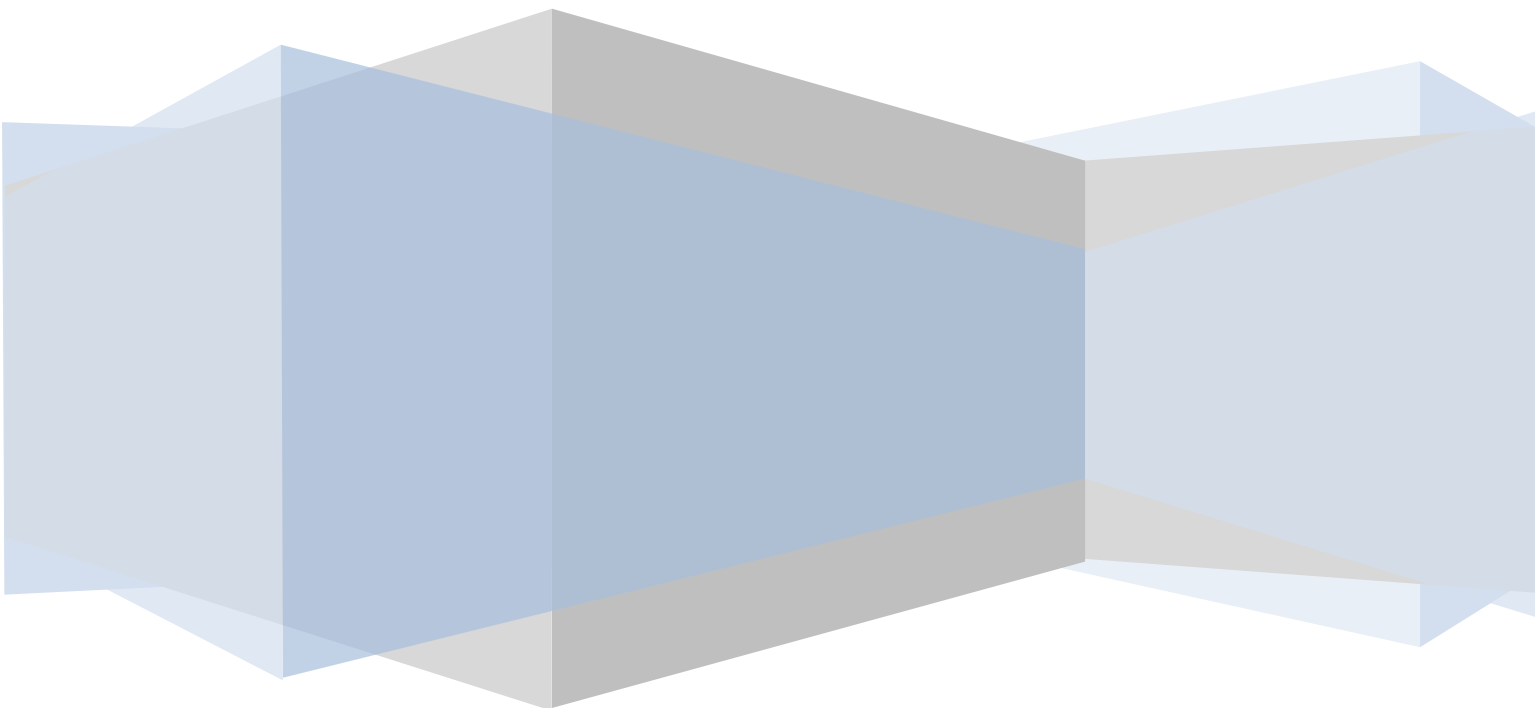




**Saint John's School of Little Canada**

# **Curriculum Book**

**Grades 6-8**



### **Saint John's School Mathematics Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's mathematics curriculum, as outlined in our standards, is to empower students to master basic facts, have knowledge of concepts, understand and demonstrate procedures and processes so they are able to apply mathematics to real life situations.

### **Saint John's School Language Arts Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's language arts curriculum, as outlined in our standards, is to utilize the structure of the English language, to read, write, spell, listen and research in order to effectively gather and communicate information.

### **Saint John's School Library Science Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's Library Science program is to promote a lifelong love of reading both for pleasure and the pursuit of knowledge. It is our goal to serve the educational and informational needs of our students and staff, as well as to provide quality leisure reading materials for our students.

### **Saint John's School Religion Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's religion program is to teach the students to live the gospel message. We strive to promote: knowledge of our faith, liturgical education, moral formation, prayer, community life, evangelism and service.

