

## **Our Mission Statement**

Visitation is a Catholic Parish School that prepares students to be responsible citizens and life-long learners committed to proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ.

### **Meet your Teacher(s)**



## **Mrs. Damkroger**

Email:

mdamkroger@vcsknights.org

Education:

Bachelor of Arts

—Portland State University

Master of Arts in Teaching

—University of Portland



### **Why I am a teacher:**

I teach because of my own Life-Long Love of Learning. The World is a wide and wondrous place filled with rich history, beautiful literature, and enchanting works of art. I love having the opportunity to explore our diverse human heritage with the young people in my classes.

## **Visitation Catholic School**

4189 NW Visitation Road  
Forest Grove, Oregon 97116



### **VCS Welcomes You**

Come explore our campus; a place where students from Preschool through 8th grade have an opportunity to fulfill their potential within a safe and supportive academic environment.



503.357.6990 (Fax) 503.359.0819

Principal: Mrs. Carol Funk \* cfunk@vcsknights.org  
secretary@vcsknights.org \* www.vcsknights.org

<https://www.facebook.com/VCSKnights>  
Revised September 2014

## **7th Grade Curriculum**



**Enriching young minds with the powerful combination of education and spirituality since 1883.**



**Serving the Tualatin Valley & the greater Portland metropolitan area.**

**Our Faith, Our Families, Our Future**

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

### **Writing**

- \* Choose to write in narrative, persuasive and expository genres based on audience and purpose. Genres covered include: Summary paragraphs, narrative essays, argumentative pieces, expanded literary analysis paragraphs, compare/contrast essays and short research reports
- \* Write pieces of various lengths in set time frames



### **Spelling**

- \* Practice grade level words, vocabulary and decoding skills
- \* Use spelling patterns and word affixes to break down words

### **Grammar**

- \* Analyze and produce more advanced sentence structures especially those using phrases and clauses
- \* Recognize and correct faulty sentence construction, including misplaced and dangling modifiers
- \* Choose between simple, compound and complex sentences to enhance meaning

### **Reading**

- \* Read from various grade-level appropriate text genres, including novels, plays, opinion pieces and non-fiction articles
- \* Evaluate comprehension while reading and purposefully employ various fix-up strategies to restore comprehension when it breaks down
- \* Identify basic plot elements, types of characters, and themes of literary works
- \* Identify and analyze how authors use literary devices in both poetry and prose

## **SCIENCE**

- \* Focus on experimentation using the scientific method
- \* Describe interactions among plants, animals, viruses and other living organisms
- \* Investigate energy, work, and machines
- \* Discover the Earth's elements, minerals, rocks, ocean floor, and resources



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## **RELIGION**

- \* Introduce the Mystery of the Incarnation including the New Testament and the birth and resurrection of Jesus Christ
- \* Discuss the meaning of the kingdom along with Jesus' preaching and the Gospels
- \* Introduce the Christian life and how we can be more Christ like
- \* Discuss the Paschal Mystery
- \* Discuss how to spread the good news as members of the Church just as Paul and the apostles did

## **MATHEMATICS**

- \* Focus on Pre-Algebra concepts
- \* Read, write, represent, order and compare decimals and convert between percent, fractions, and decimals
- \* Read, write, represent, order, and compare integers and give examples of their use
- \* Apply order of operations including exponents, to simplify calculations and evaluate expressions
- \* Represent and interpret data using frequency distribution tables, box-and-whisker plots, stem-and-leaf plots, and single and multiple line graphs
- \* Algebraically represent situations and solve problems
- \* Recognize and work with positive and negative numbers, rational and irrational numbers, real numbers, and absolute value
- \* Sort, identify, describe and compare all types of polygons, prisms, pyramids, and cylinders



- \* Christ Centered Individual
- \* Life Long Learner
- \* Responsible Citizen

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

- \* Study of important people and places in world history
- \* In-depth look of ancient cultures such as the early Mesopotamia civilizations, the Romans, and Greeks
- \* A detailed look at the rise and fall of pivotal people, empires and nations in the Early Ages, Middle Ages, Renaissance, Reformation, and Age of Exploration

## **HEALTH**

- \* Focus on the effect of nutrition, exercise, drugs, and alcohol on our body
- \* Study body support and movement
- \* Understand the digestive, circulatory, and respiratory systems
- \* Understand the organs that regulate our body and growth and development



## **ART**

- \* Taught in art class as well as integrated throughout all subject areas
- \* Art History
- \* Emphasis on value of colors and shapes

**\*\*Seventh and Eight grade is a blended classroom with a rotating curriculum in Religion, Social Studies, Science, and Health. The course work provided ensures that every student experiences age-appropriate and sequential instruction across the curriculum.**

**Please speak with your classroom teacher to identify the current year's curriculum topics. \*\***

**➤ Physical Education, Music, Choir, Spanish, Library, and Technology are taught by specialists trained in these areas.**