

Elective Program

St. Anthony's School offers an extensive elective program for students in grades 6-8. We believe that elective classes work in conjunction with the curriculum to build well-rounded individuals. The educational philosophy of St. Anthony's is based upon the principle that each student shall be given an opportunity to maximize his/her potential and become a productive, contributing member of our society. As we move into the information age and the challenges of the 21st century, it is necessary to broaden our focus so that the SAS ensures the total development of the student.

Role of Parents: We encourage parents to enter a discussion with their children about the selection of classes that will best enrich their learning. We recommend that parents and students select their classes carefully. As a parent, please consider which classes you would like your child to take before they graduate from 8th grade. Some classes build upon one another. For instance, a student may take Spanish 1 and then advance into Spanish 2. Spanish 2 is a more advanced class with a smaller number of students. The goal is to increase vocabulary and fluency and better prepare students for high school. Some of our students may choose to challenge the high school Spanish 1 class in order to enroll in the Spanish 2 class.

Please find below a short description of each elective class currently offered. The classes rotate each trimester. However, our key academic classes are offered each trimester. We invite parents to join our Elective teaching core and we welcome parental and student input. Please contact Mr. Carey at 435-0700 or scarey@sasfresno.com.

Academic Assistant/Tutor

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: Minimum grade point average of 3.0 required, approval of teacher.

Academic Assistant/Tutor is open to all students who would like to assist with the day-to-day operations of the school. Students will be required to assist teachers in classroom services and/or tutor students in the classroom. Tasks might include creating bulletin boards, copying papers, working with small groups of children, running errands around campus, and completing classroom management duties such as filing, stapling, etc.

Academic Decathlon

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: Class is reserved for members of the selected AD Team

This is a competition for students in grades 6-8. There are ten events. Two are collaborative team efforts – a logic quiz with 20 rigorous thinking problems, and a super quiz with 50 multiple

choice questions on five broad academic themes. The remaining eight events test individual knowledge of the Roman Catholic doctrine, English, Literature, Science, Mathematics, Current Events, Social Studies, and Fine Arts (Art and Music). Awards are given for individual and team performance, and the winning school team from each geographic diocese competes in the state championship.

Art

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

Art offers students the opportunity to learn to coordinate mind, hand, and eye as they create projects using various arts and crafts materials and media. Using a variety of choices in art media, students will create their own expressive masterpieces while learning the elements of art including: line, shape, form, color, value, and perspective. The class interweaves lessons in art and world history, Brain Gym exercises, and measurement as students embark on their journey in drawing and other fun modes of creativity. Students will have time to experiment and practice their skills while working towards at least one thoughtful and finished work of art.

Art/ Arts and Crafts

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

Students will complete multiple craft projects such as a no-sew fleece blanket, tie dying, beading and jewelry projects. Students will need to supply their own materials.

Athletic Game Operations

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

Student will assist the Athletic Director with pre-game set-up & maintenance for athletic contests. Activities will include preparation of athletic fields, blacktop and gym for home game events. This will be a labor intense course, please be prepared to be physically active.

Students will learn, the day-to-day operations/preparations of athletic events and Athletic Administration.

Beginner's Bible Study

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

Students learn how to use the most popular book ever written. A fast-paced, fun overview covering some hero's, history and life-lessons in God's gift to us. Begin a life long journey. Faith without good works is dead.

Bowling

Grades: 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

Students are taught the rudiments of bowling by a Blackstone Bowl employer. This class is designed to teach the lifelong game that is shared by all ages, gender, and abilities and has been around for many years.

Chess

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

Students will, learn the basics, the object of the game, the relative value of the pieces and how to keep score. They will enhance their personal strategies, thinking skills, critical thinking, planning, logic, and patience in a class suited for beginners as well as advanced students. Basic chess rules will be reviewed and then we will proceed to chess notation, basic tactics, and tournament rules. This class is ideal for those who enjoy a weekly challenge

Computer Applications

Grades: 6th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: Selection by teachers and Administration

This course provides an overview of microcomputer applications including a brief introduction to computer concepts, Microsoft Windows, Microsoft Office, and Microsoft PowerPoint. Learn to create illustrations, make charts and graphs and import research for school assignments.

This class is designed to prepare students to matriculate into our Jr. High Laptop Program.

Cooking and Embroidery

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This course will alternate between developing skills in Embroidery, the art or handicraft of decorating fabric or other materials with needle and thread or yarn, and the Culinary Arts.

Students will learn basic kitchen skills, terminology and techniques that will keep them eating well for a lifetime! This course will include menu planning on a budget, food preparation, entertaining and maybe even a field trip.

Dance

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

Students will be taught in a fun environment the skills of dance under the style of Jazz and Modern Dance. Students will learn to warm-up correctly and learn dance techniques with an emphasis on conditioning exercises, which promote strength, flexibility, balance and alignment.

Drama

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

Drama is an introductory course designed to develop poise and confidence in expression and to build appreciation for all forms of drama. Acting, technical theater, directing, costuming, make-up and prop handling are included in a course of study and activity. Students perform in our annual Christmas show along with the K-1 students.

