



SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM GUIDE

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN, ST. CHARLES

Immanuel Lutheran School, empowered by the Holy Spirit, leads children to know God as their Heavenly Father through the redeeming love of Jesus Christ, provides them with a quality education, and prepares and nurtures them to serve the church and community in Christian love.

The curriculum of Immanuel Lutheran School, at all grade levels, meets or exceeds Missouri State Standards in all areas. Maximum class size is 25 students per classroom.

The purpose of Immanuel's Middle School program is to help students become responsible Christian adults who serve and lead in the world in which they live. To that purpose, and most importantly, we teach Christ crucified. God tells us that we should not be of this world, but rather follow His will. Paul, in Romans, tells us not to conform to this world but rather be transformed by the work of the Holy Spirit. As students serve in this world as ambassadors of Christ until He returns, this change by the Holy Spirit should be evidenced in their decision-making, their care and concern for others, and their willingness to forgive. In addition, students are exposed to some of the experiences of high school such as multiple teachers and expectations, higher levels of responsibilities, study skills and strategies to help students be successful in their high school years and their careers in the work world.

Teachers offer an open house during Registration Days so that students and parents may meet teachers, visit homeroom, and preview some of the books and curricula used. There is also a "Back-to-School" night offered a few weeks after school has begun for parents so they may learn first hand from the teachers about the grading system, the curricula, and the responsibilities of students at each grade level and in each class.

25
MAXIMUM
CLASS SIZE



RELIGION

The students learn about key concepts of faith such as Law, Gospel, repentance, forgiveness, grace, and living our faith through the power of the Holy Spirit as they study God's Word, the life of Christ, and the history of the early Christian church.

Faith Families: Each student is a member of a "Faith Family." These are multi-age, student-led groups that meet every other month for devotional activities. On alternating months, Faith Families sit together for chapel.

Memory Work: Sixth Graders have memory work including parts of Luther's Small Catechism and selected Bible verses.

Chapel: Chapel is held weekly. Sixth Grade students lead a chapel service once a year.



TECHNOLOGY

Students utilize Chromebooks with a 1:1 device per student ratio in grades 3-8. Each classroom is also equipped with interactive digital panels. Students learn how to use applications, typing skills, basic coding, and use other platforms to reinforce and enhance other curricular areas taught at Immanuel.



LANGUAGE ARTS

Literature: The study of literature in the Sixth Grade focuses on the various types of literature. Several selections from each type--short stories, poetry, fiction, non-fiction, drama, and folk tales are read and discussed. Specific reading comprehension skills (identifying main idea, summarizing, paraphrasing, etc.) are practiced within each unit.

English: Students will improve their writing and oral communication skills through the study of grammar, punctuation rules and the writing process. Learning takes place through white board work, practice exercises, learning the rules of grammar and punctuation and various writing projects including biography, short story, descriptive writing and research papers. Students also have ample opportunity for journal writing. The text used is Writing and Grammar from Prentice Hall.

Spelling: Sixth Grade spelling focuses on spelling patterns and rules. Students improve their vocabulary and spelling through use of analogies, synonyms, and antonyms. Students complete weekly assignments as well as pre-tests and final tests. The text used is Spelling Connections from Zaner-Bloser.



MATHEMATICS

Problem solving will be used to help students develop an understanding of important concepts, skills, procedures, and ways of thinking and reasoning in number and

operations, geometry, measurement, algebra, and data analysis and probability. Some of the topics covered are factors, multiples, prime factorization, graphs, measures of data, fractions, decimals, percents, polygons, area, perimeter, and probability of outcomes.



SCIENCE

Sixth grade science explores the complexity of God's Creation using an inquiry based model of instruction. Students experiment with basic physics, wave theory- light and sound, electromagnetism, simple biology and ecology, astronomy and space science. Instruction is often student or collaborative emphasizing the group skills necessary for future learning and individual accountability for personal growth. Students participate with higher order thinking skills projects and presentations incorporating computer research and publishing skills.



SOCIAL STUDIES

Sixth grade social studies introduces students to world cultures and geography. This course incorporates map skills, video presentations, interactive map lessons with SMARTboard technology, and computer aided enrichment activities involving basic economic principles. Students develop an appreciation of the uniqueness and commonalities of the world's peoples past and present. Students build their experiences on the five fundamental parts of social studies: geography, history, economics, culture, and government.



FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Each week the children participate in Spanish class. Our Spanish teacher visits each classroom weekly. Although the Spanish classes are mostly for enrichment purposes only, these lessons also have a cross-curricular purpose that both provide a foundation as well as build on knowledge in a variety of subject areas.



MUSIC & CHORUS

Sixth Grade has Chorus twice a week which focuses on vocal technique and performance. The study of these areas is cumulative and sequential from earlier grades. Sixth Grade sings for worship services once a month, Immanuel's Boar's Head Festival, the biennial Lutheran Elementary Schools Festival, and a biennial spring musical production. Intermediate Band is an elective for Sixth Graders. Rehearsals are once a week in sectionals, and once each week as a full band. The group performs in Winter and Spring Concerts, and the biennial Lutheran Elementary Schools Festival. Sixth Grade students may also: play in a handbell choir; have an acting role in Immanuel's Boar's Head Festival and/or the biennial spring musical production; participate in the Strings program, taking weekly private or semi-private lessons and playing with the Gloria Dei Strings.



ART

Students experience and create artwork using line, texture, shape, space, light, and color.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION & RECESS

The sixth grade has PE twice a week, and one recess period daily. Traditional team sports are the largest increment in the Sixth Grade program. When the student completes the Sixth Grade program, he/she will have completed a four-year cycle of learning the basic skills, rules, strategy, and safety of soccer, flag football, volleyball, basketball, floor hockey, and softball. Skills are reviewed and tested and a written test on the rules, strategies, and safety of the each sport will be administered at the end of each unit. Units last longer to cover the sport in more detail. Fitness testing will continue to be a major focus along with a unit on dance and rhythms and a unit on tumbling. The Sixth Grade is the first year the students dress out in a uniform and get graded with an A, B, C, D, or F. The evaluation is based on dressing out, skill, written tests, behavior, cooperation, teamwork, and sportsmanship. The student's attitude and effort toward "working out" and working toward fitness goals is closely monitored.



SERVICE PROJECTS

Students participate in school-wide service projects such as food bank in-gatherings, supporting Immanuel's social ministry, and supporting other district and synodical mission projects.



WELLNESS PROGRAM

Immanuel Lutheran School nurtures a student's social and emotional development through the counseling program. The counselor visits with students in the classroom for guidance lessons at least once a month, conducts small group sessions, and works with individual students by referral. Middle School students participate in a counseling curriculum that focuses on building character, resolving conflict, and making positive choices. Students are also encouraged to develop self-awareness and critical thinking skills. Community resources and programs are brought into the school to provide additional opportunities for students to learn.

SIXTH GRADE STUDENTS MAY ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING:

Immanuel's Before- and After-care programs

Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts

Student Council

Academic Bowl

Geography Bee

Spelling Bee

Jr. High Ministry Events

6th Grade Soccer or B Soccer (boys); Cross Country (boys & girls); 6th Grade Girls Volleyball,

6th Grade Boys Basketball; 6th Grade Girls Basketball; and Track (boys & girls)