



# GRACE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

## EARLY MIDDLE SCHOOL EXECUTIVE SKILLS & EXPECTATIONS

*The teaching teams in Early Middle School will place a heavy emphasis on the development of crucial skills to help students successfully transition into Middle School and beyond.*

TASK	5TH GRADE	6TH GRADE
<b>General Organization</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will work on their organization skills with their locker, backpack, and binder.</li> <li>Weekly planner sheets are used by each student to organize their assignments/assessments.</li> <li>Extra support is provided as needed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teachers partner with students to help them stay organized with their work, requirements, materials, supplies, etc.</li> <li>Extra support is made available for students as needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Time Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students are taught how to manage time and expectations.</li> <li>5 minutes are given in between classes to gather supplies and take care of personal needs.</li> <li>Homeroom time at the end of the day is used for homework or STEAM activities.</li> <li>Academic Support time is provided when needed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students are held accountable for being on time and managing the expectations in and out of class.</li> <li>5 minutes are given between classes, and students learn how to manage that time independently.</li> <li>Homeroom time is given at the end of the day to allow homework to be started or students create a plan for what they need to accomplish that evening.</li> <li>Academic support time is provided each morning for students to use as needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Study Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teachers work on various study skills with the students such as note taking, Quizlet, flash cards, reviews, Moby Max, BrainPOP, Spelling City, etc.</li> <li>Time is spent introducing strategies for studying.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teachers work on various study skills with the students such as note taking, Quizlet, MobyMax, flash cards, reviews, etc.</li> <li>Time is spent in class utilizing strategies for studying and comparing outcomes with different strategies used as students work through their units of study.</li> </ul>
<b>Notetaking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students learn to take notes in a variety of ways. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notecards</li> <li>2-column notes based off teacher's notes</li> <li>Fill in the blank</li> </ul> </li> <li>Students work toward building understanding of basic concepts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students learn to take notes in a variety of ways. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-column notes by transferring the textbook's words into their own words</li> <li>Interactive notebooks</li> <li>Written notes</li> </ul> </li> <li>Students work toward building understanding of concepts rather than memorizing terms.</li> </ul>
<b>Student Leadership Group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students apply, and teachers select this group based on set criteria.</li> <li>Attends monthly meetings</li> <li>Participates in events on and off campus</li> <li>Hold officer positions: Vice President and Secretary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students apply, and teachers select this group based on set criteria.</li> <li>Attends monthly meetings</li> <li>Participates in events on and off campus.</li> <li>Hold officer positions: President, Treasurer, and Chaplain</li> <li>Organize student-led events</li> </ul>
<b>Changing Classes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each student will be assigned a homeroom class and will rotate as a homeroom to each of the 5th grade teachers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students change classes six times a day. (language arts, math, science, history, Bible &amp; electives).</li> <li>Students do not rotate as homerooms but have classes with a variety of students during the day.</li> </ul>
<b>Enrichment Classes/ Electives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5th grade enrichment classes include: PE, Art, Technology, Music, and Library.</li> <li>Each homeroom will attend each enrichment class once a week.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students select the electives they are interested in taking.</li> <li>Electives are 9 or 18 weeks in duration, and they meet daily.</li> </ul>

TASK	5TH GRADE	6TH GRADE
<b>Homework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homework is assigned in fifth grade with purpose. When homework is assigned students record it on their weekly planner.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading log is filled out each day to record daily reading.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Assigned classroom work needs to be completed at home, if not finished in class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homework is assigned in sixth grade with purpose.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nightly homework is assigned in Math and Language Arts to assess student growth on specific skills</li> <li>Other homework is assigned as necessary throughout the year.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Studying for tests becomes a more independent homework activity.</li> </ul>
<b>Character Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leadership opportunities include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety Patrol</li> <li>Student Ambassadors</li> <li>Classroom jobs</li> <li>Prayer volunteers</li> </ul> </li> <li>Personal Responsibility:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students are expected to keep up with assignments and materials.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Students are held accountable for their actions and behaviors through a weekly marking system with RAM buck rewards.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leadership opportunities include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Praise Team for chapel</li> <li>Star Student</li> <li>Classroom job</li> <li>Prayer Leaders</li> </ul> </li> <li>Character Lessons taught during Bible</li> <li>Personal Responsibility:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students are expected to keep up with assignments and materials.</li> <li>Students are held accountable for their actions and behaviors through a monthly marking system.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Parent Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly newsletters include announcements and any assignments/assessments for the upcoming week in all classes.</li> <li>Weekly e-mail with announcements and newsletter attached.</li> <li>Friday folders are sent home every week. They contain graded papers and a copy of the weekly newsletter.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electronic weekly 6th grade e-mail is sent on Friday (no paper copy is sent home)</li> <li>6th grade Twitter account</li> <li>Phone calls and emails home</li> </ul>
<b>Social Interactions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students work together as partners, small and large groups during class projects.</li> <li>Subject specific teamworking activities are done throughout the year.</li> <li>Teachers help guide conversations as needed when there is a misunderstanding between students.</li> <li>STEAM and collaboration activities take place at least 3 times a week.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students work together as partners, and in both small and large groups during class projects.</li> <li>Students have the opportunity to work with a variety of students because their classes do not travel as a homeroom.</li> <li>Teamworking activities are done throughout the year as a grade level group and in individual subjects.</li> <li>Teachers help guide one-on-one conversations as needed when there is a misunderstanding between students.</li> </ul>
<b>Lockers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All students will be given the opportunity to earn lock-free locker during the school year.</li> <li>Students are encouraged to use lockers to store books/materials between classes.</li> <li>It is their responsibility to collect the materials needed for each class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All students are assigned a locker.</li> <li>They have the option to use the lock or lock-free option.</li> <li>Lockers should hold the materials they are not using in their current class. They will be expected to know what they must bring to each class.</li> </ul>
<b>School Supplies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All work for each class will be organized in one binder.</li> <li>In addition, students will have one plastic folder that will be used for their weekly homework.</li> <li>A Friday folder goes home each week.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work is organized by using a set of color-coded folders, one for each subject.</li> <li>Time is spent on organizing lockers, backpacks, and folders on a regular basis.</li> </ul>