

# Academics - Seventh Grade

## Language Arts

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- Vocabulary: spelling, parts of speech, definitions
- Grammar: All parts of speech, explore all forms of writing
- Reading at least four novels as a class, Literal and Figurative Meaning
- Writing: Personal Narratives, Creative, Persuasive, Research, and Descriptive Writing pieces, Writing process, Writing Portfolio
- Word Master Competition
- Accelerated Reader

## Mathematics

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- Grouping according to skill level means small classes with individual attention - low student to teacher ratio
- Advanced Pre-Algebra and Honors Pre-Algebra both have the option to test into high school level Algebra for 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Introduction to the uses of the TI-84 graphing calculators
- Content skills include operations with numbers, geometry, basic algebra concepts (solving for a variable), graphing, probability, and data analysis

## Religion

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- New Testament Study
- Student's relationship with Jesus
- Confirmation Program (every other year with 7th and 8th grade students)
- Bible-related studies
- Active participation in and planning of school masses

## Science

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- The Science Department at St. Francis of Assisi continues to be recognized for excellence in education at the local, state and national levels. The middle school science experience, with its emphasis on exposure to the foundations of core and modern science principles, allows all students to be prepared for the most rigorous of any high school science curriculum.
- An exploration of matter and energy via the investigation Classical and Standard Model Particle Physics and Cosmology in the **7th grade**.
- Special emphasis is placed upon preparing students adequately for both High School in general and High School science specifically in the choice of curriculum material, level of difficulty and skill development. Unique to the science experience at St. Francis of Assisi is participation in the process of independent research for the production of science fair projects in all nine grades, K-8.

- Science Fair is utilized as an important and rich venue for personal exploration, independent study and skill acquisition.
- Direct opportunities or academic support for students who may wish to pursue advanced research projects can be made available.

## **World History**

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- Examine the genesis, development and evolution of civilizations.
- Examine the impact of geography, culture, politics, conflict, religion, human nature and technology on the development of the 'classic' ancient world civilizations; Egypt, Rome and Greece.
- These studies serve as the framework within which students will explore the concepts of economies and economics, the evolution of national identity, wealth distribution, social diversity and the role and types of government and government systems.
- Cause, effect and aftermath of warfare are also examined. Students will be challenged by studies of geographical and geopolitical maps. Students will look at the interplay of these forces within the scope of current political and cultural developments using their knowledge of the past to provide a perspective for comparison and understanding present day events.

## **Technology**

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- Technology skills include: keyboarding, internet safety, word processing, database, spreadsheet, creation of web pages, using the internet as a research tool, technology decision-making, and use of appropriate electronic tools.
- Integration of content areas including science, language arts, math and social studies
- Internet Safety Program - [I-Safe](#)