

*Cornerstone Christian School*  
**Middle School**  
**Program of Studies 2016-2017**

**Required Courses**

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
ACHIEVE Bible Earth Science Language Arts Math Physical Education Spanish Study Skills US History [Part 2]	ACHIEVE Bible Civics Language Arts Life Science Math 7 or Algebra 1 – Part 1 Physical Education Spanish I [Part 1]	ACHIEVE Algebra I or Math 8 Bible Language Arts Physical Education Physical Science Spanish I [Part 2] World Geography

**Ministry Classes**

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	
Art Choir Drama Missions Worship Musical Theater Technology	Art Advanced Art Choir Cooking Dinner Theater Drama Outreach Photography Editing	Missions Musical Theater Spanish Helper Tutorial/Study Hall Technology Worship

# Required Courses

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

### **ACHIEVE**

Achieve is a class that meets once a week, allowing time for students to either explore more deeply areas of interest or to work at improving in areas of weakness.

### **Bible 6**

Sixth grade Bible class uses the *Decision Quest* curriculum. This year focuses on the basic truths of the Bible in relation to God, His Word, humankind, sin, salvation and Jesus Christ. After gleaning the basic truths of their study, students are challenged to think through personal application to their daily lives.

### **Choir**

Choir is an important piece of our school. Our students love to sing! All students take this class from K - 8th grade, with difficulty of music and voice parts increasing with age. We believe that worshipping God through singing is an important part of our Christian walk.

### **Earth Science**

In Earth Science, students study the earth and the universe surrounding it. Major themes include geology, water, meteorology and astronomy.

### **Language Arts 6**

Elements such as journaling, literature, writing, grammar and vocabulary will be combined to teach the students to use English effectively as a tool to win people to Christ and bring honor to God.

### **Math 6**

Math 6 solidifies everything students learned in elementary school and takes it a little deeper. A large part of the year focuses on fractions, decimals and percents. As students hone their math skills in Math 6, they continue to build a strong foundation that will prepare them to begin Math 7 or Algebra 1 Part 1 in 7th grade.

### **Physical Education 6**

PE involves a wide variety of physical activities aimed primarily at helping the student to develop a healthy and active lifestyle and familiarity with a broad spectrum of games and sports. For sixth graders, sports of focus are soccer, gymnastics and croquet.

### **Spanish 6**

Using the Rosetta Stone computer program, students will develop an understanding of basic Spanish vocabulary and structure. Additional topics studied are numbers, alphabet, Latin American countries, family vocabulary and subject pronouns

### **Study Skills**

Study Skills is a class that assists students in learning the organizational skills needed to make a successful transition from elementary school to middle school.

## **US History [Part 2]**

Using a variety of methods and media, students will cover the fundamental elements of the United States history from 1870 to the present.

## **Technology 6**

Students will begin using a Google Apps for Education Account for their schoolwork. They will learn to use various apps, including Gmail, Google Slides, Google Drive, and Google Docs. Students will learn about the basic parts of the computer and will continue developing their keyboard skills.

# **7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

## **ACHIEVE**

Achieve is a class that meets once a week, allowing time for students to either explore more deeply areas of interest or to work at improving in areas of weakness.

## **Algebra I – Part 1**

Students who perform exceptionally well in Math 6 may take Algebra 1 in 7<sup>th</sup> grade with teacher recommendation. Algebra 1 covers topics typically covered in the first half of a first-year Algebra course.

## **Bible 7**

Using the *Lightbearers* curriculum, this class will teach students to see life's big picture as they develop their own biblical worldview. It also shows how the Bible provides answers to life's important questions, and demonstrates that ideas have consequences. The goal is to help students understand the world around them, and to train them to live out the Truth.

## **Choir**

Choir is an important piece of our school. Our students love to sing! All students take this class from K - 8th grade, with difficulty of music and voice parts increasing with age. We believe that worshipping God through singing is an important part of our Christian walk.

## **Civics**

Civics covers the history of American democracy with an emphasis on colonial America, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, immigration, citizenship and our system of free elections. The policies of our two political parties are a focus, especially during election years.

## **Language Arts 7**

Elements such as journaling, literature, writing, grammar and vocabulary will be combined to teach the students to use English effectively as a tool to win people to Christ and bring honor to God.

## **Life Science**

Life Science is the study of living things. Students will study cells, scientific classification, plants, animals, genetics, ecology and the human body.

## **Math 7**

In Math 7, students will continue practicing general math and will be introduced to skills which will prepare them for Algebra. Students will take this class based on their 6th grade math performance and recommendation of the 6th grade math teacher. Students who take Math 7 will move to Math 8 in 8th grade.

## **Missions**

This class is designed to help seventh graders form a foundation in ministry outreach to people in short term missions. Students will develop skills in art ministry, drama, testimony sharing, leading group devotions, scrapbooking and developing a servant's heart.

## **Physical Education 7**

This class involves a wide variety of physical activities aimed primarily at helping the student to develop a healthy and active lifestyle and familiarity with a broad spectrum of games and sports. For seventh graders, sports of focus are ultimate Frisbee, volleyball and baseball.

## **Spanish I [Part 1]**

Using the textbook *iExpresate!* students work through the first half of a high school level Spanish class. This class includes many opportunities to interact and to create projects using the vocabulary from the textbook, as well as more traditional written activities.

