

## **5th / 6th Electives**

5th and 6th grade students attend electives 5 days per week. They complete 4 electives during the school year (1 elective per quarter). The electives are the same for students for 3 of the 4 quarters. Students may choose between 2 different electives for one of the rotations. See electives by grade and course descriptions below.

### **5th Grade**

#### **5th Study Skills - Amy Mosher, Jon Bullock, Elizabeth Anderson**

All 5th grade students take this elective in the first quarter of the year. It is designed to introduce organizational skills, time management tips and general information needed to navigate a middle school environment.

#### **5th Music - Laurie Plate**

Students will focus on writing, creating and performing music in class. We'll continue using the recorders as well as the ORFF instruments (xylophones, rhythm instruments). We will work toward playing on pitch, working together, and holding a steady beat in group ensembles. We will also strive to develop musicianship and performance skills through sight-reading of notes and clapping/tapping of rhythm, as well as vocal & instrumental warm-ups. We will study music theory, beginning note reading, the musical staff, and we will apply the elements of music learned in lower school to the middle school small instrumental ensemble setting.

#### **5th Spanish - Dr. Kevin Jenkins**

The Spanish class in 5th grade includes both the study of different Spanish cultures and learning basic Spanish language vocabulary. One highlight of the course is learning the entire Lord's Prayer in Spanish.

### **CHOICE BETWEEN DRAMA OR STEM**

#### **5th Drama - Sara Bachtel**

Drama is taught by Sara Bachtel (5th English). It is an introduction to performance. Students learn skills needed to perform on stage such as memorizing lines, speaking clearly, body language and how to follow stage directions in a skit. The class culminates with a performance in Chapel complete with costumes and props.

### **OR**

#### **5th STEM - Brad Lantis (Technology Specialist)**

The course is designed to be a fun, hands-on learning experience. Students build based on a series of Rube Goldberg ideas that involve math and science concepts. Projects vary from year to year, but they might work on paper airplanes and talk about design features that make one paper airplane fly further than another. They may talk about strengths of materials and design features that provide strength and then build bridges from popsicle sticks to see which design holds the most weight. They may learn about materials that provide insulation and design a mini cooler to see whose ice cube lasts the longest. Some projects take one or two days; other bigger projects may take more than a week.

## **6th Grade**

### **6th Logic - Stacey Dunlap**

This elective is designed to develop skills related to critical thinking, learning and problem solving, enabling students to enhance their performance in both academic and non-academic areas. Strategies for acquiring, evaluating, storing, and retrieving information, critical thinking operations and processes, and problem solving skills are an integral part of this course. In Logic, students will participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, reading, and analysis to support academic growth.

### **6th Art - Vicky Carr**

All art courses are designed to show God as the artful, ultimate Creator that He is. Students are taught about His works and encouraged to reflect on His wonderful creations and thus be inspired to create wonderful artwork themselves. Students may choose from a large variety of creative and challenging projects which teach them the formal elements (line, shape, form, texture, value, space and color) and principles (emphasis, balance, harmony, movement, rhythm, proportions, and unity) of art. With each project, students are exposed to Biblical correlations, art history, art criticism and a wide selection of art mediums.

### **6th Spanish - Melissa Robinson**

Students will focus primarily on developing language skills but will also touch upon elements of Hispanic culture. During this nine-week period, students will learn how to carry on basic conversations in Spanish through vocabulary drills and games. Additionally, they will be exposed to artistic, cultural, and historical elements from the various Spanish-speaking countries through a variety of activities and vocabulary.

## **CHOICE BETWEEN DRAMA OR STEM**

### **6th Drama - Katie Boling**

Drama is taught by Katie Boling (6th English). It is an introduction to performance. Students learn skills needed to perform on stage such as memorizing lines, speaking clearly, body language and how to follow stage directions in a skit. The class culminates with a performance in Chapel complete with costumes and props.

**OR**

### **6th Technology - Brad Lantis (Technology Specialist)**

The Technology course has a focus on programming. Students will work on a variety of projects including taking apart laptops and identifying parts, building hummingbird robots, programming in snap and/or scratch, learning to input math formulas in Google Sheets and general skills for effectively and safely searching for information on the internet.