

Los Altos Christian Schools  
Middle School

**Sixth Grade Curriculum**

**Pre Algebra 6-**(Pre-Algebra, CA Edition Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13-050486-6)

Student work, write and simplify numerical expressions as well as introductory algebraic expression. They focus on developing problem-solving strategies, especially on writing equations that require the use of signed numbers and several inverse operations for solutions. Emphasis is places on the use of variables in equations and expressions. Statistics, non-routine problem solving, cooperative learning functions, geometric formulas, rations, and proportions are explored. **Prerequisite:** *Proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission and teacher recommendation. This is an honors 6<sup>th</sup> grade class*

**Math 6** (California Grade 6 Mathematics 2009 ed., Prentice Hall, ISBN 978-0-13-203119-6; SRA kit)

Students learn to solve problems, increase computational competence and build critical thinking skills. Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals, measurement, percentage, factoring, ratio, fractions and basic geometry are taught. Beginning Algebra concepts are integrated.

**General Math 6** (California Mathematics 6 2009 ed., Prentice Hall, ISBN 978-0-13-203119-1; SRA Kit)

Students learn to solve problems, increase computational competence and build critical thinking skills. Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals, measurement, percentage, factoring, ratio, fractions and basic geometry are taught. Beginning Algebra concepts are integrated.

**Bible 6** (Wise Up, Positive Action for Christ, smkn 700)

Middle school years are a time when young people begin to make more and more decisions for themselves. This increasing freedom is accompanied by greater responsibility and higher expectations in many areas of life. This study from Proverbs will help young people master the principles that will help them live wisely and become more like Christ.

**History 6** (World History: Ancient Civilizations, Houghton Mifflin 2006, ISBN 0-618-42394-X)

Students are presented with an overview of ancient world cultures (historical, economic and geographic themes; cultural differences) from the creation of man through the Roman Empire and its decline. Special emphasis is placed on understanding God's purpose and plan for mankind throughout history. Student will do projects during the civilizations studied based on topics and themes.

**English 6** (Language Network, McDougal Littell, ISBN 0-395-967362; Reading-Triumph, Houghton Mifflin ISBN 0-618-01237-0; Language Network, ISBN 978-0-395-96736-2; Wordly Wise Vocabulary, Educators Publishing Service, ISBN 0-8388-2824-8) \*Resource class also uses English, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN 0-618-03083-2)

Grammar study includes vocabulary workshop and words taken from textual reading. The writing focus is on developing strong support in body paragraphs with an emphasis on narrative and descriptive writing. Houghton Mifflin reading book and selected novels are read by students and discussed in class. Outside reading and book reports are required. Outline and the components of a research paper are taught. The parts of short stories will be studied with an emphasis on character analysis, vocabulary development, comprehension skills and enjoyment. Novels include Hatchet, Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry, Bronze Bow, and White Mountains.

### **Science 6 Earth Science** (Earth Science, Holt, Rinehart, Winston 2007, ISBN 0-03-042658-8)

The program allows the students to experience studies in Earth Science disciplines. The materials present in-depth content and hands-on exploration activities. A comprehensive science fair unit emphasizes study and implementation of the scientific method of research and writing a research report.

### **Physical Education**

Physical Education is an atmosphere where students will learn to exhibit Christian character through all aspects of activity. Students will develop movement skills enabling them to participate confidently in physical activity. They will also be instructed in good sportsmanship and taking personal responsibility.

### **Foreign Language**

**Spanish A:** (Realidades A, Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13-035966-1) *Realidades* is based on the belief that the purpose of learning Spanish is to communicate with the people who speak it and to understand their cultures. *Realidades* presents a fresh, exciting approach to Spanish by making language learning real for today's students.

**Course Description-** This course offers students a basic introduction to the Spanish language. Students learn essential vocabulary related to school, classes, schedules, friends, likes, dislikes, food, etc.), proper pronunciation, and the grammar necessary for understanding and using basic Spanish. The course provides instruction and practice in reading, writing, speaking, and listening to Spanish.

**Chinese (Mandarin) A** (Zhongwen A) - This course offers students a basic introduction to the Chinese language. Students learn essential vocabulary, proper pronunciation, and the grammar necessary for understanding and using basic Chinese. The course provides instruction and practice in reading, writing, speaking, and listening to Chinese.

