



## SIXTH GRADE

### Classroom Overview

#### ❖ General Information:

- Rancho Santa Margarita Christian School (RSMCS) Sixth Graders begin each day in their classroom with their teacher leading them in pledges, prayers, and worship. Homeroom teachers instruct the students on the core subjects of math, science, language arts, social science, and Bible. The enrichment subjects of physical education, technology, music, Spanish, Art of the Master, Composer Countdown, and library are taught by teachers who specialize in those areas. All subjects are taught to meet or exceed the California State Standards. RSMCS is fully accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). All teachers are Christians and have valid teaching credentials.

### Spiritual & Social

#### ❖ Bible:

- 30-45 minutes, 4 days per week
- Overview of the entire Bible, a personalized study of vital passages, and application of these Scriptures to important issues faced by sixth graders.
- Emphasis on sharing their individual testimonies through an integrated writing project and oral presentation.
- Textbook and Curriculum: *The Student Bible, New International Version* (Zondervan), *Biblical Choices for a New Generation*

#### ❖ Chapel:

- Chapel each week with worship and message

#### ❖ Social:

- Emphasis on Christian character development and biblical conflict resolution. Each month a different character trait is highlighted school-wide. Students are encouraged to incorporate this character trait into their daily lives and to acknowledge it in others.
- Focus on further developing students' group and independent study habits, organizational skills, as well as instilling academic and social responsibilities that will serve students throughout their school years and beyond.

### Academic

#### ❖ Mathematics:

- 50 minutes, 5 days per week
- Emphasis on computing and solving problems using the four arithmetic operations with whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and positive and negative integers. Students use unknown variables to solve multiple-step linear equations. Students use reasoning skills and explore introductory algebra.
- Special Activities: ACSI Math Olympics and annual school celebration of Pi Day
- Textbook: *Reveal Math* (McGraw Hill)

## Academic Continued

### ❖ Language Arts & Reading:

- 100 minutes, 5 days per week
- Emphasis on reading, comprehending, and responding to historically and culturally significant works of literature, equipping students to analyze literature from a biblical worldview.
- Emphasis on writing clear, coherent, and focused essays while demonstrating a command of English grammar, sentence structure, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
- Development of written and oral response to literature. Students read three to four novels throughout the school year.
- Junior Great Books are used to enhance students' abilities to read, comprehend, discuss, and write about many different literature passages throughout the year.
- Special Activities: ACSI Creative Writing Festival, ACSI Speech Meet, and ACSI Spelling Bee
- Textbook: *English 6 Writing and Grammar* (BJU Press), *Write Reflections*

### ❖ Science & Health:

- 45 minutes, 4 days per week
- Emphasis on exploring a variety of areas within the field of science including life, physical, and earth sciences through the use of research, discussion, participation in group and individual projects, experimentation, and utilization of the scientific method.
- Special Activities: Four-day overnight outdoor education science camp at Thousand Pines Camp in Crestline, Calif.
- Textbook: *Science 6 for Christian Schools* (BJU Press)

### ❖ History & Geography:

- 45 minutes, 4 days per week
- Emphasis on studying the geography of the Eastern Hemisphere and becoming familiar with ancient history from a Christian perspective from creation through 500 AD.
- Through the use of reading, research, discussion, and participation in individual and group projects, students explore the historical origins, political, religious, economic, and social structures of the early civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Kush, Israel, Greece, India, China, and Rome.
- Special Activities: Ancient Civilizations Day
- Textbooks: *Heritage Studies 6 for Christian Schools* (BJU Press)

## Enrichment

### ❖ Physical Education:

- Two days per week students dress in their school-provided P.E. uniforms and participate in a variety of cardiovascular and strength-building exercises. Throughout the year students learn athletic fundamentals and play the following: flag football, volleyball, basketball, hockey, pickleball, badminton, and handball. In addition, fitness testing is conducted at the beginning and end of the school year.
- After-school sports programs are available to all fifth- through eighth-grade students. RSMCS competes against schools in the Christian Athletic League of Orange County, whose major emphasis is on maintaining a Christian attitude of sportsmanship, honesty, respect, teamwork, and responsibility. Sports programs are available for the following: girls and boys volleyball, boys flag football, girls and boys basketball, coed soccer, girls softball, and girls and boys track.

### ❖ Technology:

- All RSM Christian School students in fourth through eighth grade receive hands-on computer learning instruction from the classroom teacher as well as educational testing and assessments on a Chromebook through our one-to-one technology initiative. Emphasis for sixth grade is on more independent work using the various programs. Technology is integrated across sixth-grade curriculum, particularly in math, ancient civilizations reports, and science.

## Enrichment Continued

- Applications taught: Google Docs, Google Sheets, Google Slides, Adobe Spark, Google Chrome (Digital Citizenship)
- Other Applications used: IXL, Prodigy Math, MAP by NWEA, Vocabulary A-Z, TypingClub, Google Classroom
- ❖ **Music:**
  - Emphasis on choral singing, breathing, vocal exercises and rhythm. The students will learn the value of worship as a part of their daily lives and will have opportunities to lead worship at different points throughout the school year.
  - Special Activities: Perform at Grandparents Day, Christmas Chapel, and various other venues during the school year. There are two auditioned annual musical productions.
- ❖ **Spanish:**
  - Emphasis on teaching students how to speak in Spanish, including how to say the alphabet and vowels, colors, numbers, days of the week, months of the year, words related to the family, Bible verses and prayers, as well as basic commands and phrases. Students are taught songs in Spanish that reinforce their learning.
- ❖ **Art:**
  - A hands-on program that introduces students to the great artists and their work. Students engage in creative expression by painting their own masterpieces using the techniques of the masters.
- ❖ **Library:**
  - Emphasis on teaching students how to use the library as a resource to find age-appropriate books that match their interests for pleasure reading, as well as helping students develop research skills for integrated, cross-curricular projects.