

Religion (225 weekly minutes)

History and Doctrine

- Demonstrates knowledge of the history, challenges and contributions of the Church from the First Century to the present
- Understands rites and traditions
- Understands how early Christian communities grew and related to secular world
- Knows the heritage specific to the Church in the U. S.
- Knows the history of major saints and leaders in the Church
- Understands the tenants of the Nicene Creed
- Understands the origin and purpose of Catholic doctrine
- Develops an understanding and ownership of the values and ideals of Jesus Christ

Scripture

- Reads various New and Old Testament sources

Liturgy/Prayer

- Participates in morning offering and petitions, noon prayer, and afternoon prayer.
- Learns and engages in various forms of prayer.
- Celebrates weekly Mass and special Church feast-day liturgies
- Composes prayers, introductory themes and intercessions

Social Justice

- Actively engages in community service
- Appreciates the origin and development of the Church's social doctrine (Beatitudes)

Language Arts (600 Weekly Minutes)

Reading

- Uses knowledge of word origins, word relationships, and historical and literary context clues to determine the meaning of specialized and grade-level-appropriate vocabulary
- Develops vocabulary and knowledge of word structure through study of introductory Latin
- Understands and uses idioms, analogies, metaphors, and similes
- Identifies main idea and concepts and assesses evidence that supports those ideas
- Makes predictions, draws inferences, conclusions, or generalizations about text
- Finds similarities and differences among texts
- Explains the purposes and characteristics of different forms of poetry
- Evaluates the development, subplots, conflicts, and climax of a story's plot
- Compares, contrasts, and analyzes literary characters
- Identifies and analyzes recurring themes in literature
- Identifies the literary devices that define a writer's style

- Uses a variety of information sources – dictionary, thesaurus, encyclopedia, newspapers and internet
- Learns background of selected literary authors

Writing

- Writes clear, coherent, and focused essays using the elements of the writing process – prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing
- Creates a composition that has a coherent thesis, formal introduction, supporting evidence, and well-supported conclusion
- Experiments in writing different forms of poetry – ballad, free verse, lyric
- Revises writing to improve word choice, organization, sentence variety, and transitions
- Edits for spelling, punctuation, grammar, clarity
- Writes narrative, expository, persuasive, and descriptive text of at least 500 – 700 words
- Uses correct and varied sentence types to create an effective personal writing style
- Uses transitions to indicate the relationship between ideas
- Recognizes and correctly uses all parts of speech
- Uses commas, apostrophes, quotation marks, italics, colons, underlining, semi-colon and hyphens correctly
- Uses grade-appropriate spelling

Listening and Speaking

- States a clear position and supports arguments with detailed evidence, examples and reasoning
- Summarizes a speaker's purpose and point of view
- Engages critically and constructively in discussions
- Comprehends, memorizes and delivers selected excerpts from Shakespeare

Mathematics (225 Weekly Minutes)

Number Sense

- Identifies number systems and accurately computes within each system
- Compares and orders rational/irrational numbers
- Uses order of operations to solve complex problems
- Applies properties of rational numbers
- Applies the concepts and rules of exponents and roots

Algebra and Functions

- Interprets, translates and evaluates data using algebraic terminology, expressions, equations
- Identifies unknowns from problems, writes and solves one-step and multi-step equations
- Solves equations and inequalities involving absolute values
- Identifies slope and y-intercept
- Plots and graphs linear and non-linear equations
- Solves a system of linear equations in two variables
- Applies basic factoring to second and third degree polynomials
- Simplifies polynomials using properties and appropriate algorithms

- Applies algebraic techniques to rate, work, percent, mixture problems
- Solves a quadratic equation by factoring, completing the square of applying quadratic formula

Measurement and Geometry

- Classifies triangles by sides and angles
- Computes with and applies geometric concepts
- Uses symmetry, congruency and similarity to geometric figures
- Calculates perimeter, area, volume, surface area of geometric figures
- Applies the Pythagorean Theorem for problem solving
- Converts and compares like units of measurement within the standard and metric systems

Statistics, Data Analysis, and Probability

- Interprets, compares, makes predictions and evaluates data from charts, tables and graphs
- Applies the measures of central tendency
- Records and analyzes results of probability experiments
- Calculates probability of dependent and independent events

Mathematical Reasoning

- Analyzes problems by identifying patterns and relationships
- Applies various strategies appropriate for arriving at solution
- Expresses the solution clearly and logically using appropriate properties and algorithms
- Evaluates the reasonableness of solutions

