

# **PHCA 6th Grade Family Handbook**

## **2022 - 2023**



*To teach biblical truth in an environment of academic excellence  
that prepares students to impact the world for Christ.*

Plaza Heights Christian Academy  
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Dear Students and Families,

Welcome to 6th grade at Plaza Heights! We are so thankful that you have chosen to continue your post-elementary education with us! This school year, we are excited to begin a brand new program for our 6th grade students.

Our new 6th grade program is a hybrid of elementary and middle school. Students will spend the majority of their day with a classroom teacher. The classroom teacher will teach English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies as well as spending time working to prepare students for junior high. This preparation will include skills in organization, studying, time management, and a variety of other skills needed for the transition to junior high (i.e.: how to navigate using lockers and planners, changing courses, etc.)

As a part of the hybrid program, students will also have the opportunity to change classes for their elective courses during the day. PHCA's school counselor will work with students and families in setting up individual student schedules as students are able to make some choices in their elective courses.

As this is a brand new program to PHCA, we ask for your patience and understanding as we navigate the inevitable issues that can and will arise in any new situation. Please use this handbook and familiarize yourself with the procedures that have been put in place for the upcoming school year. Also, feel free to contact the school with any questions that you may have now and throughout the school year!

As always, we are thankful and honored to partner with you and your student(s) to provide a superior, Christian education!

Blessings,

PHCA Administration

## **Arrival/Dismissal**

Students should be in their classroom no earlier than 8:15am. If students need to be dropped off earlier, parents should sign up for Before Care. Information on this can be found in the student handbook or in the office.

At the end of the day, students will be dismissed from their classroom to the middle school pick up on the west side of the building. Parents can pick up their 6th-8th grade student(s) here every day. If you have students in different grade levels, you will need to pick those students up from their respective locations as well. Their classroom teacher will accompany them to their dismissal location.

## **Curriculum - CORE**

### **Bible**

*Students will know what they believe about God's truth and why they believe in order to discern and personally apply Scripture.*

#### **Text: *Route 66 - Travel Through the Bible***

This one-year, 70-lesson survey introduces middle-schoolers to the structure and themes of the Word of God. Students will briefly examine each book in Scripture, learning how God uses imperfect men and women to reflect His grace.

### **English Language Arts**

*Students will glorify God by reading and writing fluently with expression to demonstrate an understanding of God's word in order to apply it to their lives.*

#### **Text: *Writing & Grammar 6; As Full as the World (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed)* – Bob Jones Press**

English 6 spends time reviewing traditional grammar skills, essential reference skills, and a step-by-step review of the writing process. Various writing assignments such as a personal narrative, editorial, limerick, etc. will also be evaluated. Students will read character building stories through a selection of classic literature and analyze literary elements within. A focus is made on higher-level thinking so as to provide a bridge to other middle school literature courses.

## **Math**

*Students will recognize the precision of God's creation language through mathematical discovery acknowledging God as the source of Absolute Truth.*

### **Text: Math 6 – All Things Algebra**

Math 6 will introduce students to new material in a challenging but exciting way. Students can expect a follow-up of the basic mathematical skills they have learned in their elementary grades. Material presented in math 6 will enhance the basic math skills, number sense & operations, using formulas, and problem solving. Topics will include: whole numbers & operations, integer operations, rational numbers, algebraic expressions, equations & inequalities, ratio & proportion, area & volume, and data & statistics.

## **Science**

*Students will reason from a scientific standpoint recognizing that God is ultimate truth who reveals Himself through His creation.*

### **Text: Science 6 (4<sup>th</sup> Ed) – Bob Jones Press**

6<sup>th</sup> grade science teaches foundational science facts in a wide array of subjects. Students are taught that God is the Creator and Sustainer of the universe. The students will learn an appreciation for the planned order observed in creation and will grow to appreciate the wonders of God's universe.

## **Social Studies**

*Students will see God's sovereignty and providence through people and events in history.*

### **Text: Heritage Studies 6 (4<sup>th</sup> Ed) – Bob Jones Press**

Social Studies 6 covers the history and geography of North and South America from a Christian worldview including important people, plants, and animals in an area. There is an emphasis on learning how to take notes, study, and understand maps. Students will learn the continents as well as states and capitals.

## **Curriculum - ELECTIVE**

### **Fine Art Options**

*Students will discover the unique expression and application of their gifts, mirroring God's creativity, and empowering ambassadors who are artistically prepared to be salt and light in their generation.*

#### **Art (6th Grade)**

In sixth-grade art, students explore a variety of media as they continue to build their skills in drawing, painting, graphics, calligraphy, and sculpture. The theory is introduced to further elaborate upon ideas about color, perspective, and design. Teachers discuss artists, artwork, and provide technique demonstrations to develop the four strands of art education: art appreciation, art history, art production, and art criticism; as well as problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

#### **Band (Middle School - Beginning Band)**

Middle School Band emphasizes the study and performance of quality band music. Class activities emphasize the development of instrument technique, tone production, tuning, fundamentals of music theory, music reading, and listening skills.

#### **Choir (Middle School)**

Choir meets during the school day and regularly performs and participates in during- and after-school activities, concerts, and festivals. Rehearsals include work on development of proper vocal tone production, sight-reading, rhythmic and technical studies, and music theory. Students will gain basic musical and historical knowledge related to music that is learned in class. The course is performance based and all music will be chosen for age-appropriate educational value and historical, cultural, and artistic significance.

#### **Music Appreciation (Middle School)**

Music Appreciation is an introductory course to music. Students will explore music's various functionalities in order to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for all types of music. The course begins by examining basic music literacy and core musical elements such as melody, rhythm, harmony, form, and texture.

## **Physical Education (6th Grade)**

*Students will receive opportunities to help develop a passion for lifelong fitness.*

### **Text: Based off of the Missouri State Learning Standards**

Physical Education courses in middle school and high school provide students with opportunities to incorporate physical activity and life-long leisure experiences into their lifestyle through game play and practice. Focus units include, but are not limited to: badminton, pickleball, volleyball, floor hockey, and kickball. Other team sports will be incorporated as non-competitive activities. Skills and common concepts of each lifelong activity will be presented and developed through practice and match play.

### **Chapel**

6th grade students will attend chapel with the secondary students. During the first quarter, their classroom teacher will bring them into the sanctuary at their designated chapel time.

### **Dress Code**

6th grade students will follow the MS/HS dress code as listed in the Student/Parent Handbook.

### **Lockers**

In order to familiarize themselves with the use of a combination lock/locker, a set of lockers will be provided in the classroom for students to keep their belongings in. Each student will be provided with a locker and a lock that they will need to keep track of and return at the end of the year. The classroom teacher and the office will keep a record of their lock and combination in case a student forgets his or her combination. Students will return to the classroom at the end of the day to collect their belongings from their classroom and lockers.

### **Lunch**

6th grade students will eat lunch during the secondary lunch period. They will be dismissed from their classroom to the lunchroom. During the first quarter of the school year, their classroom teacher will take them to the lunchroom. Students will go through the lunch line as usual, but they will be required to sit at a table(s) designated for their class.

### **Planners**

Students will be required to keep and use a planner with the classroom teacher. This planner will be available for purchase during secondary registration held during the week of the first day of school.