

Course Curriculum 2012-2013

Grades PreK-8



CENTRAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

50TH ANNIVERSARY

1961-2011



***Growing leaders.
Building the church.***

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Elementary School Overview

Educating the whole child...

Spiritual formation

- Bible curriculum
- Scripture memorization
- Classroom devotions
- Daily chapel with student-led songs, scripture, prayer
- Learn about personal faith

Thematic Curriculum

- Two year rotating curriculum, centered on state standards
- Students learn through reading, research and experimenting
- Develop critical thinking skills

Hands-on Approach

- Learning through five senses
- Emphasis on study habits, responsibility and setting goals
- Multi-age group activities
- Attention given to individual learning styles and interests

Transformational Leadership

- Students are taught to resolve conflict through use of peace mat
- Older students are trained to lead groups for multi-age activities
- Older students help younger students at lunch and during activities

Multi-age Classrooms

- Opportunities for group cooperation and peer teaching
- Two grades per classroom
- Older students model classroom behavior
- Students are challenged at their readiness level
- Teachers begin each school year knowing half of the students in their classroom

Elementary School Bible

PreK-Kindergarten

- I am special
- God gives us 5 senses
- Fruit of the Spirit
- Birth and life of Jesus
- 12 disciples
- God teaches us how to live
- Love, the greatest rule
- Trust and obey
- Jesus, my friend
- Creation

Grades 1-2

- Neighbors
- Church families
- Christmas story
- Jesus the light
- Easter story
- Creation
- Ministry of Jesus
- Abraham and Sarah
- Jacob, Esau and Joseph
- Exodus from Egypt
- Sharing the love of Jesus with others
- Great commission
- Pentecost
- 12 disciples

Grades 3-4

- Prophets
- Saul, David and Solomon
- Joshua and Judges
- Tyrants and servant kings
- Old Testament heroes
- Birth of Jesus
- Choices of Jesus
- Ministry of Jesus
- New Testament heroes
- Peace unit



Elementary School Language Arts

PreK-Kindergarten

- Letters and sounds
- Writing process
- Capitalization
- Punctuation
- Speaking skills and strategies
- Guided and independent reading
- Sight words
- Word families
- Parts of a story

Grades 1-2

- Nouns, verbs and adjectives
- Sentence structure
- Plurals
- Compound words
- Root words
- Homophones
- Contractions
- Synonyms and antonyms
- Syllables
- Prefixes and suffixes
- Alphabetical order
- Dictionary skills

Grades 3-4

- Sentence structure
- Parts of speech
- Nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives
- Articles
- Homophones
- Contractions
- Initials and abbreviations
- Quotes and commas
- Poetry
- Similes and metaphors
- Paragraph and essay writing
- Word study and spelling

Elementary School Math

PreK-Kindergarten

- Recognize shapes
- Recognize, write and match sets of numbers 1-10
- Position and direction
- Continue a pattern
- Sorting
- Number lines
- Odd and even numbers
- Most or Least value
- Fractions
- Draw shapes
- Series and patterns
- Place value and counting
- Recognize number words
- Addition and subtraction
- Graphs
- Money
- Time
- Measurement
- Geometry
- Probability and statistics

Grades 1-2

- Counting
- Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers
- Odd and even numbers
- Fractions
- Graphs
- Probability and logic
- Money
- Clock and calendar time
- Concepts of pre-algebra
- Word problems
- Measurement
- Geometry
- Estimating

Grades 3-4

- Place value
- Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Fractions
- Money
- Clock and calendar time
- Odd and even numbers
- Probability
- Concepts of pre-algebra
- Graphs
- Decimals
- Percent
- Measurement
- Geometry
- Estimating

Elementary School Science

PreK-Kindergarten

- Weather and seasons
- Five senses
- Insects
- Mammals and animal needs
- Simple machines
- Health and nutrition
- Oceans
- Food chains
- Living and non-living
- Land forms
- Magnets
- Plants and trees
- Water cycles