Science (225 Weekly Minutes)

Physical Science

- Understands concepts relating to: velocity, atomic structure, chemical reactions, density, mass, buoyant force
- Develops process skills using scientific method
- Understands and develops knowledge relating to principles, concepts and terms of Physical sciences
- Applies Mathematical rules and formulas

Social Studies (170 Weekly Minutes)

History

- Develop and applies geography, critical thinking and research skills
- Interprets and analyzes information
- Summarizes immediate and long-term causes and effects of important historical development
- Understands history of multicultural heritage in U.S.
- Develops ability to make generalizations, detect bias and recognizes fact and opinion
- Knows responsibilities and rights of U.S. citizenship
- Understands major events preceding and leading to the Civil War,
- Analyzes attempts to abolish slavery
- Develops an understanding of American Economy (past & Current)

- Demonstrates Knowledge of major historical events and their relationship to each other
- Explains central issues and problems, past & present
- Develops knowledge of negative influences in our history with respect to racism, discrimination, intolerance.
- Understand the importance of native Americans in our past and recent history

Geography

- Distinguishes various geographic regions within the United States and understands the relationship between human survival and the land.

Economics

- Recognizes the significance of trade between Europe and the Americas.
- Studies the economies of the early colonies.
- Understands the importance of a dependable monetary system in the young United States.

Computer (180 Weekly Minutes)

- Become more proficient at keyboarding, increasing speed by another 5 words per minute via timed typing tests.
- Proceed to write creatively using editing skills
- Discuss ethical issues: use of technology
- Review correct computer/software terminology
- Use spreadsheet/data base
- Compose stories at computer
- Use *Excel/PowerPoint*
- Merging graphics into word, *Excel/PowerPoint*
- Correctly format formal papers and bibliographies

Physical Education (180 Weekly Minutes)

Exercise and Calisthenics and Sports Skills

- Participates in the Presidential Physical Fitness Program.
- Plays agility games
- Takes part in, and learn the rules for, basketball, football, baseball, soccer, track, and volleyball.
- Builds good sportsmanship and teamwork.

Fine Arts (45 Weekly Minutes, but also incorporated into other subjects)

Media

- Identifies elements of art
- Produces artwork that includes these elements
- Experiments with various media
- Applies rules of perspective

Special Programs and Field Trips

- Three day spiritual off-site retreat with the class

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- Cross curriculum unit on **tolerance**
- Field trip to the Simon Weisenthal Museum of Tolerance
- Attendance at the opera
- Attendance at an Old Globe Theatre production
- Six day educational trip to Washington, D.C.
- Weekly Mass on Tuesday with the Junior High
- Christian service opportunities
- Catholic high school visitations
- Essay/speech/art competition opportunities
- Sports and academic teams
- Full production of Shakespearean play
- Graduation trip to Disneyland

Book List (novels read in the 8th grade year)

The Glory Fields
 Farewell to Manzanar
 To Kill a Mockingbird
 Call of the Wild
 Diary of Anne Frank (drama)
 Night

A comprehensive list for suggested reading is available to you from the homeroom teacher and from our school secretary.

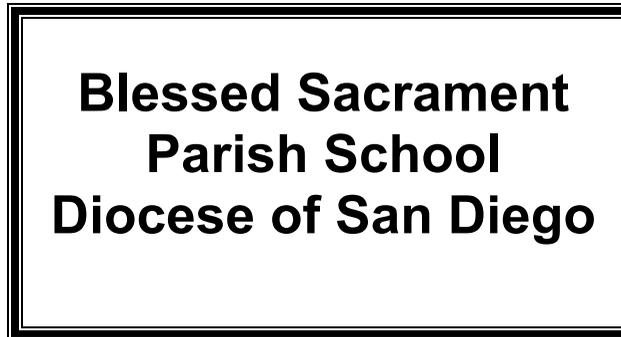
Expectancies

Grade 8

***Blessed Sacrament Parish School* is a**

Catholic family of parents, educators, clergy, and parishioners united in Christ's love to educate our children. We believe that we are an integral part of the Church's mission to proclaim the Gospel and to build a foundation of faith through worship and service. We promote Christian values, spiritual growth, academic excellence and physical development and support the learning styles of each student.

Blessed Sacrament Parish School strives to develop responsible global citizens who: treat others with respect; work and play cooperatively; think critically, listen attentively, speak confidently; know how to find answers and desire to learn more. We recognize and celebrate our diversity and share our talents in support of one another, our parish and our community.



Grade-Level