



Greetings Lodi Christian School Families,

**Colossians 1:15-17** The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

This Christmas season, we pause to reflect on the incredible GIFT God has given us in His Son, Jesus! I love how Paul shares with us in Colossians 1 that Jesus is “The Son of God” and how in Him EVERYTHING was created and that He existed BEFORE creation. These are some of the many truths our Jr. Highers unpack throughout our program. Daily, we strive to equip our Jr. Highers with THE TRUTH as they prepare for the rigors, and pressures of high school, and beyond. We hope that your families are able to take time, unplug, and recharge during this break from school. I wanted to share with you a quick overview of our Jr. High program here at LCS.

6th Grade:

- Bible- Overview of Biblical accounts from Genesis through Revelation. This class will help students grasp important aspects of the theme of the scriptures and consciously apply them to their lives.
- Fundamentals of Math- Covers concepts such as whole numbers, decimals, number theory, fractions, and an introduction to algebra and geometry. Students will be set up for success in 7th and 8th grade.
- Science- Overview of cells and organisms, matter and energy, astronomy, heredity, the nervous system, and the immune system. Students will develop a knowledge of God inculcating the understanding that God is the Creator and Sustainer of the Universe.
- English/Literature- Emphasis on traditional grammar as well as providing practice with essential reference skills. Students will get a step-by-step instruction on the Writing Process for personal narratives, historical fiction, newspaper editorials and limericks. Novel reading includes *Wonder* and *Wrinkle in Time*.
- Heritage Studies (History)- Survey of Ancient civilizations in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Students will focus on the theme of the Creation, Fall, Redemption, and they will learn to recognize it in ancient civilizations.
- Enhancements- Art, computer class, physical education, after school sports, chapel, science camp, Aerospace museum, Black Chasm Cavern.

#### 7th Grade:

- Bible- Focus on the life of Jesus while looking at the Old Testament.
- Pre-Algebra- This year serves as a bridge from arithmetic to algebra. Algebraic expressions and linear equations are applied throughout a thorough review of operations on integers, fractions, decimals, percents, and radicals.
- Life Science- Survey of the structures and functions of living creatures, including plants, animals, and human beings. All of these concepts are part of the desire to understand the incredible life that God has created.
- English/Literature- Selections from literature help students gain an appreciation and understanding of literary techniques as they study a variety of genres of literature from a range of cultures. Novels include *The Outsiders*, *Nothing But the Truth*, and *Johnny Tremain*.
- World Studies- Brief review of history from Creation to the coming of Christ and progresses in a chronological journey around the world studying the ebb and flow of empires, cultures, Christianity, and world religions, concluding with an examination of the trends of the emerging 21st century.
- Enhancements- Science dissections, physical education, after school sports, Spanish, chapel, STEM Challenges, San Francisco Bay trip.

#### 8th Grade:

- Bible- Students will be going through the New Testament learning how God uses imperfect men and women to reflect His grace.
- Algebra 1- Concepts discussed include graphing, solving systems of equations, operations with polynomials and radicals, factoring polynomials, solving rational equations, and graphing quadratic functions.
- Physical Science- Students will learn how everything they do relates to chemistry and physics. Chemistry will include how matter and energy interacts with the food and drinks we typically consume. Physics will show students how things move, why things move, and why objects behave the way they do.
- English/Literature- Students are encouraged to develop and apply critical thinking skills as they analyze the literature pieces in light of a Christian worldview. Students will develop their writing, reading, comprehension and critical thinking skills. Novels include *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Chains*, and *Anne Frank*.
- American Republic (U.S. History)- Students will become discerning citizens who can think critically about the events of history and learn from the successes and failures of the past to make wise decisions for today. To do this, students will survey the major events that have shaped American history, paying special attention to cultural shifts and influences. This class also prepares students for the Washington D.C. trip.
- Enhancements- Chemistry and physics labs, physical education, after school sports, Spanish, chapel, STEM challenges, Washington DC trip.

My prayer for your family is that God would meet with you in a new and unique way this season.

If you would like to begin a conversation, or have questions about our Jr. High program, please contact me [aclayton@lodichristianschool.org](mailto:aclayton@lodichristianschool.org) to set up an appointment to discuss any questions you may have.

In Christ,

Andy Clayton