



St. Mary School - Lake Leelanau

Values. Virtues. Love. Learn.



MIDDLE SCHOOL: GRADES 6-8

STANDARDS AND COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

School Office: 231-256-9636 - Development Office: 231-256-9670 - Business Office: 231-256-9676
P.O. Box 340 - 303 S. Saint Mary Street Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

www.StMarysLL.org

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Welcome to Middle School



GRADING SCALE

A 100-93%	C 76-73%
A- 92-90%	C- 72-70%
B+ 89-87%	D+ 69-67%
B 86-83%	D 66-63%
B- 82-80%	D- 62-60%
C+ 79-77%	F 59% or less

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

Cumulative GPA is an average of all semester grades earned to date. For purposes of calculating GPA:

A = 4.000	C = 2.000
A- = 3.667	C- = 1.667
B+ = 3.333	D+ = 1.333
B = 3.000	D = 1.000
B- = 2.667	D- = 0.667
C+ = 2.333	F = 0.000

CR = Credit, Not Calculated

I = Incomplete, Not Calculated

RENWEB LOGIN

RenWeb is an online student information system used to keep track of the many details relative to school. The “home-school” communication portal portion of RenWeb is called ParentsWeb.

Currently, it serves the following functions:

- Re-enrollment/Online Enrollment Forms
- Grades/Report Card
- Attendance
- Homework/Assignments
- School and Class Directory

District Code:

Username:

Password:

Forgot Username / Password?

☒ Parent ☐ Student ☐ Staff

Login

Create New ParentsWeb Account



LANGUAGE ARTS

The goal of the Middle School Language Arts program is to produce a student-centered approach aimed at creating personal reading and writing behaviors while exploring various genres of literature.

6TH & 7TH GRADE

Word study is studied within the context of novel units. There is additional emphasis given to Greek and Latin roots as well. Grammar is reviewed daily and is also connected to literature. In addition, middle school students focus on the process of research to create narrative persuasive and informational writing. Language Arts classes use the Scholastic Reading Counts Program. This program challenges students to read books at their individual level, resulting in higher reading levels and comprehension.

8TH GRADE

The goal is to produce a student-centered approach aimed at creating personal reading and writing behaviors while exploring various genres of literature. Lesson fundamentals related to each genre. Vocabulary is also emphasized within the context of these novels, short stories, and poems. Each quarter, students are also required to choose a book at their individual level to read independently, with the goal of accomplishing higher reading levels and comprehension. In addition, middle school students focus on the process of research and proper grammar and sentence structure to create persuasive and informational writing.





MATHEMATICS

The Middle School provides a challenging, motivating and innovative math curriculum using the Prentice Hall Mathematics Courses.

6TH GRADE

Course 1 includes a combination of rational numbers, patterns, geometry and integers in preparation for one- and two-step equations and inequalities. Guided Problem Solving strategies throughout the text provide students with the tools they need to be effective and independent learners. An emphasis on fractions solidifies student understanding of rational number operations in preparation for applying these skills to algebraic equations. Activity Labs throughout the text provide hands-on, minds-on experiences to reach all types of learners.

7TH GRADE

Course 2 consists of a structured approach to a variety of topics such as ratios, percents, equations, inequalities, geometry, graphing and probability. Test Taking Strategies provide a guide to problem solving approaches that are necessary for success on standardized tests. Checkpoint Quizzes assess student understanding after every few lessons. Daily Guided Problem Solving in the text is supported by the Guided Problem Solving worksheet expanding the problem.

8TH GRADE

Course 3 provides a solid foundation in order to fully prepare students for Algebra 1. Chapters 1-3 focus on integers, rational numbers and real numbers in order to set the stage for equations, inequalities and functions. Real-World applications to the more abstract algebraic concepts are found throughout the text. More than 5 Activity Labs per chapter ensure students receive the visual and special instruction necessary to conceptualize these abstract concepts. Eighth grade students who demonstrate readiness will be able to take Algebra 1.

RELIGION

Faith development focuses around our “Faith First” philosophy at St. Mary School. Mass is held every Wednesday in the church and is structured to allow each grade to participate in planning the liturgy. Daily religion classes focus on the Old Testament, Jesus’ life, the New Testament, as well as the students’ personal prayer lives.

6TH GRADE

The Sadlier’s “We Believe” series is devoted to the study of God’s Covenant with His chosen people presented through scripture. Students study the early church as presented in the Old Testament through the Fulfillment of the Covenant in Jesus revealed in the New Testament.

7TH & 8TH GRADE

The Sadlier “We Live Our Faith” program for 7th and 8th graders is a dynamic, systematic catechetical program specifically designed for the faith development of adolescents. Each volume of this two volume program is a complete year’s course.

Seventh graders are introduced to Volume I, “We Live Our Faith As Disciples of Jesus”, which centers on Jesus’ life, teachings, and the sacraments he instituted. It presents Jesus’ call to each person to become his disciple and the ways in which his teachings, sacraments, and Church nourish people for discipleship.

Eighth graders are engaged in Volume II, “We Live Our Faith As Members of the Church”, which presents the Church from its beginning at the Pentecost event through its history, encompassing its teachings and tradition. It presents the mission of the Church, entrusted to her by Jesus, as the responsibility of all baptized Catholics.