Grades 1-4

- Ohio animals
- Insects
- Weather
- Energy
- Simple machines
- Inventions
- Health
- Pollution
- Recycling
- Habitats and ecosystems
- Adaptations
- Classification of living and nonliving
- Animal life cycles
- Animal and plant basic needs
- Matter
- Physical and chemical changes
- Earth's layers
- Rocks and minerals
- Scientific method
- Magnets
- Science technology
- Plants

Elementary School Social Studies

PreK-Kindergarten

- All about me (Families)
- Pilgrims
- Christopher Columbus
- Colonial life
- State study
- Directions
- Wants and needs
- Goods and services
- Community helpers
- Maps and globes
- Peace and conflict resolution

Grades 1-4

- Map work
- Native Americans
- Communities, community helpers
- Citizenship
- State study
- Pioneers
- Colonial life
- Immigrations
- Pilgrims
- Transportation
- Western expansion of United States
- Peace and conflict resolution
- Goods and services
- Ohio history
- Products of Ohio
- Country study
- State and local government
- Underground railroad
- Ohio presidents
- Personal histories
- Explorers
- Economics

Elementary School Exploratories

Art

Elementary art focuses on fine motor skills such as cutting, gluing and coloring. The projects look at the elements of art: line, texture, value, form, color, and shape.

Choral Music (Pre-K - 4)

The objective of choral music is for students to sing tunefully and gain an appreciation for the joy of making music. Students will learn to sing expressively with appropriate dynamics, phrasing and interpretation. Students will also learn to follow cues from a conductor as well as basic directions.

Instrumental Music (Grades 3-4)

Students will begin learning a stringed instrument in this course. Basic theory, note reading, bow holds and simple repertoire will be introduced. Emphasis will be placed on rhythm, counting, and note recognition.

Physical Education

Students will learn about fitness, coordination and teamwork through cooperative activities. Activities include ball handling skills, games, relays, soccer, basketball, throw/catch, volleyball, jump rope, tumbling, kickball and many more.

Spanish

Spanish focuses on basic knowledge and communication skills. Students will learn greetings, poems, songs, counting and polite expressions. They will also study Latin American countries, cultures and games.



Middle School Overview

Cultivating Godly leaders...

Opportunities to develop good habits

- Learning and using the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens by Sean Covey
- Honesty and integrity
- Teamwork skills
- Self-motivation and initiative
- Organizational skills
- Technology skills
- Building community within our school by our actions and words

Opportunities to learn

- Leading myself and others
- Communicating with friends and adults
- Setting personal goals
- Interacting in small groups
- Gaining life skills through exploratory classes

Opportunities to serve

- Through community service events
- By caring for those around us
- Helping others succeed
- Participating in and leading chapels
- Participating in student council and planning middle school events

Opportunities to grow in faith

- Input from chapel speakers
- Classroom devotions
- Bible classes where students learn about spiritual growth
- Learning to integrate faith with everyday living

Grade 5 Curriculum

Bible

Description:

Bible is based on the *Journeys with God* Bible curriculum. The study begins with creation and progresses into the period of the kings of Israel. The focus is on learning what the Bible says, what it means, and how we can apply it to personal life. Memorization of related scriptures is part of the coursework.

Course Content:

- Creation and the fall
- Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph
- Exodus and wilderness wanderings
- The promised land
- Prophets, kings and nations
- God saves His people and fulfills the promise of a Savior

Health

Description:

This course is a basic overview of health with an emphasis on personal choices and proactive behaviors to respect who we are and our values to God and His creation.

Course Content:

- Understand connection between physical and mental health
- Recognize stress and use strategies to manage and resolve conflict with others
- Employ basic safety measures to protect oneself
- Practice good choices in nutrition and exercise
- Understand importance of hygiene in disease prevention

Grade 5 continued

Language Arts

Description:

Grade 5 language arts focuses on spelling and grammar, especially parts of speech, as well as practice and skill building with punctuation through regular editing exercises. Literature circle discussion groups are added second semester.

