

Our Middle School Curriculum

Grades 6 - 8 are a time of transition. Because students entering their early teen years have different needs than younger students, IHM Middle School strives to provide a unique educational setting for early adolescents. We believe that a good middle school creates a balanced, positive transition from the elementary years to high school. In order to accomplish this goal, we have designed specific activities to meet the social, physical, intellectual, and emotional needs of our students in grades 6 through 8. These include service projects, overnight retreats, "Eagle Pride" assemblies, and a special mentoring program entitled "Quad A." Middle schoolers are also required to establish a portfolio of their academic progress and share this information with their parents via a student-led conference in January.

Specific Programs

- Mathematics focuses on a deep understanding of complex operations and equations. Students utilize all operations with integers, decimals, and fractions, and they focus on various geometric and algebraic operations, radical expressions, and linear equations.
- Social studies focuses on ancient cultures, American history, civics, government, social justice and Georgia history. Students also explore relevant concepts in economics and industry.
- Science concentrates on the understanding of planet Earth and its place in the universe. Within this study, students explore numerous aspects of the Earth, such as its topography and physical composition. Additionally, students study the function of cells, genetics, and heredity as well as chemistry and physical laws related to the behavior of matter. They also study life and its role in our world.
- English and Literature focuses on analysis and study of various genres of texts, parts of speech, and conventions and mechanics. Critical analytical skills are utilized daily within genre language study.
- Students develop appropriate research and speaking skills as they explore a variety of literary genres, poems, short stories, periodicals, and on-line articles within their studies.

Above and Beyond the Curriculum

- Service to Others: Students further develop their relationship with Christ through service to the school community, including helping younger students develop reverence and understanding of the mass, as well as creating and presenting activities aimed at developing our younger students' sense of social justice and friendship.
- Margaret Harris: Our seventh grade students have the opportunity to share their time and talents with the students of the Margaret Harris school. This is a special needs school, servicing students ages three through twenty-one. Our students engage in play and learning activities with our Margaret Harris partners throughout the year, thus building and strengthening important bonds.
- The Living Stations of the Cross- A passion play commemorating Jesus' last day on Earth narrated by students in grade 7.
- Interdisciplinary Unit- Students spend a week studying a particular time period as it relates to all core subjects.
- Students have an opportunity to cultivate talents and extend understanding of concepts through participation in self-selected **electives**. Electives are curriculum-based and encompass a multitude of concepts, including robotics, STEM, art, literature, writing, physical fitness, executive functioning strategies, and study skills.