



## **Art**

Students will explore a wide diversity of art styles, materials, and techniques through media such as clay, watercolor, acrylic paint, pencils, and markers. Through the completion of interesting projects, students will gain an understanding of the elements and principles of a well-designed work of art while gaining practice and skill in technique and materials. Students will be encouraged in a positive manner, helping build their confidence in understanding and creating art for the glory of God.

## **Band**

No prior experience is necessary to join sixth grade band! This class covers a variety of instruments from the woodwind, brass, and percussion families. We meet twice a week and continuously work towards improving tone quality, intonation, overall technique, and reading skills while learning exciting and challenging music. There are several performance opportunities throughout the year - Grandparents' Day and our Christmas and Spring programs. We play Christmas carols for a local assisted-living facility and participate in the ACSI Fine Arts Festival in March, the Fine Arts Chapel in April, and the Barnes and Noble Book Fair in the spring. Music is close to God's heart, and making our own music is a special way to draw closer to Him.

## **Dance**

Students will learn to praise the Lord through the art of dance. The course will provide basic dance technique while focusing on the fundamentals of ballet and jazz. Dancers will cultivate strength and artistry while glorifying the Lord. Students will have a hands-on learning experience in a high-energy environment. Opportunities will exist to perform at several GRACE functions. Dance is open to all students regardless of past experience.

## **Computer Science Fundamentals**

Students will be introduced to the world of computer science. They will learn various computer science concepts as well as apply problem-solving and critical-thinking skills to logically organize and analyze data in fun and engaging ways. Students will apply these skills through algorithmic thinking (a series of ordered steps). They will also gain knowledge in digital citizenship from copyright laws, cyberbullying, digital footprint to internet safety. Both online and offline activities will be used in teaching this class.

## **Multimedia**

Students will be introduced to various multi-media computer skills. They will learn the basics of digital photography and how to combine text, images, video, and/or audio components to tell a story or communicate an idea. Students will become aware of the importance of scripts, storyboards, camera angles, lighting, music, and images when

creating a movie and their effect on the final product. Students will create and present multi-media projects including audio podcasts, visual slide shows, and movies using a variety of photo editing, sound, and movie making websites and applications. Students will collaborate with other grade-level students to create various multi-media projects. Students will gain an understanding about the social, legal, and ethical issues related to the use of technology including acceptable use and copyright guidelines. Students will gain troubleshooting skills in various operating systems and programs.

## Spanish

The sixth-grade Spanish elective will include basic conversations, Spanish culture, vocabulary building through thematic units, subject/verb agreement, noun/adjective agreement, and simple sentence structure in speech and writing. Basic conversations will include meeting/greeting new people and ordering in restaurants. Spanish culture will include celebrations, holidays, and differences in lifestyle schedules.

## Strategy Games

Modern board games present players with multiple choices which give players the opportunity to form strategies by asking themselves, “What can I do on each turn to get closer to victory?” This is in contrast to many traditional American board games such as Monopoly and Candy Land which involve few choices for the players, but instead rely almost exclusively on the chance of rolling a die or drawing a card. In this elective, students will learn how theme, aesthetics, and mechanics are integrated into the design of strategy games as we explore and play them. Homework typically consists of reading the rules for the next in-class game and answering 5-10 questions about them. Class participation accounts for most of the grade. Please note that computer/online games are NOT part of this class.

## Theatre

Students will have a great time learning different monologues and having the opportunity to perform in class. There will be comedy skits as well as serious skits. Students will become familiar with theatre arts by learning to create a character for a production while staying focused on Christ. They will also learn terms used in a production, how to prepare for a show, and requirements for an audition. We will work on monologues and improvisations as well as learn different projection techniques and staging. Students will have the opportunity to perform during Grandparents’ Day, the Fine Arts Christmas Program, the Barnes and Noble Book Fair, and the Fine Arts Pep Rally.

## Vocal Ensemble

This performance class includes vocal development, music reading, and musical concepts studied through a variety of choral literature. Students must be able to match pitch to join this group. The ensemble performs for programs on campus as well as local venues. One of our favorite performances is for the Christmas Open House in the rotunda of the state capital building. The ensemble also participates in the ACSI Fine Arts Festival in the spring. Sixth graders sing alone at times but often join the seventh and eighth graders to form our Middle School Chorus. Musical selections include both sacred and secular works.