



# 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 25 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 "Enduring Faith" by Concordia publishing.

#### Language Arts

In sixth grade, students develop foundational reading, writing, grammar, and vocabulary skills that prepare them for advanced literary analysis and expression. Through a combination of class novels, short stories, plays, and poetry, students explore theme, character, and language use. Core texts include War with Troy and other Greek myths, a World War I novel study (Private Peaceful or War Horse), and an introduction to Shakespeare through A Midsummer Night's Dream. Students analyze literary elements, make inferences, and support their ideas with textual evidence. Writing instruction focuses on descriptive and explanatory writing, the structure of paragraphs, and how to respond to language using body paragraph frameworks. Students practice narrative, persuasive, and research-based writing, learning to craft clear introductions, body paragraphs, and conclusions. Grammar instruction is embedded in daily lessons and reinforced through targeted practice in sentence structure, parts of speech, and mechanics. Vocabulary development includes weekly Membean sessions, context-based learning, and topic-specific word studies. Students also keep periodic journals to encourage reflection and creativity. By the end of sixth grade, students are expected to read closely, think critically, and write effectively across a range of genres and purposes.

#### 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

Sixth grade science is divided into three major units. Students begin the year by learning about the scientific method, how to measure using the metric system, and the importance of safety when working at lab stations. These foundational skills prepare them for future investigations. In the second unit, students study force and motion, where they explore God's design through experiments, demonstrations, and hands-on activities in physical science. The year concludes with a unit on sound and light, where students investigate how energy travels, interacts with matter, and influences the world around them. By the end of the course, students not only gain knowledge of core science concepts but also develop important skills in inquiry, problem-solving, and scientific thinking.