

# ACADEMICS

## Reading

Curriculum: Literature and skills-based

Grade 5: Note-taking, summarizing, predicting, literary evidence, pacing, metacognition, and literature including *The Phantom Tollbooth*, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, and *Banner in the Sky*

Grade 6: Decoding, vocabulary, main ideas, summarizing, identifying theme, connecting, predicting, identifying the author's craft, and literature including *The Golden Goblet*, *The Bronze Bow*, *The Trumpeter of Krakow*, and *Red Scarf Girl*

## History

Curriculum: Holt McDougal and map skills

Grade 5: Geography, including locations of countries in North America, South America, Asia, Europe, Australia, Africa, and Antarctica

Grade 6: Ancient civilizations through the Renaissance, including Mesopotamia, ancient Egypt, ancient Israel, ancient India, ancient China, ancient Greece, and ancient Rome



## Specialists

- Art
- Band
- Choir
- Computer Programming
- Latin
- Physical Education
- Science Lab



## Writing

Curriculum: Six Traits, Wordly Wise

Grade 5: Daily journaling, research writing, creative writing, perspective writing, editing, and publishing

Grade 6: Writing notebook, five-paragraph essay, expository writing, creative writing, research writing, poetry writing, editing, and publishing



## Science

Curriculum: Lab-based program

Grade 5: Energy and engines, brain, geology, and electricity

Grade 6: Invertebrates, chemistry, immune system, plants, volcanoes, and earthquakes



## Grammar

Curriculum: Shurley Grammar, Easy Grammar

Grade 5: Nouns, verb phrases, linking verbs, subjective and objective pronouns, adverbs, adjectives, direct and indirect objects, predicate nouns, predicate adjectives, and compound and complex sentences

Grade 6: Nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, and compound and complex sentences

## Math

Curriculum: Saxon or McDougal Littell and supplementary resources

Grade 5: Math 6/5

Grade 6: Math 7/6

*Each student is assessed and placed at the best learning level for his/her current ability. Advanced Levels include Pre-Algebra and Algebra 1.*

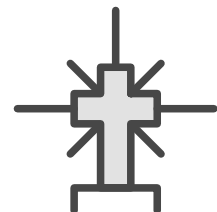


## Bible

Curriculum: NIV Bible

Grade 5: Judges, Prophecy of the Christ, Samuel, David and the Psalms, and Solomon

Grade 6: Armor of God; Heroes of the Faith: Esther, Ruth, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; Book of James; and Names of God



# STUDENT LIFE

## Athletics

Grade 6 students are welcome to join Middle School sports teams. Our no-cut policy allows students to develop physical skills, learn game strategies, and most importantly, put into practice the concepts of commitment and teamwork.



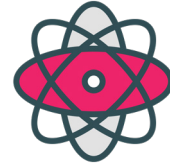
## Field Trips

Each class takes approximately one field trip per month. Field trips enhance student learning in a particular area of study by giving them hands-on experiences. Grade 5 students participate in a culminating overnight Outdoor Education field trip. Grade 6 students take an extended day field trip to Mt. St. Helens to enhance their study of volcanoes.

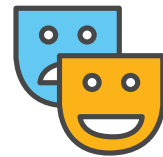


## Immersion Week

Grade 5 Science Fair: Students demonstrate their ability to use the scientific method, presenting the results of their science experiments in a research report, oral presentation, and visual display.



Grade 6 Shakespeare Play: Students perform *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which gives them the opportunity to increase vocabulary, develop literacy skills, experience literature through drama, gain confidence and composure in front of an audience, and learn to present themselves well.



## Chapel

Weekly Chapel is a time of worship, praise, teaching, and reflection. Chapel topics focus on a particular Bible verse, story, or passage and are presented by faculty and guest speakers. A parent-led worship team creates a thoughtful yet energetic experience for our Early Middle School community.

## Study Skills

During these important years, our program focuses on developing time management and decision making skills which apply to both academic and social situations and prepares students for Middle School and Upper School.

# BEYOND EARLY MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Middle School (7 – 8)

Gender Separation: To meet the unique needs of students, most core classes are separated by gender, producing an exceptionally strong learning dynamic.

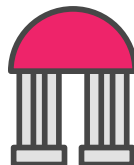


JanTerm: Students experience a fun two-week session between fall and spring semesters with approximately 75 unique courses to choose from.

Study Skills and Office Hours: Teachers reinforce critical study skills, organizational strategies, time management, and evaluate specific learning needs.

## Upper School (9 – 12)

Advanced Coursework: Students have the opportunity to challenge themselves in areas of particular aptitude and passion by enrolling in numerous Advanced Placement® (AP) and Honors courses. Additionally, Bear Creek partners with Northwest University's Concurrent Credit Program, allowing students to earn college credit while at Bear Creek.



House System: All students and faculty are placed into a House. The goal of the House System is to build community and provide an opportunity for students and faculty to interact across grade levels.

## College Advising

In Middle School, students prepare for the college selection process, which continues into the early high school years. This journey culminates in the senior year with the selection of a best-fit university. College planning workshops, grade-level advising sessions, standardized test preparation, college tours, on-campus recruitment visits with admissions staff, and individual college application drafting sessions are all intentionally designed and individually tailored to meet the needs of students.