Engineering

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

The class will include discussion of: engineering as a profession, different career paths in engineering, importance of algebra/math/writing in engineering, imagination and creativity. Discussion will also include application of engineering principles and theories in hands-on project(s) and/or problem(s) similar to problems/projects in the program Odyssey of the Mind. We hope to answer engineering questions that our students would have. It is our intent to help the students have a general understanding of what engineering is about and motivate them to become engineers.

Goals include to make students aware of the various fields of engineering profession/career and stimulating the students creative/imaginative side by building a project as a team. By the end of the course, the students will hold a mini-presentation and speak about the 'what, why and how' their project should be constructed.

Finance/Introduction to Finance

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This personal finance and investing class is based on Dave Ramsey's curriculum. Students will learn to balance a successful budget and learn strategies on how to make money grow, this class is sure to be lifelong plus.

French/Introduction to French

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This class is an introduction to the French language. Vocabulary and grammatical structures will be presented through thematic units with an emphasis on oral, listening, reading and writing expressions. Students will develop an appreciation for the French culture and its influence throughout the world.

Kids Invent Toys

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This class is presented by CSU Fresno. Students design and build boats! This module includes the following six activities: Jet Boats, Paddle Boats, Sail Boats, Aluminum Canoes, Electric Swamp Boats and Electric Motorboats. Balloons provide the power for Jet Boats. Paddle boats rely on rubber bands. Make sailboats with elaborate sails. Make a canoe from aluminum foil that can carry the most nails without sinking. There will be plenty of fun and splashing when kids make electric swamp boats powered with DC motors and propellers. Batteries are included when Electric Motorboats are built.

Music/Beginning Guitar

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This is a first year course in learning to play the guitar. It is designed for students with no musical background as well as for those with prior experience in other areas such as vocal or instrumental music. Students will learn to read music, develop keyboard technique, and learn to play and accompany by ear.

Music/Advanced Guitar

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: Beginning Guitar or teacher recommendation

This class is designed for students who want to advance their guitar playing ability. Students will learn to read music, develop keyboard technique, and learn to play and accompany by ear.

Music/Chorus

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

In this chorus class students will learn to read notes & rhythms, use their voices as instruments, sing in a multi-part environment and accompany the group with drums, rhythm instruments, etc. Material will span a number of genres, classical to rock to jazz and will be interesting, challenging and rewarding.

Music/Instrumental Music

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This class is open to any student who would like to learn to play a woodwind or brass instrument. Clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet and flute are available. If you have another wind instrument such as a French Horn, or oboe you are welcome to join class. Some larger instruments are available from the school.

Spanish/Introduction to Spanish

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This is an introductory course to the Spanish language. Students will become proficient in simple directions, conversation and social pleasantries. Vocabulary and grammatical structures will be presented through thematic units with an emphasis on oral, listening, reading, and writing expressions. Students will learn the alphabet, numbers, colors, greetings, dates, days of the week, months of the year, Me gusta (I like), everyday objects and activities, concepts of

agreement/number in gender, nouns/adjectives, verbs and select nouns. Customs of the Spanish culture will also be explored. Conversation and participation in class is required.

Spanish/Advanced Spanish

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: Introduction to Spanish or instructor approval

This class is for students who have some experience in speaking Spanish and would like to continue to build their fluency. Our goal is to challenge the high school Spanish 1 class.

Math Lab

Grades: 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: Recommendation by Teachers

This course is offered to 7th and 8th grade students who require additional instruction and focus in the math computation and problem solving. Receive one on one help and take advantage of an opportunity to get some homework done. Students are generally tested for appropriate placement and this course is taken in lieu of an elective.

Reading/Language Lab

Grades: 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: Recommendation by Teachers

This course is offered to 7th and 8th grade students who require additional instruction and focus in the reading and language arts areas. Students are generally tested for appropriate placement and this course is taken in lieu of an elective.

Physical Education Cross-Age Tutor

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

For students who like sports and games and see themselves as leaders and good role models for younger students on campus. Cross age leaders will help our younger students to play games during P.E. class. Students should be prepared to demonstrate positive behavior and basic locomotor skills to 1st - 4th grade students.

Radio Broadcasting-Raider Radio

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This class is for students interested in reporting the news of our community? Come express our school success and latest announcements either through podcasting to be broadcast on campus or in writing for our school newspaper. Topics include but are not limited to Classroom Happenings, Sports and Clubs, Student Interviews, Current Events, Field Trips, Daily Announcements and Reminders, and more!

Students will develop language arts, interview and presentation skills while compiling information for the school's radio station. The students will learn to use the laptop to create podcasts to broadcast their news pieces.

Walking

Grades: 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This elective is designed especially for the student who wants to let go of stress for one class period twice a week and improve his or her health at the same time. Walking is one of the earliest forms of exercise. The class will teach students how to burn calories, open their airways and clear their mind.

Music/Choir

Grades: 6th, 7th and 8th

Duration: Trimester Course

Prerequisite: None

This chorus class for 6th, 7th & 8th grades. In this class students learn to read notes & rhythms, use their voice as an instrument, sing in a multi-part environment, accompany the group with drums and rhythm instruments. Material spans a number of genres, classical to rock to jazz and is designed to be interesting, challenging and rewarding.