Course Content:

- Literary text
- Writing process
- Writing applications
- Spelling
- Grammar and usage
- Communication: oral and visual
- Literature Circles
- Daily "Caught Ya" exercises

Math

Description:

Students will build on prior skills as grade 5 math increases problem solving difficulty using basic computation. Emphasis is placed on teaching students how to analyze their own thinking skills in problem solving.

Course Content:

- Number, number sense and operations
- Computation and estimation
- Measurement units
- Geometry, spatial sense, statistical methods
- Patterns, functions and algebra
- Data analysis, probability and data collection

Grade 5 continued

Science

Description:

This course is an overview of earth and physical sciences. Each spring, students prepare a science fair project that is based on systematic scientific inquiry.

Course Content:

- Solar system and universe with an emphasis on creation
- Earth systems, emphasis on the beauty of design and built in renewable resources
- Life sciences, beauty of creation and balance of nature
- Physical sciences - matter, motion, forces
- Scientific inquiry

Social Studies

Description:

Grade 5 social studies emphasizes the value of others as societies change and interact with one another. We are ultimately responsible toward God as our King, but serve and respect leaders as a form of obedience to Him.

Course Content:

- History and chronology
- Settlement
- Growth
- Cultures
- Interactions
- Geography
- Places and regions
- Human environmental interaction
- Economics
- Government

Grade 6 Curriculum

Bible

Description:

Bible is based on the *Journeys with God* Bible curriculum and follows the journey of the Jewish people into and out of exile, followed by studies of the kingdom of God. Time is also spent looking at the ministry and teachings of Jesus.

Course Content:

- Old Testament review
- Exile of the Jewish people
- Promises of hope
- Kingdom of God
- Ministry of Jesus

Health

Description:

Grade 6 students participate in the *Life Skills I Training Program* which teaches students to be prepared for the challenges of life. The program teaches drug abuse prevention, including the knowledge and skills necessary to live a productive life.

Course Content:

- Self-image and self-improvement
- Decision making
- Smoking and alcohol: myths and realities
- Advertising
- Violence and media
- Coping with anxiety and anger
- Communication skills
- Social skills

Grade 6 continued

Language Arts

Description:

Language arts focuses on spelling, grammar basics and basic writing elements.

Course Content:

- Weekly spelling tests
- Writing paragraphs
- Daily “Caught Ya”
- Grammar: sentence structure, nouns, verbs, objects, pronouns
- Literature Circles
- Students participate in Book-It program
- 10 pages of creative writing per quarter

Math

Description:

Students build upon prior mastery of arithmetic skills and begin to apply them in more complex ways.

Course Content:

- Prime and composite numbers
- Graphs and statistics
- Decimals and fractions
- Geometry
- Area and volume



Grade 6 continued

Science

Description:

Grade 6 science is an introductory study of biology. Students will gain an understanding that the basic functions of organisms are carried out in cells and groups of specialized cells form tissues and organs. The combination of these cells makes up multi-cellular organisms that have a variety of body plans and internal structures. Students will also learn to describe the characteristics of an organism in terms of a combination of inherited traits. This course provides students with a greater appreciation for life and its many details, all planned by our Creator, God.

Course Content:

- The nature of science and technology
- Cells and heredity
- Bacteria to plants
- Animals

Social Studies

Description:

Grade 6 social studies is designed to prepare students to faithfully follow Christ as they study world history (prehistory to modern world). Biblical history is integrated into the social studies materials.

Course Content:

- Geography
- Prehistory
- Cradles of civilization
- Classical Asia
- The Mediterranean world
- New empires
- The modern world

Grade 7 Curriculum

Bible

Description:

Bible is based on the *Journeys with God* Bible curriculum studying the unit “Creative Bible Study”. Students are introduced to the inductive bible study method as a way to better understand scriptures. This course focuses on the life of Jesus as described in the book of Luke.

