



## SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM

### **INTRODUCTION**

Christian Education must develop not only cognitive knowledge and the accumulation of facts, but must involve an internalization of God's truth. It is our aim in every subject area to teach truth and to teach students to evaluate facts in the light of truth. This is accomplished through the following steps:

- \* Researching God's Word to discover basic principles of life and every academic subject. A principle is the source, origin, or cause of a thing; the foundational truth upon which all the facts rest.
- \* Reasoning from these principles to identify the proper interpretation of facts.
- \* Relating of Biblical principles to each student's personal life.

### **CHAPEL**

Once a week, the faculty and student body in elementary grades gather together in the sanctuary to express devotion to our Lord through praise and worship. The first Wednesday of the month the whole school meets for Chapel. Biblical truths and principles are taught by our staff, pastors and guest speakers. Students also have opportunity to participate in sharing God's Word with their peers in a variety of ways. We welcome parents to attend with their child and worship with us.

### **BIBLE/CHARACTER FOUNDATION**

Bible study is an integral part of the school curriculum at Crosshill Christian School. The Scriptures are studied in such a way that a child will discover and be able to apply the relevance of the Bible and its principles to everyday situations and experiences. Students study in a classroom environment where a variety of approaches and techniques are used to discover Biblical meanings and principles. Interwoven into the curriculum is a Godly character application designed to stimulate character development within each student.

### **Literature**

To help each student cultivate a love for reading, several novels are selected from a variety of genres and are studied in detail. Students learn to identify elements such as plot, character development, theme and setting.

A variety of novels will be interwoven through the year to develop discussion and critical thinking skills. They are "The Voyage of the Dawn Treader," "The Witch of Blackbird Pond," "A Father's Promise," and "Cricket in Times Square." CCS employs a biblical based curriculum to go along with these books.

### **SPELLING**

The ability to communicate with one another and with God is part of His plan for our lives. The written form of our language requires accurate spelling. It is an important part of the communication process. Writing allows the transfer of information over space and time. This is unique to humans and is a clear reflection of the nature of God.

Crosshill Christian School works to create lifelong spellers. Students need to have a grasp of spelling rules as well as a knowledge of how to spell basic to advanced words, not just for Friday tests, but in everyday work. We use a variety of methods to accomplish this. The main resource is Rebecca Sitton's *Sourcebook Method*. This method is based on the top 1,200 most frequently used words in the English language. The program uses a wide variety of interesting games and lessons to practice synonyms, homonyms, and other word groups. Words are graded in context taken from everyday writing, "cloze" tests and dictation. We also use the ACSI Spelling Bee lists in the first semester.

## **LANGUAGE/GRAMMAR**

Throughout the course, students will be presented with oral language activities. For example, in Convention Warm-ups, the sentences contain errors in punctuation, capitalization and usage. Through class discussion, previously learned skills are reviewed and new applications are taught.

At the sixth grade level, students learn to think creatively, develop problem solving skills, and use both the dictionary and the thesaurus effectively through the use of analogies. In addition, grammar, composition and writing mechanics are taught through both critical thinking activities and the organic method of the students editing their own work in our classroom workshops. Listed below are a few of the skills your child will learn in sixth grade:

### Writing Process

- \* Writing, comparison/contrasts, outlines, persuasive/research paper, narrative paper, journal
- \* Sentences and sentence parts
- \* Thesaurus and dictionary skills

### Conventions

- \* Recognizing parts of speech and their effect on writing
- \* Adjusting how we use syntax
- \* Fragments, comma splices, fused sentences.
- \* Punctuation and capitalization rules

## **MATHEMATICS**

Students may qualify for Honors math based on the WRAT Arithmetic level I and II test scores, SAT math scores, previous math grades and previous teacher recommendation. Students in the honors Math program are advanced to the next grade level, thus ensuring a more challenging program that motivates them to work at their ability level.

The A Beka math curriculum is used as the core textbook. This is a complete math program that provides daily activities including oral drill, the teachings and practice of new material and review of basic facts. Games are used to reinforce skills learned during lessons. Besides training students in the basic skills that are needed in life, the mathematics curriculum teaches students to believe in absolutes, to work diligently to get right answers, and to see the facts of mathematics as part of the truth and order that God has built into the real universe.

Critical thinking skills are incorporated into daily problem solving, helping students to see the connections among a variety of math topics. Problems emphasize real-world situations, reinforcing the importance of mathematics in students' daily lives. Students are taught that there are different methods for solving all problems, including drawing a picture, guess and check, making a table or chart, looking for a pattern, working backwards, writing equations, etc.

