



SAN RAMON VALLEY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

"A renowned Christian school which transforms lives for God's glory"

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8th Grade

Bible Eighth graders spend the year discussing ways to move Biblical head-knowledge into the heart. Through discussion, journaling, role-playing, skits, and small group questions, students examine what it means to live out the Christian faith. Rick Warren's *Purpose Driven Life*, the biography *Rachel's Tears*, and a detailed study of Romans guide classroom discussion. Students will discuss the potential impact they will have on their high school campuses when modeling strong Christian character.

Language Arts Eighth grade English provides the mastery of major composition concepts including the ability to write and edit complex essays. Increasing vocabulary and demonstrating proficiency in mechanics and grammar are stressed through the writing process. Understanding and appreciating classic literature is also a primary focus. Oral language skills include speaking extemporaneously and expressing ideas clearly during discussions. Students culminate the year by a presentation of a play and producing an autobiography.

Math Eighth grade students are divided into three levels: Pre-Algebra, Algebra, and Geometry. Small student-teacher ratios and leveled math classes allow students to master developmentally appropriate concepts with confidence. Units of study may include positive and negative numbers, equations, inequalities, area, volume, square roots, probability, statistics, polynomials, linear functions, graphing, 3-dimensional shapes, proofs, transformations, matrices, vectors, and tangents.

Physical Education Jr. High students participate in a traditional PE program where skills are developed and practiced in a safe and encouraging setting. Units of activity include softball, football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, paddle tennis, floor hockey, track and field events, and others. Twice a year, students participate in the Presidential Physical Fitness program. Many of our Jr. High students choose to participate in our after-school sports program associated with the Bay Area Christian School Athletic League (BACSAL).

Science Eighth grade science is a survey course touching the major areas of chemistry and physics including: description of matter, atomic theory and structure, chemical applications, mechanics, and wave and particle motion. The students will advance their understanding of the physical and chemical world around them. The presupposition of this advancement is that God has made all things and that by the study of the creation, a greater and more revered point of view for the Creator will be gained.

Social Studies Students in eighth grade will survey U.S. History from the 18th to 20th century. Students will increase in their knowledge of significant people, places and events while improving their skills of map and graph reading, analyzing and evaluation, drawing conclusions and applying biblical principles to the events of the past and present. Students will experience this history first hand with a trip to Washington D.C. where trips to Williamsburg, Gettysburg, monuments, memorials, and museums will enhance their understanding of patriotism, sacrifice, and God's provision for our nation.

Spanish The combination of Spanish 7 and Spanish 8 curriculum may allow a student to complete Spanish 1 at the High School level. Students are expected to master vocabulary and parts of speech. Added this year are possessive adjectives, verb tenses, comparisons and superlatives, stem-changing verbs, direct and indirect object pronouns. Students are able to dialogue in Spanish and share opinions with one another. High interest projects and activities help students understand the cultures of Spanish speaking countries.

Electives All eighth grade students participate in our Jr. High Elective program. A mandatory computer elective will be required to equip students with new programs and/or information to enhance classroom curriculum and assignments. Other elective options may include cooking, sports, stat keeping, strategy games, jewelry making, sewing, golf, tennis, swimming, Bible study, math enrichment, study hall, production, and art. New electives are introduced quarterly and may include other choices not mentioned.