Our Middle School Science curriculum is centered on the FOSS (Full Option Science System) program. FOSS is an inquiry based program that enables our Middle School Students to think critically and logically; to make connections to generate explanations that integrate the new information learned into a deeper understanding of the subject at hand.

6TH GRADE

The sixth grade studies Earth History.

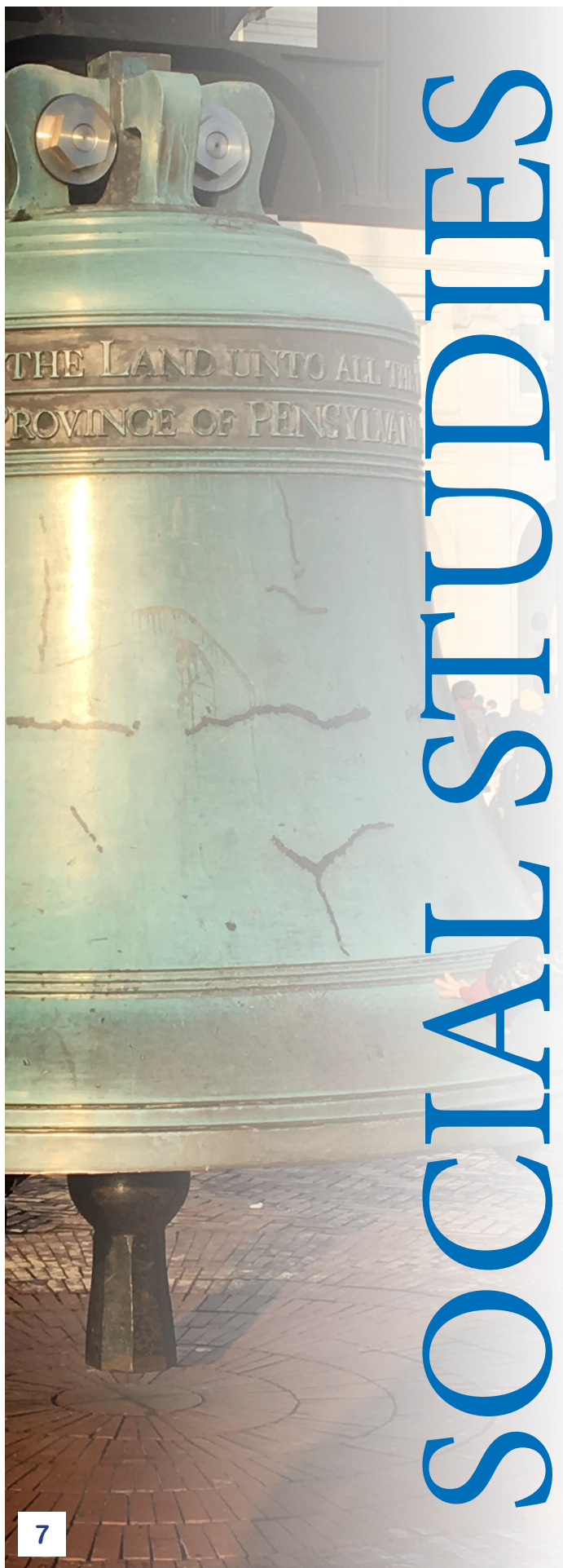
7TH GRADE

The Seventh grade studies population and ecosystems.

8TH GRADE

The Eighth grade studies planetary science and weather and water.





TCI's online History Alive! programs transform middle school social studies class into a multi-faceted learning experience. TCI lessons start with a big idea — Essential Question — and incorporate graphic note taking, group work, and step-by-step discovery. Students are the center of instruction that taps a variety of learning styles, allowing students of all abilities to learn and succeed. Created in partnership with scholars from the National Council for Geographic Education.

6TH GRADE

6th grade students focus on the Western Hemisphere and are engaged in Geography Alive! Regions and People a stimulating, case-study approach to geography.

7TH GRADE

7th grade students focus on the Eastern Hemisphere and are engaged in Geography Alive! Regions and People a stimulating, case-study approach to geography.

8TH GRADE

Our 8th grade students are engaged in History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism which immerses students in a powerful journey through the history of the United States from its earliest foundations to the age of industrialism.





Our Middle School students participate in classes that enrich the core-curriculum including Art, Physical Education, Spanish, Technology, and Vocal Music. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the School Spelling Bee. Skill-Building, Study Habits, Athletic, and Non-Athletic Competition are encouraged.

6TH GRADE

In the first month of the school year, 6th Grade participate in the local Inland Seas field trip, where they become citizen scientists on a sailboat in Grand Traverse Bay, coinciding with their unit on studying the Great Lakes. The year ends with a rock hunting field trip on the beaches of Leelanau County. Rocks are identified, and each student makes and keeps a rock collection kit.

7TH & 8TH GRADE

7th Grade visits the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, including the Visitor Center to earn their Jr. Ranger badges and the Cottonwood Trail Hike. In the spring, 7th and 8th grade experiences can include Physics Day at Michigan Adventure, Grand Rapids Public Museum, John Ball Park Zoo, a Pit Spitters Baseball Game, and/or visits to the State Theater in Traverse City.





St. Mary School Mission Statement

St. Mary Catholic School educates preschool through 12th grade students in an environment based on Gospel values. St. Mary School guides students to recognize their God-given potential and develop their talents to become leaders who are committed to their faith, lifelong learning and service to others.