### **Saint John's School Science Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's science program is to provide students with guided and inquiry based lab experiences and research opportunities. Students acquire, develop and utilize science skills to apply their knowledge, pose and answer questions, and be stewards of their environment.

### **Saint John's School Social Studies Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's social studies program is designed to enable our students to become active citizens who make informed decisions for the public good. Our program fuses the subjects of geography, history, political science, economics, and civics in order that our students understand their past and present, and prepare for their future as citizens of a culturally diverse and democratic society.

### **Saint John's School Technology Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's technology curriculum is to promote critical thinking and individual and collaborative problem solving skills through the exemplary use of computers and other technology. Students will have the ability to conduct research, create end products, and communicate with the use of a variety of technology tools.

### **Saint John's School Physical Education Philosophy**

Saint John's physical education philosophy is to provide rigorous activities, games and sports in order to develop physical skills and knowledge of game rules. Students will also practice fair play and learn strategies of individual and team activities. Our program is designed to promote a fit and healthy lifestyle.

### **Saint John's School Spanish Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's Spanish curriculum is to empower students to communicate, listen, interpret, and present information, opinions and feelings in Spanish. Students will understand basic components of the Spanish speaking cultures, traditions, ideas, and perspectives.

### **Saint John's School Music Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's music program is to provide students with music appreciation as well as life-long basic music and performance skills. This is accomplished through the introduction of notation, note reading, cultural awareness and a broad range of musical experiences.

### **Saint John's School Art Philosophy**

The philosophy of Saint John's art program is to encourage students to explore the varied art processes, techniques and media; promote a mastery of basic art concepts; be a catalyst for inspiration, creativity, possibilities and problem-solving; and provide opportunities for students to discover, enjoy and appreciate the world's diverse artistic heritage.

# Table of Contents

## Subject Philosophies

### Religion

Grades 6-8

### Language Arts

Grades 6-8

### Mathematics

6<sup>th</sup> Grade

7<sup>th</sup> Grade

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced

### Social Studies

Grades 6-8

### Science

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Life Science

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Earth & Space Science

8<sup>th</sup> Physical Science

### Art

Grades 6-8

### Computer

Grades 6-8

### Library Science

Grades 6-8

### Music

Grades 6-8

### Physical Education

Grades 6-8

### Spanish

Grades 6-8

## **Religion: Grades 6-8**

A knowledgeable student will understand the following aspects of our Catholic faith:

### **Knowledge of Faith - Know, understand and integrate Catholic beliefs**

Know, love and be in relationship with Jesus Christ

Explore Scripture as hearers and doers of the Word

Know the Church's teaching on the dignity of the human person in its social doctrine, including respect life teaching.

Learn the richness of the Church's tradition and understand Church history

Learn the meaning and practical relevance of current church teachings as presented by the pope, diocesan bishop, Vatican congregations, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

### **Liturgical Education**

Understand, live, and bear witness to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, celebrated and communicated through the sacramental life of the Church

Understand church doctrine on the Eucharist and other sacraments

Acquire the spirituality, skills, and habits of full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy

Value the dignity and responsibility of Christian baptism

Understand the roles of the laity and ordained in liturgical celebrations

Understand and participate in the Church's daily prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and learn to pray the Psalms

### **Moral Formation**

**Understand the "Great Commandment" of Jesus**

**Understand the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and moral teachings of the Church and live according to them**

**Understand the dignity, destiny, freedom, and responsibility of each person**

**Understand the meaning and nature of sin and the power of God's grace to overcome it**

**Learn how to acquire and follow a well-formed conscience**

**Promote the Gospel of Life so that respecting life from conception until natural death is honored in personal behavior, public policy, and in the expressed values and attitudes of our society**

**Live a lifestyle reflecting scriptural values**

### **Prayer**

**Become familiar with the diverse forms and expressions of Christian prayer, with special attention to the Our Father, the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples and which is the model for all Christian prayer**

**Experience and appreciate the richness of the Catholic tradition of mysticism and contemplation**

**Develop a regular pattern of personal prayer and spiritual reflection, recognizing vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer as basic and fruitful practices in the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ**

**Engage in shared prayer with others, especially family prayer, as well as at parish meetings and in small communities of faith**

**Recognize and encourage practices of popular piety and devotion that help believers express and strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ**

## **Education for Community Life**

**Foster spiritual growth in community**

**Cultivate human values and Christian virtues that foster growth in interpersonal relationships and in civic responsibility**

