budgeting, research, and creating a timeline. Students MUST have the ability to work independently and have a will to be of service to others.

# **STEM MIDDLE SCHOOL**

## STEM 6

Students incorporate the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) module “Computer Science for Innovators and Makers”. In this course, we will be exploring physical computing systems, programming logic, and introductory electrical circuits. Students will design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, and plan and develop code for microcontrollers that bring their physical designs to life.

## STEM 7 - Flight and Space

The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, prototype, and test model rocket fuel and a glider. Students will also get to experience virtual space travel simulations and projects.

## STEM 7 Adventures in Math!

Students will work to complete real-world problems designed to enhance math reasoning in the modern day. Adventures in Math has projects relating to creating, owning, and operating a food truck business, planning a road trip across America, and creating a future lifestyle focused on budgeting, paying bills, and spending money. Every day will be a new adventure!

## STEM 8 Medical Detectives

In Medical Detectives, students will discover how health care professionals act as medical detectives to identify, treat and prevent illness in their patients. Students investigate body systems and how this information is processed. Medical Detectives analyze patients and data in community outbreak simulations. Students use observation and investigation skills learned throughout the course to solve the outbreak diagnosis for the community and report their findings.