The Saints Academy
ELA Curriculum

GRADE SIX: LANGUAGE ARTS

Purpose

The purpose of the grade six language arts curriculum is to develop life-long readers through personal growth in the skills of independent readers who can communicate effectively in both written and oral language. The program explores high quality, high interest traditional and contemporary literary selections both in the literature text and in young adult literature.

LITERATURE/READING

The student will:

- Develop personal, literal, and interpretive comprehension skills
- Understand literary forms and concepts
- Use active learning skills to extract meaning from text
- Appreciate and apply techniques used by good writers
- Develop reading skills necessary for different styles of writing
- Use literature as a jumping-off point for writing and extension activities
- Develop a familiarity with literary terms

SPEAKING/LISTENING

The student will:

- Prepare and present the argument
- Present the argument in civil conversation
- Prepare and present powerpoint (or other) presentations
- Listen to selections on SmartBoard
- actively listen to peers' work
- Prepare and present book reviews
- Become familiar with types and components of poetry
- Read, write, and research poems and poets to increase their understanding of poetry

LANGUAGE MECHANICS/GRAMMAR/CORRECT USAGE

The student will:

- Identify parts of speech
- Integrate and correctly use parts of speech to enhance writing skills
- Identify and correctly use different types of clauses
- Identify and correctly use different types of phrases
- Identify and correctly use different types and structures of sentences
- Identify and correctly use punctuation
- Identify and correctly use capitalization

SPELLING/VOCABULARY

The student will:

- Become familiar with words, definitions and sentences that place words in context
- Review words that will appear in the lesson

- Self assess the understanding of each word's meaning
- Create a complete sentence by matching word with the correct definition
- Start to embed words and meaning in memory
- Read sentences that incorporate phrases that define words
- Replace phrases and sentences with the words they define
- Consider words in specific context
- Use word knowledge built in previous activities to answer questions that depend on understanding word meanings in specific context
- Explore grammar concepts, meaningful word parts, Greek and Latin roots and homophones
- Complete activities that deepen and extend word knowledge
- Read original passages that contain vocabulary words in context
- Answer open-response comprehension questions
- Demonstrate comprehension of the text and mastery of the words they have learned
- Use Wordly Wise 3000 study sets in Quizlet to practice learning words and definitions
- Test themselves on their knowledge
- Play motivating games to reinforce long term retention of words

Teaching Strategies

- Motivation through prior knowledge
- Purpose setting questions
- Thematic focus
- Modeling of active reading skills: ask questions, summarize, predict, make connections
- Clarification and discussion
- Focus on writer's techniques (John Collins writing)
- Focus on literary concept
- Group literature response
- Writing workshops
- Graphic organizers
- Small/whole group instruction

Assessments

- Tests, teacher-created and text-created
- Written and oral work, group or individual
- Multimedia projects and presentations
- FCA's - John Collins Writing Program
- MAP testing

Materials and Resources

- Internet
- Prentice Hall Literature and Literacy
- Pearson Successnet
- Wordly Wise
- Variety of grammar resources. IE - Grammar Bytes, Holt Elements of Language etc.
- Chromebooks
- Trade books to supplement across the genres of young adult literature
- Online Journals - CNN, Newsela
- Smartboard
- Google Classroom and Google Docs