**Nurture marriage and family life**

**Share actively in the life and work of the parish, and foster the potential of small communities to deepen the faith relationships of members, to strengthen the bonds of communion with the parish, and to serve the Church's mission in society**

**Understand the Church's teaching on the nature and mission of the Church, including an understanding of the Church's authority and structures and of the rights and responsibilities of the Christian faithful**

**Support the ecumenical movement and promote the unity of God's people as an important dimension of fidelity to the Gospel.**

## **Missionary Initiation**

**Cultivate an evangelizing spirit among all the faithful**

**Respond to God's call whether as a lay person, ordained, or vowed religious**

**Encourage, motivate, and equip the faithful to speak to others about scripture, tradition, and teachings of the church**

**Explore and promote the applications of the Church's moral and social teachings**

**Understand the importance of serving those in need, promoting the common good, and working for the transformation of society through personal and social action**

**Appreciate the value of inter-religious dialogue and contacts**

## Language Arts: Grades 6-8

### Writing

A knowledgeable student:

Uses the general skills and strategies of the writing process.

Uses the stylistic and rhetorical aspects of writing.

Uses grammatical and mechanical conventions in written compositions.

Gathers and uses information for research purposes.

### Reading

A knowledgeable student:

Uses the general skills and strategies of the reading process.

Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of literary texts.

Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of informational texts.

### Listening and Speaking

A knowledgeable student:

Uses listening and speaking strategies for different purposes.

### Viewing

A knowledgeable student:

Uses viewing skills and strategies to understand and interpret visual media.

### Media

A knowledgeable student:

Understands the characteristics and components of the media.

## **Mathematics: Grade 6**

A knowledgeable student:

Uses a variety of strategies in the problem-solving process

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of numbers

Uses basic and advanced procedures while performing the process of computation

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of measurement

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of geometry

Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of statistics and data analysis

Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of probability

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of functions and algebra

Understands the general nature and uses of mathematics

## **Mathematics: Grade 7**

A knowledgeable student:

Uses a variety of strategies in the problem-solving process

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of numbers

Uses basic and advanced procedures while performing the process of computation

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of measurement

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of geometry

Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of probability

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of functions and algebra

Understands the general nature and uses of mathematics

## **Mathematics: Advanced Grade 7**

A knowledgeable student:

Uses a variety of strategies in the problem-solving process

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of numbers

Uses basic and advanced procedures while performing the process of computation

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of measurement

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of geometry

Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of statistics and data analysis

Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of probability

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of functions and algebra

Understands the general nature and uses of mathematics

## **Mathematics: Grade 8**

A knowledgeable student:

Uses a variety of strategies in the problem-solving process

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of numbers

Uses basic and advanced procedures while performing the process of computation

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of measurement

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of geometry

Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of statistics and data analysis

Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of probability

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of functions and algebra

Understands the general nature and uses of mathematics

## **Mathematics: Advanced Grade 8**

A knowledgeable student:

Uses a variety of strategies in the problem-solving process

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of numbers

Uses basic and advanced procedures while performing the process of computation

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of measurement

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of geometry

Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of statistics and data analysis

Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of probability

Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of functions and algebra

Understands the general nature and uses of mathematics

## **Social Studies: Grades 6-8**

### **Historical Understanding**

A knowledgeable student:

Understands and knows how to analyze chronological relationships and patterns

Understands the historical perspective

### **World History**

A knowledgeable student:

**Understands the biological and cultural processes that shaped the earliest human communities**

**Understands the processes that contributed to the emergence of agricultural societies around the world**

**Understands the major characteristics of civilization and the development of civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, and the Indus Valley**

**Understands technological and cultural innovation and change from 1000 to 600 BCE**

**Understand how major religious and large-scale empires arose in the Mediterranean Basin, China, and India from 500 BCE to 300 CE**

**Understands the causes and consequences of the development of Islamic civilization between the 7th and 10th centuries**

**Understands the growth of states, towns, and trade in Sub-Saharan Africa between the 11th and 15th centuries**

**Understands the expansion of states and civilizations in the Americas between 1000 and 1500**

**Understands how the transoceanic interlinking of all major regions of the world between 1450 and 1600 led to global transformations**

### **United States History**

**A knowledgeable student**

**Understands the characteristics of societies in the Americas, Western Europe, and Western Africa that increasingly interacted after 1450**

**Understands cultural and ecological interactions among previously unconnected people resulting from early European exploration and colonization**

