

8th Grade

Curriculum Highlights

Religion

Eighth graders deepen their Catholic faith through the study of creed and prayer. The curriculum covers the revelation of God, Jesus Christ as the Son of God, the community of faith, and Church history. By learning to pray and serve one another, students actively live out their faith every day.

Language Arts

The junior high curriculum emphasizes literature, composition, vocabulary, and public speaking. Supported by Vocabulary Workshop and Savvas myPerspectives, students build strong writing and grammar skills through essays, research, and creative pieces. Literary analysis is developed across diverse genres and in-depth novel studies featuring To Kill a Mockingbird, Night, A Midsummer Night's Dream, I Have Lived a Thousand Years, and A Long Way Home.

Math

With a strong focus on high school preparation, including dedicated review for the HSPT and ISEE entrance exams, eighth graders enroll in a level of Algebra I or Geometry that best fits their academic needs. Algebra students master essential concepts including solving equations, polynomials, systems of linear equations, and quadratic functions through the Cengage Concepts and Connections program. The Geometry curriculum covers topics including proofs, trigonometry, and spatial measurements. Small class sizes allow for individualized instruction and support tailored to each learner.

Science

Eighth-grade science engages students in hands-on learning across Life, Earth, and Physical sciences. Students apply science inquiry, the international system of units, and data graphing as they investigate Earth's interior, plate tectonics, Newton's laws of motion, and cell division. To put these concepts into action, students build a Rube Goldberg device utilizing simple machines.

Social Studies

Eighth graders explore U.S. history from early colonization through the Civil War. Using primary and secondary sources, students examine historical events from multiple perspectives. The curriculum also investigates how the U.S. Constitution established a representative democracy and how natural resources fueled the nation's geographic expansion.

Leader In Me

Through purposeful lessons, eighth graders take ownership of their personal growth and fundamental life skills. Preparing for graduation, students put these principles into action, stepping up as the primary mentors and role models of the school community.

Specialty Classes

- French/Spanish/Latin Daily
- Physical Education
- Choir or Strings
- Art
- STEM

St. Ursula Villa

Cultivating Confident Learners & Compassionate Leaders

Events & Activities

Boosters Walkathon
Prayer & Mass Leaders
Junior High Dances
Grade-level Chapel Mass
Confirmation
8th Grade Musical
Arts Appreciation Day
May Crowning
8th Grade Class Trip
May Party
Graduation Mass & Ceremony

Extra-Curriculars & Athletics

Art Club
Band
Chi Alpha Omega
Scouts
Student Council
Baseball
Basketball
Golf
Soccer
Softball
Tennis
Volleyball
Family Ski Club

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