### **Electives**

Students may choose from a variety of electives that will allow them to sample many interests such as game design, yearbook, band, drama, debate, golf, cooking, party planning, woodworking, etc.

## Seventh Grade Curriculum

### **Algebra I** (Algebra, CA edition, Prentice Hall 2001, 0-12-044263-1)

This honors course is designed to sharpen skills that use variables with whole numbers, signed numbers, decimals and fractions. Students will be introduced to polynomials, functions, algebraic functions and the quadratic formula. There is an emphasis on learning strategies for solving word problems. **Prerequisite:** *Successful completion of Pre-Algebra, Proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission and teacher recommendations. This is an honors course for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.*

### **Pre-Algebra 7**-(California Pre-Algebra, Pearson/Prentice Hall 2009, ISBN 0-13-203120-5)

Students work with numerical expressions as well as introductory algebraic expression. They focus on developing problem-solving strategies, especially on writing equations that require the use of signed numbers and several inverse operations for solutions. Emphasis is placed on the use of variables in equations and expressions. Statistics, non-routine problem solving, geometric formulas, ratios, and proportions are explored. **Prerequisite:** *Proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission and teacher recommendation.*

### **General Math 7** (California Grade 6 Mathematics 2009 ed., Prentice Hall, ISBN 978-0-13-203119-6; SRA Kit)

Students learn to solve problems, increase computational competence and build critical thinking skills. Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals, measurement, percentage, factoring, ratio, fractions and basic geometry are taught. Beginning Algebra concepts are integrated.

### **Bible 7** (Route 66, Positive Action for Christ)

This class is a fast moving Bible survey with personal application and an emphasis on God's power and activity. Students visit all 66 books of the Bible and student from the creation to the cross to the consummation of time.

### **History 7** (World History: Medieval and Early Modern Times, McDougall Littell 2006, ISBN 978-0-618-53294-0)

Seventh grade world history is a continuous study of the world beginning where 6<sup>th</sup> grade ended. This class focuses on European history from the events of the fall of the Roman Empire to the French Revolution. Students will study history in order to find lessons that would benefit them in their daily lives. We will search throughout history in order to see God at work in the world and student will recognize biblical principles throughout history.

### **English 7** (Language of Literature 7, McDougal Littell 2002, ISBN 0-618-11572-2; Language Network 7, McDougal Littell 2001, ISBN 0-395-96737-9; Wordly Wise 7 2007, Educators Publishing Service ISBN 0-8388-2825-6, English 7, McDougal Littell, ISBN 7-978-618-15376-3)

Students read selections from a literature anthology and begin to learn skills of literary analysis and terminology. Book reports are required and additional novels, such as The Outsiders, are also read in class. Students are challenged to interpret all reading from a Christian perspective. Parts of speech and the parts of a sentence, along with selected usage areas are covered. Students write different types of paragraphs (with an emphasis on expository writing) and move on to the five paragraph essay, learning to formulate a thesis statement and supporting the thesis with three body paragraphs, as well as learning to write an effective introduction and

conclusions. Research paper format is taught. Students write summaries, responses to literature, narrative and persuasive essays.

### **Science 7-Life Science** (Life Science, Holt Rinehart & Winston, ISBN 0-03042657-X)

In Life Science, students will embark on an exciting year exploring God's creation as inquisitive and investigative scientists. Class investigations will include laboratory experimentation, group investigations, formal lab reports, technology enrichment, and an interdisciplinary approach to science. Students will participate in a comprehensive science fair unit which emphasizes the study and implementation of the scientific method, research and communication of those results to others through a research report and oral presentation. Students cover CA standards life science topics.

### **Physical Education**

Physical Education is an atmosphere where students will learn to exhibit Christian character through all aspects of activity. Students will develop movement skills enabling them to participate confidently in physical activity. They will also be instructed in good sportsmanship and taking personal responsibility.

### **Foreign Language**

**Spanish A:** (Realidades A, Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13-035966-1) *Realidades* is based on the belief that the purpose of learning Spanish is to communicate with the people who speak it and to understand their cultures. *Realidades* presents a fresh, exciting approach to Spanish by making language learning real for today's students.