**Understands why the Americas attracted Europeans, why they brought enslaved Africans to their colonies and how Europeans struggled for control of North America and the Caribbean**

**Understands how political, religious, and social institutions emerged in the English colonies**

**Understands how the values and institutions of European economic life took root in the colonies and how slavery reshaped European and African life in the Americas**

**Understands the causes of the American Revolution, the ideas and interests involved in shaping the revolutionary movement, and reasons for the American victory**

**Understands the impact of the American Revolution on politics, economy, and society**

**Understands the institutions and practices of government created during the Revolution and how these elements were revised between 1787 and 1815 to create the foundation of the American political system based on the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights**

**Understands the United States territorial expansion between 1801 and 1861, and how it affected relations with external powers and Native Americans**

**Understands how the industrial revolution, increasing immigration, the rapid expansion of slavery, and the westward movement changed American lives and led to regional tensions**

**Understands the extension, restriction, and reorganization of political democracy after 1800**

**Understands the sources and character of cultural, religious, and social reform movements in the antebellum period**

**Understands the causes of the Civil War**

**Understands the course and character of the Civil War and its effects on the American people**

**Understands how various reconstruction plans succeeded or failed**

**Understands how the rise of corporations, heavy industry, and mechanized farming transformed American society**

**Understands massive immigration after 1870 and how new social patterns, conflicts, and ideas of national unity developed amid growing cultural diversity**

**Understands the rise of the American labor movement and how political issues reflected social and economic changes**

**Understands federal Indian policy and United States foreign policy after the Civil War**

**Understands how Progressives and others addressed problems of industrial capitalism, urbanization, and political corruption**

**Understands the changing role of the United States in world affairs through World War I**

**Understands how the United States changed between the post-World War I years and the eve of the Great Depression**

**Understands the causes of the Great Depression and how it affected American society**

**Understands how the New Deal addressed the Great Depression, transformed American federalism, and initiated the welfare state**

**Understands the causes and course of World War II, the character of the war at home and abroad, and its reshaping of the U.S. role in world affairs**

**Understands the struggle for racial and gender equality and for the extension of civil liberties**

**Understands economic, social, and cultural developments in the contemporary United States**

**Understands the history behind the terrorist attacks on the United States on September, 11, 2001**

## **Geography**

**A knowledgeable student:**

**Understands the characteristics and uses of maps, globes, and other geographic tools and technologies**

**Knows the location of places, geographic features, and patterns of the environment**

**Understands the nature, distribution and migration of human populations on Earth's surface**

**Understands the patterns of human settlement and their causes**

**Understands the forces of cooperation and conflict that shape the divisions of Earth's surface**

**Understands how physical systems affect human systems**

**Understands global development and environmental issues**

### **Economics**

A knowledgeable student:

**Understands characteristics of different economic systems, economic institutions, and economic incentives**

**Understands the concept of prices and the interaction of supply and demand in a market economy**

**Understands unemployment, income, and income distribution in a market economy**

### **Civics**

A knowledgeable student:

**Understands ideas about civic life, politics, and government**

**Understands the concept of a constitution, the various purposes that constitutions serve, and the conditions that contribute to the establishment and maintenance of constitutional government**

**Understands the advantages and disadvantages of federal, confederal, and unitary systems of government**

**Understands the central ideas of American constitutional government and how this form of government has shaped the character of American society**

**Understands the importance of Americans sharing and supporting certain values, beliefs, and principles of American constitutional democracy**

**Understands the role of diversity in American life and the importance of shared values, political beliefs, and civic beliefs in an increasingly diverse American society**

**Understands how the United States Constitution grants and distributes power and responsibilities to national and state government and how it seeks to prevent the abuse of power**

**Understands the meaning of citizenship in the United States, and knows the requirements for citizenship and naturalization**

**Understands how participation in civic and political life can help citizens attain individual and public goals**

## **Science: Grades 6-8**

### **Grade 6: Life Science**

**Understands the principles of heredity and related concepts.**

**Understands the structure and function of cells and organisms.**

**Understands relationships among organisms and their physical environment.**

**Understands biological evolution and the diversity of life.**

### **Grade 7: Earth Science**

**Understands atmospheric processes and the water cycle.**

**Understands Earth's composition and structure.**

**Understands the composition and structure of the universe and the earth's place in it.**

### **Grade 8: Physical Science**

**Understands the structure and properties of matter.**

**Understands the sources and properties of energy.**

**Understands forces and motion.**

## **Grades 6-8: Middle School Science**

Understands the nature of scientific knowledge.