## **Technology**

Students will continue using a Google Apps for Education Account for their schoolwork, while learning more advanced concepts about the Internet and its technology. In addition, basic Internet research concepts will be covered.

# **8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

## **ACHIEVE**

Achieve is a class that meets once a week, allowing time for students to either explore more deeply areas of interest or to work at improving in areas of weakness.

## **Algebra I** *(high school credit)*

Students who perform exceptionally well in Algebra 1 Part 1 may take Algebra 1 in 8th grade with teacher recommendation. Algebra 1 covers topics typically covered in a first-year Algebra course. If students do well in this class, they should be able to test out of the high school Algebra 1 course and receive a high school math credit.

## **Math 8**

Students in Math 8 will strengthen their foundation in math and learn certain Algebra concepts in preparation for taking Algebra 1 in high school.

## **Bible 8**

Using the *Truth Project* and *Lightbearers* curriculum, this class will teach students to see life's big picture as they develop their own biblical worldview. Students will define truth, God, man and the relationship between God and man as they learn to confidently stand for truth and share their testimony with the world around them.

## **Choir**

Choir is an important piece of our school. Our students love to sing! All students take this class from K - 8th grade, with difficulty of music and voice parts increasing with age. We believe that worshipping God through singing is an important part of our Christian walk.

## **Language Arts 8**

Elements such as journaling, literature, writing, grammar and vocabulary will be combined to teach the students to use English effectively as a tool to win people to Christ and bring honor to God. Emphasis in 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be on conducting research and writing a paper that is factual and well supported.

## **Physical Education 8**

PE involves a wide variety of physical activities aimed primarily at helping the student to develop a healthy and active lifestyle and familiarity with a broad spectrum of games and sports. For eighth graders, sports of focus are football, basketball and bocce ball.

## **Physical Science**

In eighth grade, students are introduced to the two major branches of physical science: chemistry and physics. In the first semester, students will study how atoms, molecules and chemicals interact with each other. During the second semester, students will study matter, energy, motion and forces.

## **Spanish I [Part 2] (high school credit) or Conversational Spanish (non-credit)**

We are getting ready to go to Mexico City! This is a big year for the eighth graders. They take everything they have learned throughout the years and have the blessing of putting it into action in the mission trip. The students also continue working with the textbook *iExpresate!*. Students may earn a high school credit for this class.

## **Technology 8**

Students will continue to develop and refine what was learned in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. A focus on computer and media ethics and letter writing will be covered as well.

## **World Geography (high school credit) or Into to World Geography (non-credit)**

A study of geography requires knowledge of why things are located in particular places and how those places influence our lives. By studying these themes, students will understand geographic information and gain a better appreciation of cultural, spiritual and environmental differences around the world. This class is based on the 2008 Virginia Standards of Learning. Students who transfer to a public high school will need to take the World Geography SOL exam and may earn a high school credit for this class.

# **Middle School Ministry Classes**

## **Art 6**

Students will learn basic art skills, along with new, exciting skills that will bring out the creative artist in them!

## **Art 78**

This class will build upon basic art skills and concepts, with student input in the art projects they choose to do.

## **Cooking**

Students have the opportunity to learn the basics of cooking. A variety of recipes are tried and students share their creations with others.

## **Drama 6**

Drama class gives students the opportunity to portray characters in short skits that teach Christian concepts. Students learn basic acting skills and skit direction, as well as costume and set design. Skits are performed in class, at the middle school retreat, in chapel and at school programs.

## **Drama Outreach 78**

In this class, students will be preparing evangelistic skits to perform as part of their outreach on their spring missions trips. 7th grade will learn skits for the Sunday morning service at Landstown Community church in Virginia Beach, Va and 8th grade will be learning different skits and mimes in Spanish for their trip to Mexico.

## **Musical Theater**

Broadway, here we come! Musical Theater class is designed to bring our middle school students' talents together through drama, song and dance. Students will work toward a common goal to present a Broadway musical jr. in the spring. Class will be biblically integrated and proceeds will be given to a local or worldwide charity. Actors will go through an audition process during the first quarter. Students who enjoy the technical side of theater will enjoy this quarter of supporting the production of the musical theater in areas that include working with the sound system, lighting and stage set up. Students will also have the opportunity to help with musical set design.

## **Photography**

The photography class will offer students a variety of simple techniques that can be used to enhance photo composition, quality and creativity. Weekly assignments (5-10 pictures) will provide opportunities to explore the new concepts. Each student will need access to a digital camera.

## **Spanish Helper**

Being a Spanish helper allows students to use the Spanish skills they are acquiring and gives them the opportunity to interact with younger children as they accompany the Spanish teacher to assist in teaching an elementary Spanish class.

**Tutorial/Study Hall**

This class is offered to provide students with a designated time each week to work on organization, homework, projects, and class assignments under teacher supervision and direction.

**Worship 6**

In 6<sup>th</sup> grade worship class, students learn about the heart of worship, and how to live with purity, passion and purpose for God.

**Worship 78**

In 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade worship class, students continue to learn about the heart of worship, and how to live with purity, passion and purpose for God. Students will also learn how to be part of a worship team that leads their peers in cutting edge worship music during chapel.