

# 5th & 6th Grade Procedures 2010-2011



THEME:  
EVERYONE  
COUNTS-  
BE THE ONE

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to a very exciting school year! We'd like to begin this year on a positive note by sharing our procedures with you. Included are many areas in which we receive frequent questions regarding our daily procedures.

**Communication:** We feel that the education of your child is a partnership between the parent and teacher, and is the essence of your child's progress in school. Please check Edline and the SJVS website often for school and class news. In addition, we will send emails with information that is more time sensitive. We invite you to keep in touch with us as you please. Please feel free to write a note, leave us a voicemail, or send us an e-mail at:

<a href="mailto:thompsonl@sjvs.org">thompsonl@sjvs.org</a>	5A ext. 256
<a href="mailto:modenesid@sjvs.org">modenesid@sjvs.org</a>	5B ext. 257
<a href="mailto:keneallyb@sjvs.org">keneallyb@sjvs.org</a>	6A ext. 248
<a href="mailto:burmeisterd@sjvs.org">burmeisterd@sjvs.org</a>	6B ext. 249

We are available for pre-scheduled conferences at either your request or ours.



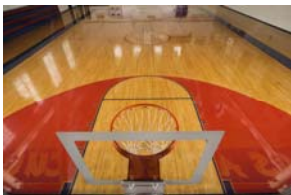
**Morning Bell:** Students will proceed directly to class when they arrive at school anytime after 7:30 a.m. Classroom prayer, the pledge, and announcements begin promptly at 7:50a.m. The earlier a child arrives, the more time he/she has to calmly unpack and get started on his/her morning work. Any child not in class by 7:45a.m will be marked tardy. Any student coming into school late **must** sign in at the office. Please inform us in writing if your child will be late due to an appointment.

**Attendance:** Attendance at school is extremely important. In the event of an absence or late arrival, we require a **written** excuse. If you know ahead of time that your child will be late or absent from school, we appreciate the advance notice. We do not give out homework or class work ahead of time. **If your student misses notes in class due to absence, he or she is responsible for obtaining the missed notes from either another student or from the teacher.** It is his or her responsibility to take the initiative to ask someone for notes. Missed homework and class work will be provided to the student upon their return, or if requested, to a sibling, or at the front desk for pick up.

**Snacks:** Please be sure to send in one **nutritious** snack for your child **everyday**. We ask that your child **only** bring water with their snack.



**Conduct/Work Habits:** Students will be given a Conduct/Work Habits Card at the beginning of each quarter. The goal is to have an unsigned card at the end of each quarter. However, if a student exhibits unacceptable behavior, his or her card will be signed in the Behavior area of the card. A student who does not complete a homework assignment will receive a signature in the Work Habits area of the card. Students will receive 3 "forgiveness tickets" at the beginning of each new quarter. These tickets must be stapled to the back of the conduct card and students must print their name in blue ink on the back of the tickets. They may use these tickets to avoid a card signature, in the Work Habits section only, during each quarter. At the conclusion of a marking period, conduct cards will be collected. All students who have an unsigned card will be allowed to participate in a reward activity.



### **Physical Education:**

5A—Tuesdays and Fridays

5B--- Wednesdays and Fridays (Students come to school on Wednesday in their dress uniform and change into their PE uniform after mass.)

6A—Mondays and Wednesdays (Students come to school on Wednesday in their dress uniform and change into their PE uniform after mass.)

6B—Tuesdays and Thursdays

[Please note: At the beginning of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, 6A and 6B PE schedules switch with one another]

### **Homework:**

Students are expected to complete their homework for all classes ON TIME. Students are responsible for logging their homework in their planners in the assignment section. Additionally, homework assignments will be posted on the SJV website, each day, for each class. Some homework will be project based and graded based on a rubric. Most other homework will be provided to reinforce skills learned that day and will be checked for completion. [For Math homework, students will start the marking period with a grade of 100% for homework. Each time a student does not complete a homework assignment, he/she will lose 5 points from that 100%.] In addition, incomplete or untimely homework will result in a signature on the Conduct/Work Habits card in the Work Habits section, and the student may be required to complete the homework assignment during lunchtime.

Supporting good habits requires a joint effort. We will support and encourage good work habits at school. Your child will benefit greatly from your support and encouragement at home. We appreciate your time and cooperation.

Please note homework assignments may be accessed on the schools website at [www.sjvs.org](http://www.sjvs.org) .

**Testing:** Testing will be done throughout the marking period. Students will be given no more than 3 tests in any one day. Grades can be accessed on EDLINE. These grades will be uploaded each Wednesday.

### **Organization:**

Students who are organized have a more successful school and work experience. Please encourage your student to consistently use his or her planner. Planners will be randomly checked and students will be rewarded for keeping a neat, up- to- date planner.

# **Teachers**

*5A Homeroom: Mrs. Thompson*

*5B Homeroom: Ms. Modenesi*

*6A Homeroom: Mrs. Keneally*

*6B Homeroom: Mrs. Burmeister*



# Who, What, Where?

GRADE	SUBJECT	TEACHER	FOLDER COLOR	NOTEBOOK COLOR
5th	Reading	Homeroom	Orange	Orange
5th	Vocabulary & Spelling	Homeroom	Orange	Orange
5th	Religion	Homeroom	Any	Black
5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup>	Science	Mrs. Thompson	Green	Green
5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup>	Social Studies	Mrs. Burmeister	Yellow	Yellow
5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup>	Spanish	Mrs. Martin	Black	Any
5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup>	Math	Mrs. Keneally	Blue	Blue
5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup>	English	Ms. Modenesi	Red	Red
5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup>	TAKE HOME	ALL	ANY	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Reading	Mrs. Burmeister	Orange	Orange
6 <sup>th</sup>	Vocabulary & Spelling	Homeroom	Orange	Orange
6 <sup>th</sup>	Religion	Mrs. Keneally	Any	Black

## 5<sup>th</sup> grade Reading

- Open Court series will be used, along with several novels.
- Students are encouraged to read books of their choice at home when time permits to improve fluency and comprehension.