Course Content:

- God’s Word, a guide for living
- Tools for studying the Bible
- The world Jesus lived in
- The Bronze Bow

Health

Description:

This course is based on the *Life Skills II Training Program* which continues to teach students to be prepared for the challenges of life. The program teaches drug abuse prevention, including the knowledge and skills necessary to live a productive life.

Course Content:

- Drug abuse and violence
- Making decisions
- Media influences
- Coping with anxiety and anger
- Communication skills
- Social skills
- Assertiveness
- Resolving conflicts
- Resisting peer pressure

Grade 7 continued

Language Arts

Description:

Language arts focuses on reading, writing and literature skills, with grammar integrated into the content.

Course Content:

- Literature Circles
- Daily “Caught Ya” to hone vocabulary, grammar, punctuation and capitalizations skills
- Paragraph writing that leads into essays: persuasive, informational, and compare/contrast
- Literary devices, elements of fiction
- Short story writing
- Personal narrative writing
- Character analyses
- Grammar: advanced sentence structures, conjunctions, prepositions and punctuation
- Class novels that are integrated with social studies; Slave Dance, Far North
- Public speaking
- Accelerated Reader program is used as a quarterly reading requirement



Grade 7 continued

Math

Description:

Students continue to build on arithmetic skills and applications. A highlight of seventh grade math is a restaurant unit where students learn about calculating bills, using tax rates, tipping percentages and restaurant etiquette.

Course Content:

- Problem solving
- Data analysis
- Geometry
- Patterns and number sense
- Fractions
- Real numbers
- Percentages
- Integers



Grade 7 continued

Science

Description:

Grade 7 earth science studies various aspects of the earth and universe. Students will describe how the positions and motions of the objects in the universe cause predictable and cyclic events. They will gain an understanding of the process that contributes to the continuous changing of Earth's surface through plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. Students will also identify elements of weather and how matter and energy interact within the atmosphere. The earth science content will help students better understand the world that God created and how it works together.

Course Contents:

- Inside the earth: Plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, minerals, rocks
- Astronomy: Earth, sun, moon, stars, exploring space, the solar system, stars, galaxies and the universe
- Weather and climate: Atmosphere, weather factors, weather patterns, climate and climate change

Social Studies

Description:

Social studies is designed to prepare students to faithfully follow Christ in the church, community, and the world in the 21st Century. Class materials will cover world civilizations through the age of exploration.

Course Content:

- African civilizations
- American Indians
- European empires
- The First Global Age
- Current events
- Geography
- Careers

Grade 8 Curriculum

Bible

Description:

Bible is based on the *Journeys with God* Bible curriculum studying the unit "Running the Race". Using the inductive Bible study method students explore the beginning of the church as described in Acts, with an emphasis on the continuation of the church.

Course Content:

- Review of the inductive Bible study method
- Pentecost, birth of the early church
- Church of Jerusalem
- Church spreads throughout Judea and Samara and the Roman world
- Church in my community
- The Trial and Triumphs of the Early Church

Health

Description:

Grade 8 students participate in the *Life Skills III Training Program* which continues to teach students to be prepared for the challenges of life. The program teaches drug abuse prevention, including the knowledge and skills necessary to live a productive life.

Course Content:

- Drug abuse: causes and effects
- Making decisions
- Media influences
- Coping with anxiety and anger
- Social skills
- Assertiveness
- Resolving conflicts
- Resisting peer pressure

Grade 8 continued

Language Arts

Description:

Language arts focuses on reading, writing, literature and grammar skills building on content mastered in grade 7.

Course Content:

- Literature Circles
- Daily “Caught Ya” to hone vocabulary, grammar, punctuation and capitalizations skills
- Paragraph writing that leads into essays: persuasive, informational, and compare/contrast
- Literary devices, elements of fiction
- Short story writing
- Personal narrative writing
- Character analyses
- Grammar: advanced sentence structures, conjunctions, prepositions and punctuation
- Class novels that are integrated with social studies; The Fifth of March, Witch of Blackbird Pond
- Public speaking
- Accelerated Reader program is used as a quarterly reading requirement



Grade 8 continued

Math

Description:

Pre-Algebra builds upon the math skills learned through middle school and concentrates on preparing students for Algebra I.

