

# St. Mary Parish School

## Parents' Guide to Sixth Grade

This school year, your child will

### Traits Exhibited by Many Ten-to-Twelve Year Olds

*All children develop differently but you may notice the following traits as your child attends Fourth, Fifth, or Sixth Grade.*

- Want to be together in groups and teams
- Have the patience to work toward short-term goals
- Form cliques and friendships with own sex and age groups
- Seek status through excellence in skills and knowledge of grown-up things
- Are fairly competitive in team and individual activities
- Have a growing concern with their physical size and appearance
- Like to make, do and collect things
- Boys and girls can work and socialize in programs where they share planning responsibilities
- Enjoy being mischievous and daring

### Middle School Teachers:

Angie Gemignani: Lit 6/7 Eng 6  
Jude Kosmider: Lit/Eng 7—8  
Becky Bronecki: Math 6—7—8  
Mary Wackman: Religion 6—7—8  
Veronica Groubert: Science 6-7-8  
Joy Wallschlaeger: Social Studies 6—7—8  
Ann Fowler: Music  
Barb Moulton: Phy Ed  
Kristine Kuelthau: Spanish  
Becki Kram: Technology  
Sherie Drees: Art

### Language Arts

- Use oral and written language to convey a message appropriate to a situation
- Listen when others are speaking
- Contribute ideas to discussions
- Analyze text to identify character, plot, setting, conflict
- Make predictions about a variety of stories
- Read books for information and enjoyment

- Read a variety of books (biography, non-fiction, fantasy, historical fiction, etc.)
- Write informational reports
- Write complete sentences and paragraphs
- Write stories, personal thoughts, poetry, or reactions to reading
- Summarize fiction and non-fiction after reading
- Apply the uses of punctuation
- Apply knowledge of parts of speech, subject-verb agreement, and verb tense
- Recognize that words may have different meanings and uses
- Present an oral report
- Understand the importance of word choice in conveying a message and relating to an audience
- Develop note-taking skills
- Spell high frequency words correctly
- Use writing process to plan and create a research report
- Increase written and spoken vocabulary
- Use keyboarding skills
- Use computers to organize and communicate information

### Mathematics

- Use problem solving strategies
- Estimate to recognize answers which make sense
- Understand properties of numbers to allow more ways to solve problems (commutative, distributive, associative)
- Understand place value
- Explain answers orally and in writing
- Read and understand statistical date
- Make graphs and tables
- Use statistical measure of mean, mode, median, range
- Use symbols to stand for numbers (variables)
- Solve algebraic problems using  $+1-1x1÷$
- Understand prime and composite numbers
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals and fractions
- Convert between fractions and decimals
- Understand basic geometric principles (congruency)
- Understand and use geometric formulas for perimeter and area
- Move and change geometric shapes
- Estimate measurements
- Understand basic units of measurement

- Use and understand ratios, proportions, and percents
- Understand probability or chance

### Music

- Demonstrate understanding of basic music symbols and vocabulary
- Sing with good intonation, diction, and breath control
- Sing and play instruments in two or three part harmony
- Identify keyboard instruments by sound (historical/modern day)
- Perform melodies/harmonies on keyboard instruments
- Distinguish major and minor keys
- Understand the cultural background of selected songs
- Understand how music contributes to culture today and interrelates to other subjects (ancient Egypt)
- Identify musical eras
- Research and report on a famous composer

### Physical Education

- Use a variety of basic motor movements in flag football, soccer, basketball, softball, volleyball, badminton and track and field
- Learn rules of flag football, soccer, basketball, softball, volleyball, badminton, and track and field
- Demonstrate eye-hand coordination
- Understand and display sportsmanship
- Use feedback to improve performance
- Understand the relationship between physical activity and good health
- Understand the social contributions of physical activity (respect, cooperation, teamwork, honesty)
- Engage in activities that increase respiration and heart rate
- Engage in activities that develop flexibility, muscular strength and endurance
- Participate in the Fitness testing program
- Engage in group activities that teach cooperation (ominkin)
- Participate in scooter activities
- Be able to juggle/jump rope routines
- Be able to bowl/aerobic activities
- Demonstrate skill in dance
- Apply safety procedures

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### Religion

- Be able to articulate what the church means by Trinity, that the People of God, Body of Christ, and Church are synonymous terms
- Be able to explain the difference between being a Catholic and being a Christian
- Know the meaning of Incarnation, Redemption, and Resurrection

- Connect the seven sacraments with life experiences
- Recognize the different literary forms in the bible
- Be able to relate previously learned stories' literary forms
- Associate the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and Gospels as the standards for life experiences
- Be able to retell the story of Salvation History highlighting: Creation, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Passover, Commandments, and David
- Understand the message of selected prophets: Amos, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Elijah, and Jesus as Prophet and Teacher
- Cooperate in the experience of "Life at the time of Jesus"
- Participate in and learn the different "methods of prayer"
- Appreciate all life, the unborn, children, adults, the elderly and the infirm

### Science

- Understand the scientific knowledge is always growing
- Learn about famous scientists
- Learn about the classification system of rocks and minerals
- Understand geologic time scale
- Use data and models to understand predictability of volcanoes and earthquakes
- Understand plate tectonics and continental drift and how this theory contributes to other sciences
- Use the metric system for measurement and lab data collection
- Understand geologic time and fossilized evidence
- Understand the rock cycle
- Understand sedimentary processes
- Learn about constellations and the formation of the universe
- Plan and conduct simple science experiments and communicate results
- Understands the metric system
- Identifies characteristics of organisms in the six kingdoms
- Understand weather and forecasting
- Understand how the earth has changed and continues to change
- Understand the solar system
- Create tables and graphs to record and communicate scientific data

### Social Studies

- Understand that people are alike and different in many ways
- Construct a time line
- Use latitude and longitude to find places on maps and globes
- Identify directions on a map
- Understand that buildings and decorations reflect cultural values and ideas
- Learn about Prehistoric times, Ancient Greece, Ancient Babylon, Ancient China, Ancient Rome, and Ancient Egypt
- Learn about early Europe and Europe of the Middle Ages
- Learn about significant people from ancient times
- Understand how art reflects culture
- Understand that we depend upon workers who produce goods or services
- Learn about basic economic principles using ancient civilization
- Learn how different governments are organized
- Know ways that people solve common problems by cooperating and working in groups
- Use maps and globes to locate settings of discussions
- Understands current events

### Technology

- Refining application skills
- Using formulas in a spreadsheet
- Using search strategies with more than one factor in a database
- Increasing productivity and accuracy in keyboarding
- Using word processing, spreadsheet, database, and multimedia for assignments in all subject areas
- Locating and retrieving information using telecommunications

### Art

- Use materials purposefully and safely
- Understand color, texture, shape, balance, mood, as line elements of art
- Understand and apply mathematical principles to art (proportion, scale, geometry, pattern, repetition, measurement)
- Express self through art media
- Reflect on works of art in the world today and in history

### Spanish

- Interpretive Communication
- Interpersonal Communication
- Presentational Communication
- Understands, explains, and compares cultural traditions