Understands the nature of scientific inquiry.

Understands the scientific enterprise.

### **Life Science**

A knowledgeable student:

Understands the principles of heredity and related concepts

Understands the structure and function of cells and organisms

Understands relationships among organisms and their physical environments.

Understands biological evolution and the diversity of life.

### **Earth and Space Sciences**

A knowledgeable student:

Understands atmospheric processes and the water cycle.

Understands Earth's composition and structure.

Understands the composition and structure of the universe and the Earth's place in it.

### **Physical Sciences**

A knowledgeable student:

Understands the structure and properties of matter

Understands the sources and properties of energy

Understands forces and motion

### **Nature of Science**

A knowledgeable student:

**Understands the nature of scientific knowledge**

**Understands the nature of scientific inquiry**

**Understands the scientific enterprise**

## **Art: Grades 6-8**

A knowledgeable student:

**Understands and applies media, techniques and processes**

**Uses knowledge of structures and functions**

**Chooses and evaluates a range of subject matter, symbols and ideas**

**Understands the visual arts in relation to history and cultures**

**Reflects upon and assesses the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others**

**Makes connections between visual arts and other disciplines**

## **Computer: Grades 6-8**

A knowledgeable student:

**Knows the characteristics and uses of computer hardware and operating systems**

**Knows the characteristics and uses of computer software programs**

**Understands the relationships among science, technology, society, and the individual**

**Understands the nature of technological design**

**Understands the nature and operation of systems**

## **Library Science: Grades 6-8**

A knowledgeable student:

**Accesses information efficiently and effectively**

**Evaluates information critically and competently**

**Uses information accurately and creatively**

**Appreciates literature and other creative expressions of information**

**Practices ethical behavior in regard to information and information technology**

**Pursues information for both educational and personal purposes**

## **Music: Grades 6 - 8**

Students may participate in the Middle School Choir and/or Guitar Players while in grades 6 - 8.  
Knowledgeable music students will:

Display appropriate behavior, cooperation, participation and encouragement of others.

Work for better musical tone, style and general musicianship.

Sing in two and three vocal parts.

Take part in school, church and community performances.

Have the opportunity to take part in the spring talent show.

## **Physical Education: Grades 6-8**

A knowledgeable student:

**Uses a variety of basic and advanced movement forms**

**Uses movement concepts and principles in the development of motor skills**

**Understands the benefits and costs associated with participation in physical activities**

**Understands how to monitor and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness**

Understands the social and personal responsibility associated with participation in physical activities

## **Spanish: Grades 6-8**

### ***Communication***

A knowledgeable student:

Uses the target language to engage in conversations, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions and information

### ***Listening and Interpreting***

Understands and interprets written and spoken language on diverse topics from diverse media

### ***Presentation***

Presents information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics

### ***Culture***

Understands traditional ideas and perspectives, institutions, professions, literary and artistic expressions, other components of the target culture

### ***Language Patterns***

Understands that different languages use different patterns to communicate and applies this knowledge to target and native languages

## Publishers (2009-2010 School Year)

Religion	6 <sup>th</sup> : Harcourt 2008 and Benziger 1995 7 <sup>th</sup> : Harcourt 2008 and Benziger 1995 8 <sup>th</sup> : Brown-Roa 1993
Language Arts	Literature: Trade Books Grammar/Writing: McDougal Littell 1998 Vocabulary: 6-7 Educators Publishing Service, Inc. 2007
Mathematics	Algebra I: Glencoe/McGraw 2001 Algebra $\frac{1}{2}$ : Saxon 2004 Pre-Algebra: Glencoe/McGraw 2001 Mathematics 8/7: Saxon 2004 Middle School Math Course 1: Scott-Foresman-Addison Wesley 1998
Social Studies	6 <sup>th</sup> : Scott Foresman 2005 7 <sup>th</sup> : McDougal-Little 2002 8 <sup>th</sup> : McDougal-Little 2003
Science	6 <sup>th</sup> : Exploring Living Things: Addison-Wesley 1996 7 <sup>th</sup> : Exploring Earth and Space: Addison-Wesley 1996 Foundations of Physical Science with Earth and Space Science: CPO Science 2003 8 <sup>th</sup> : Foundations of Physical Science with Earth and Space Science: CPO Science 2003 Investigations: Foundations of Physical Science: CPO Science 2003
Spanish	Glencoe McGraw-Hill 2005