Course Content:

- Patterns and number sense
- Fractions
- Percentages
- Integers
- Problem solving
- Real numbers
- Introduction to Algebra

Description:

Algebra I is offered in eighth grade to provide challenge and enrichment for prepared, motivated students. The course introduces students to the language of algebra, and prepares the student for geometry and higher mathematics. It also exposes the student to the many uses of algebra in the real world around us.

Course Content:

- Connecting patterns to algebra
- Addition and subtraction in algebra
- Multiplication and division in algebra
- Define and use slope, slope intercept formula and other line equations
- Factoring monomials and polynomials
- Exponents, exponential functions and scientific notation

Grade 8 continued

Science

Description:

Physical science is designed to give students a better understanding of the world in which we live. Students will relate uses, properties and chemical processes to the behavior and arrangement of the small particles that compose matter. They will describe the motion of objects and conceptually describe the effect of forces on an object.

Course Content:

- Introduction to physical science
- Motion, forces, and energy
- Sound and light
- Electricity and magnetism

Social Studies

Description:

Students study American history, government and citizenship and integrate social studies concepts into daily faith issues.

Course Content:

- Colonial America
- Revolution and new nation
- Constitution and law
- Current events
- Geography
- Careers

Middle School Exploratories

Art (Grades 5-8)

Description:

Students will create artworks that demonstrate understanding of materials, processes, tools, media, techniques and available technology. They will understand how to use art elements, principles and images to communicate their ideas in a variety of visual forms. Each grade will study historical and current artists.

Course Content: (grade 5)

- Handmade paper
- Chalk and pastel drawings
- Quilling
- Profile portraits
- Block letters

Course Content: (grade 6)

- Design T-shirt logo for outdoor ed
- Watercolor study, watercolor painting of trees
- Blind contour drawings
- Torn paper figures in motion
- String art

Course Content: (grade 7)

- Grid drawings and portraits
- Watercolor study, still life and landscape
- Drawing 3-dimensional spheres
- One and two-point perspective

Course Content: (grade 8)

- Calligraphy
- Genealogy fraktur
- Optical illusions
- Elements of design
- Torn paper representations of the Holy Spirit
- Portraits of classmates

Middle School Exploratories continued

Careers (Grade 8)

Description:

Careers is designed to motivate students to actively take control of their lives by exploring who they are becoming. Students work to refine a “career plan” with an emphasis on curriculum choices made during high school and how those curriculum choices relate to future goals.

Course Content:

- Explore skills, accomplishments and interests
- Identify a network of supporters
- Practice and increase decision-making
- Develop an action plan to be successful
- Examine skills for success
- Learn employability skills
- Explore high school graduation requirements
- Review and update portfolio entries



Middle School Exploratories continued

Choral (Grades 5-8)

Description:

Through a variety of activities, students will meet and exceed the national standards of learning for middle school choral music. Students will be competent in the fundamental elements of choral music theory, history, literacy and performance. The choral music curriculum facilitates worship, social skills, and connections between real life and music.

Course Content:

- Inner hearing of simple intervals, identify solfa names
- Creating vocal warm-up exercises
- 2, 3 and 4 part harmony
- Understanding music in relation to Christian faith
- Evaluating the social, emotional, and commercial power of music in society
- Concert evaluation
- Exploring the connections between music and other subject areas through integrated study units

Computer (Grades 5-8)

Description:

Computer education is designed to enhance the student's familiarity with computers. Emphasis is placed on discovery learning and problem solving that enriches the program of study. The computer is used as a tool for academic learning as well as for teaching clearly defined technology skills.

