



# Sixth Grade

Learning with a  
Higher  
purpose

## Holy Cross Lutheran School

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### About the Teacher: Mr. Jacob Kelly



Jacob teaches math and science to our middle school students. Jacob left the Wichita Police Department in 2008 to pursue a career in education. After completing his degree from Southwestern College he worked as a special education teacher for USD 261 in Haysville Ks. In 2012 God called Jacob here to Holy Cross where he has

been ever since. Jacob and his wife Marcie have been married for 21 years and have three sons, Cal, Kyle and Christopher.

**Favorite verse:** Isaiah 40:28

“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.”

### SUMMARY OF OUR EDUCATIONAL GOALS

#### In relationship to God

- ◇ The student grows in the grace and knowledge of the Triune God,
- ◇ The student is taught to live a Christian life through the power of the Holy Spirit, and that he/she has the assurance of eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and
- ◇ The student gains knowledge of the Bible and its contents.

#### In relationship to self, others, and community

- ◇ The student will develop a positive self-image, and
- ◇ The student will develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for living a productive Christian life as a responsible member of his/her church, community, and world.

#### In relationship to intellectual development

- ◇ The student will develop academic talents and skills to the fullest extent of his/her ability,
- ◇ The student will develop positive attitudes toward learning, and
- ◇ The student shall be exposed to cultural activities, fine arts, and various types of music through classroom study, exhibits, direct participation, and field trips.

### Sixth Grade Curriculum Overview

#### Biblical Studies

The sixth grade curriculum is designed primarily to help teach students about key concepts of faith such as Law, Gospel, confession, repentance and grace while focusing specifically on the person, attributes and work of God's son. We begin studying the creation of the world and focus on the story of Christ that began from the first day of creation. We continue to work through the Old Testament looking for Christ's work and God's promises. We end the year with two units that are centered upon the work of Christ and his instructions to spread the gospel. Along with the Bible, the text used is "One in Christ" by Concordia publishing.

#### Language Arts

**Reading:** Students will be exposed to a number of different literature pieces which are included in the *Wonders* curriculum. Additionally, students will complete a class novel study where they study the literary elements. Students will be graded on reading responses, selection tests and book report projects. Book reports will assess students' abilities to summarize plot, identify literary elements, compare and contrast characters and settings, and support their predictions, inferences and opinions with textual evidence. Students will also be graded on their ability read and answer comprehension questions on their own chosen books using *Accelerated Reader*.

**English:** There will be grammar lessons each week using the GUM curriculum by Zaner Bloser. Sentences types and structures, parts of speech, usage and mechanics will be studied. They will be tested on grammar concepts at the end of each unit.

**Writing:** Explicit instruction of writing will be given twice of week during writer's workshop. Students will be guided through the writing process and give peer revision before turning in a typed final draft. Students will write narratives, explanatory/informational, book reviews and opinion pieces. Students will also be given a set of spelling words on a weekly bases to study and be tested on each Friday.

#### Mathematics

By the end of fifth grade, the processes of computation –addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division – are mastered for the system of whole numbers, fractions, and decimal numbers. In grade six, these skills are now applied to higher levels of math; solving equations and working with formulas in perimeter, area, volume, and ratios and proportions. Exponents and square roots are introduced. Skills and concepts of geometry are expanded. Percentages, measurement, integers, creating and using graphs, and probability and statistics add to the preparation for later years of study. The text used is: *McGraw Hill Reveal Math Course 1*

#### Social Studies

Sixth grade social studies covers world history from the ancient river civilizations through the Middle Ages. In each of the areas the students will concentrate on the G.R.A.P.E.S. of social studies looking at the geography, religions, achievements, politics, economics and social structure of the peoples during those times. Students will begin to learn how to do research and make presentations to the class on what they learned from their research.

Text: *Discovering our Past: A History of the World* by McGraw Hill

#### Science

The sixth grade course is divided into four major modular units and three shorter units. Students begin by observing, classifying, measuring using the metric system, and designing experiments. Students explore the Earth's living resources and its ecological systems. In the physical sciences the students investigate matter, motion, forces, and energy. As students learn to work together in chemical experiments, they are also introduced to the properties of matter.

The shorter units include an introduction to earth science through the rock unit and an introduction to fossils and the evidence to support an understanding of God's creation of the earth and man's theory of evolution. A health unit is included which emphasizes the miraculous changes occurring within their growing bodies and the care and respect they should have for themselves and others. The students are introduced to dissection techniques by dissecting earthworms.