Sixth grade math will include:

- \* Place value of whole numbers and decimals
- \* Maintaining skills in fundamental operations
- \* Converting measures within the same system drawings and solving measurement equations
- \* Adding, subtracting and multiplying measures
- \* Fundamental operations involving fractions and decimals
- \* Converting Celsius to Fahrenheit and Fahrenheit to Celsius
- \* Perimeter, area and circumference
- \* Banking, finding interest, and installment buying
- \* Latitude, longitude and time zones
- \* English/Metric measures

- \* Percent
- \* Graphs and scale
  - \* Basic geometric shapes
  - \* Bisecting angles
  - \* Reading Thermometers
- \* Equation solving
- \* Ratios and proportions
- \* Reading electric and gas meters
- \* Story problems
  - \* Roman numerals
  - \* Prime factoring
- \* Rounding off

Sixth grade Honors Math will include:

- \* Maintaining skills in fundamental operations
- \* Fractions and decimals
- \* Development and use of formulas
- \* Metric system
- \* Reading and constructing graphs
- \* Introduction to plane and solid geometry
- \* Introduction to algebra
- \* Time zones, latitude and longitude

- \* Basic geometric concepts
- \* Factoring
  - \* Ratio and proportions
- \* Application of percent
  - \* Personal finances
  - \* Negative numbers
- \* Powers and roots

## SCIENCE

Science is the study of God's order, provision, and general revelation as discovered in His physical creation. The science program at Crosshill Christian School offers a comprehensive basis which gives the students understanding of the content and processes of life, physical and earth sciences.

Bob Jones University Press provides a *Science for Christian School* Text that explores science as a means of seeing God's design in nature and a field with limitations. Topics from the core text and supplemental materials include studies of the following:

Changing Earth	Living Creation	Chemistry	Energy
Human Nervous and Immune Systems		Astronomy	Reproduction and Genetics

Bi-yearly students will research, plan, execute and analyze a science fair project in the spring.

## HISTORY

Crosshill Christian School's history program is presented with the firm conviction that "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof." History, therefore, is a revelation of God in His dealings with man and the universe. The students develop good reading and study skills. These include note taking, identifying cause and effects, critical thinking and test taking.

The Bob Jones' Heritage Studies text, Third Edition contrasts ancient civilizations from 3000 BC to AD 1500 with the modern world. History, geography, economics, culture and government skills as well as a Knowledge of God and Christian character will be taught. Civilizations include:

Ancient Egypt  
Greece  
The Roman World

Israel  
Africa  
The Middle Ages

China  
The Mayas  
Japan

While this series includes many history concepts and geography skills, it also emphasizes Christian worldview, character and attitudes promoting a balanced approach to social studies instruction. To augment these studies the sixth grade class takes several field trips and invites guest speakers to the school.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Fitness and skill development are the primary goals of the program. Students participate in exercises to promote cardiovascular endurance, muscle strength, and flexibility. Basic motor and manipulative skills are sequenced or combined for greater movement challenges. Games, relays and drills are designed to enhance skill related fitness or specific sport skills. Partner and group activities are used to meet growing social needs while emphasizing individual development.

### **ACSI ACTIVITIES**

Throughout the year there are opportunities for students to participate in various ASCI sponsored academic competitions with students from other Christian schools. Competitions at the classroom level select student representatives from CCS for the ACSI Spelling Bee, Speech Meet, Science Fair and Math Olympics.

### **ELECTIVES**

Our students at Crosshill Christian School have been uniquely and individually endowed with natural gifts from their creator, God. It is our desire to develop these gifts through special classes that enhance the foundational courses and develop multiple skills. Students will select their elective classes at the beginning of each school year.

Students may choose from these electives when offered:

Band Drama	Spanish
Choir/Vocal Training	Rocketry
Computer	Visual Art
PE	Team Sports
Speech	Intro to Theater
Survival 101	Games of Strategy
Strength Training	Foods

### **ATHLETICS**

Our athletic program is designed for those students who have an interest and ability for advanced levels of sports competition. Students will receive training in sports skills, strategy, etiquette and character development with an opportunity to represent Crosshill Christian School. Our middle school participated in coed soccer and girls' volleyball in the fall, girls' and boys' basketball in the winter, and track and field for grades fifth through eighth in the spring.