Course Content: (5th grade)

- Keyboarding
- Word processing
- Internet research
- File maintenance

Course Content: (6th grade)

- Keyboarding
- Word processing
- Microsoft PhotoStory
- File maintenance

Course Content: (7th grade)

- Keyboarding
- Word processing
- Presentation software
- File maintenance

Course Content: (8th grade)

- Keyboarding
- Word processing
- Basic web design
- File maintenance

Middle School Exploratories continued

Family Consumer Sciences (FCS)(Grades 6-8)

Description:

FCS provides opportunities for students to practice life skills in the areas of relationships, nutrition, food preparation and hygiene. Students increase their awareness of interacting with the family, community and the world.

Course Content: (6th grade)

- Conflict resolution
- Friendships
- Preparing for adolescence
- Prevention of bullying
- Personal hygiene
- Use of electronic devices

Course Content: (7th grade)

- Nutrition
- Reading food labels
- Food-borne illnesses
- Emotions
- Use of electronic devices
- Friendships

Course Content: (8th grade)

- Hospitality
- Kitchen tools and equipment
- Reading recipes
- Kitchen safety
- Food preparation
- World food circumstances
- Child care

Middle School Exploratories continued

Physical Education (Grades 5-8)

Description:

Students will participate in a variety of individual games, team sports and fitness. Classes meet twice a week with an emphasis on participation, preparedness, attitude, sportsmanship, teamwork, leadership, cooperation and skills.

Course Content:

- Explore a wide variety of physical activities such as archery, roller skating, flag football, badminton and fitness monopoly
- Participate in the President's Council on Physical Fitness

Strings (Intermediate)

Description:

String education continues with bow techniques, dynamics, and student awareness of the interdependency of each section of the orchestra. Counting and hand eye coordination are taught through specific pieces. Applying theory to the piece will also be a challenge the students face during this course.

Course Content:

- Theory
- Rhythm
- Working independently and with a group
- Understanding your role in the orchestra
- Following the director

Middle School Exploratories continued

Study Skills (Grades 5,6)

Description:

This course focuses on organizational and study skills that apply in the classroom. Throughout this class, students reflect on their own study habits and set goals to improve these habits and skills.

Course Content:

- Time management
- Study methods
- How our memory works
- Test taking skills
- Overall healthy habits
- Organization
- Scheduling strategies
- Note-taking
- Homework
- Listening

Winds (Beginning and Intermediate)

Description:

In class, students learn instrument assembly and care, producing a tone, identifying and defining basic musical symbols, rhythms, note patterns and scales. Students gain an understanding of the history and use of music through interactive discussion. Students play together as an ensemble and learn about the issues that arise in an ensemble; distance, balance, dynamics, intonation, blend and taking cues from a conductor.

Course Content:

- Learn how to play an instrument and improve through practice and rehearsal
- Learn to work together as an ensemble in musical tasks such as creating, performing, listening to and analyzing music
- Learn that making music and performing together is fun and beneficial for life

Middle School Exploratories continued

World Language German (Grade 8)

Description:

The goal of this class is for students to experience an introduction of German language and culture.

Course Content:

- Basic vocabulary, writing and reading
- Everyday speaking skills
- Hands on activities and games that focus on multiple intelligences
- Use of Total Physical Response method of teaching
- Memorize the theme verse of the year
- Experience a typical German evening meal

World Language Spanish (Grade 7)

Description:

The focus of this class is an introduction of Spanish language and culture.

Course Content:

- Basic vocabulary, writing and reading
- Everyday speaking skills
- Hands on activities and games that focus on multiple intelligences
- Use of Total Physical Response method of teaching
- Memorize the theme verse of the year
- Experience typical Spanish food

Middle School Mini-term

During the first two weeks of January, students explore many different topics and life skills. Students rotate through academic classes in the morning and participate in a wide variety of activities during the afternoon. These activities may include arts and crafts, sports, cooking, animal care, service, and various other life skill opportunities. Students are assigned to classes according to their interests. The mini-term experience provides the opportunity for student interaction in settings outside the traditional classroom.



Central Christian School is commissioned by Mennonite Church USA to partner with Christian families and congregations, educating and nurturing the whole person by --

- teaching Biblical values
- practicing Christian discipleship and community
- promoting academic excellence
- encouraging a faith commitment to Christ and the Church.