## 5<sup>th</sup> grade Vocabulary and Spelling

- Approximately 15 words will be assigned each Monday. Students are expected to know how to spell, define and apply forms of these words for the test each Friday.

## 5<sup>th</sup> grade Religion

- The focus will be on the Sacraments. Prayer, discussion, creative projects and guest speakers will keep the spirit alive in our classes.

## 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade Science

- 5<sup>th</sup> graders will study *Life Science* and *Physical Science*. Students will explore science process skills, using the scientific method for science inquiry, science tools, and safety. Hands-on experiments, applying reading skills to understand science, and using graphic organizers will be utilized. Students will work independently, in cooperative learning groups, and as a class for many projects and assignments. *Special emphasis will be placed on teaching students skills in note taking, studying, and working in groups.*
- 6<sup>th</sup> graders will study *Earth Science*. Each 6<sup>th</sup> grade class will participate in a class science experiment. The students will explore, in depth, the steps and proper documentation for using scientific methods, and will learn the skills necessary to successfully participate in the Science Fair in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Students will participate in experiments, activities, projects, presentations, and group work. All skills taught in 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be reinforced in 6<sup>th</sup>.



## 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies



**5<sup>th</sup> graders** will be focusing on map skills, geography, as well as American History,. We will be learning about the states, regions, and natural resources of the USA. Assessments will be varied. They will include announced tests and quizzes, along with hands on classroom activities, writing assignments and internet assignments. **Sixth grade** Social Studies will cover map and geography skills. We will travel the world and explore Roman, Greek, and Egyptian cultures. **Assessments** will be varied on the material learned. They will include tests, quizzes, and many other activities, including computer projects and virtual electronic field trips. In both areas of study, we will have history come “alive” for our students.

## 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade English

### o GRAMMAR

- o Students will study all parts of speech in isolation
- o They will be able to use these parts of speech correctly in their writing
- o Students will be tested on these parts of speech throughout the year
- o They will be notified of these tests a week ahead of time
- o Each night students will reinforce parts of speech through practice pages
- o Students will also have the opportunity to be creative with parts of speech through alternative assessments. (commercials, power points, art projects)

### o WRITING

- o A variety of writing types will be used each marking period
- o Assignment expectations will be clearly communicated using Rubrics
- o Writing assignments will be primarily worked on in class, but sometimes they will be completed at home.
- o A writing portfolio will be kept of student work
- o Laptops will be used for many of their writing assignments



### o READING

- o Open Court literature based series will be used
- o There will be weekly tests for these short stories
- o These tests will assess comprehension and vocabulary skills
- o There will also e a few novel studies throughout the year
- o Students are encouraged to read independently and to always have a free choice book with them at all times.
- o The focus is to build skills and to develop a love of reading





### 5th grade Math

- We are using the Sadlier-Oxford Progress in Mathematics textbook series. During each class, students will participate in daily drill of basic math and vocabulary facts. Twice a week, they will participate in large group word problem solving. Use of PowerPoint presentations and math websites is common in class. There is an emphasis on efficient note taking skills. Homework will be given Monday through Thursdays, and must be completed either in the workbook or on loose-leaf paper **with the supportive work shown. Answers only will receive no credit.** The math notebook will only be used for note taking in class. It is frequently allowed as a reference tool during a test. Short quizzes will be given throughout a chapter of study. Mid chapter and post chapter tests are given with a 48-hour notice.

### 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math

- The students will be using the Glencoe Course 1 textbook series. A CD of the text is available for the students. Classroom procedures are similar to that of the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. However, pre-tests will be given at the start of each chapter of study. A grade of 90% or higher will allow a student to move into an enrichment group for that one chapter. This will continue throughout the academic year. Students who are not in that chapter enrichment group will have the opportunity to complete the enrichment activities on their own and they will receive bonus points for doing so.

### 6<sup>th</sup> grade Vocabulary

- The students will be using the Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop text. Our normal routine will be to complete one unit of study of 20 new vocabulary words in 8 school days. On the 9<sup>th</sup> day, the students will complete a Spelling test. On the 10<sup>th</sup> day, they will complete a Definition test. There is a crossword puzzle given to the class on the 8<sup>th</sup> class day. This is a perfect review for the upcoming tests. By completing the puzzle, the student receives 5 bonus points to be used on either test. Each class day, the students have a morning vocabulary assignment. At the end of the unit, these morning assignments are averaged for a maximum grade of 100% for their morning work. The children are provided with a morning work schedule on the 1<sup>st</sup> full school day in August.

### 6<sup>th</sup> grade Religion

- We will be using the Sadlier **We Believe** text. The primary emphasis is on the Old Testament and the early Church. We spend 2 class days orally reading and discussing a chapter. At the conclusion of each chapter, each student receives an assessment menu with a rubric. They must choose one activity to complete and submit it on Friday morning during class. We will attend weekly Mass and the children will participate in a short prayer service in class on Thursdays. They will read **Venture** magazine in class on Friday. This is a wonderful publication that helps prepare the students for Sunday's liturgy. Throughout the school year, guest speakers will be invited into our class to share their faith and knowledge.