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### **Spanish B:** (Realidades A and B, Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13-035966-1 and 0-13-035967-X)

Spanish B takes off where Spanish A leaves off. This year, students will learn words related to food, pastimes, family, shopping, traveling, entertainment, and technology. More time will be spent speaking together in Spanish as students expand their vocabulary and knowledge of the language. Oral participation is a large part of the grade in Spanish B. **Prerequisite: Spanish A**

**Chinese (Mandarin) A** (Zhongwen A) - This course offers students a basic introduction to the Chinese language. Students learn essential vocabulary, proper pronunciation, and the grammar necessary for understanding and using basic Chinese. The course provides instruction and practice in reading, writing, speaking, and listening to Chinese.

**Chinese B-** (Zhongwen B) Chinese B is a continuation of Chinese A. Students will build their vocabulary and conversation skills.

### **Electives**

Students may choose from a variety of electives that will allow them to sample many interests such as game design, yearbook, band, drama, debate, golf, cooking, party planning, woodworking, etc.

## **Eighth Grade Curriculum**

### **Geometry** (Geometry, Prentice Hall, ISBN 978-0-13-036000-7)

This honors course includes learning the language of geometry, studying parallel and perpendicular lines, congruence and similarity, special right triangle relationships and trigonometric ratios. Students gain skill in logical thinking by exposure to conditional statements, indirect proofs and two-column proofs. This course will involve studying area, perimeter, surface area and volume of a variety of geometric shapes. This is a high school level course.

**Prerequisite:** *Successful completion of Algebra, Proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission and teacher recommendation. This is an honors class for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.*

### **Algebra I** (Algebra, CA edition, Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-12-044263-1)

This honors course is designed to sharpen skills that use variables with whole numbers, signed numbers, decimals and fractions. Students will be introduced to polynomials, functions, algebraic functions and the quadratic formula. There is an emphasis on learning strategies for solving work problems. This is a high school level course. **Prerequisite:** *Successful completion of Pre-Algebra, Proficiency test, high SAT math scores, parental permission and teacher recommendations.*

### **Pre-Algebra 8**-(Pre-Algebra, CA Edition Prentice Hall, ISBN 0-13-050486-6)

Student work, write and simplify numerical expressions as well as introductory algebraic expression. They focus on developing problem-solving strategies, especially on writing equations that require the use of signed numbers and several inverse operations for solutions. Emphasis is places on the use of variables in equations and expressions. Statistics, non-routine problem solving, cooperative learning functions, geometric formulas, rations, and proportions are explored.

### **Bible 8** (To the Ends of the Earth, ACSI, ISBN 1-58331-132-7, More than a Carpenter, Josh McDowell ISBN 0-8423-4552-3)

Students will witness the birth and expansion of the early Christian church. They will learn much about the truth of Scripture and how they can apply it to have an impact on their world. This course is designed to teach principles for Christian living from the example of the early church as recorded in Acts.

### **History 8** (Creating America: Beginnings through WWI, Mc Dougall Littell, ISBN 978-0-61-855949-7)

United States History and Government. Students study the exploration and colonization of the American continents, The Revolutionary War, the writing and content of the United States Constitution, The branches of government, the Amendments, Westward Expansion, The Civil War, and the Gilded Age. The students explore ways in which God works through time. They also investigate events of history that teach basic lessons of life and consider how historical events illustrate principles set forth in God's Word. Furthermore, the students are introduced to ways in which they may actively influence government even as eighth graders.

### **English 8** (Wordly Wise Educators Publishing Service, ISBN 0-8388-2826-4, The Language of Literature, Houghton Mifflin, ISBN 978-0-618-60136-3, Language Network, ISBN 978-0-618-15382-4)

This course will include a study of grammar, concentrating on functions of parts of speech and clauses and phrases. Writing will include descriptive, narrative and expository with an emphasis on persuasive essays with the inclusion of annotated remarks, anecdotes and statistics. Literature selections include *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *The Pearl*, poetry and nonfiction essays; supplemental novels will include *The Old Man and the Sea*. Vocabulary words are also used in textual context. Literary terms and definitions are taught and applied to reading selections. Students are encouraged to interpret literature from a Christian perspective and to apply Biblical principles to their evaluation of literature. A research paper is required using MLA format. A concentrated effort on the five-paragraph structure is emphasized throughout the year.

### **Science 8** (Physical Science, Holt Rinehart & Winston, ISBN 0-03-042659-6)

This program allows the students to experience studies in Physical Science disciplines. The materials present in-depth content and hands-on exploration activities laboratory experimentation, group investigations, and formal lab reports.

### **Physical Education**

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