

Trojans

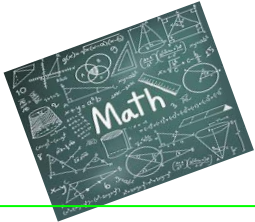


2023-2024
Course Descriptions
Grades 5-6

Seven Period Day

Seven periods a day for an average of 47 min each, 5 days per week.

5th – 6th Core Classes



CORE Math and ELA for 5/6th Grade Students

All 5/6th students at WMS are enrolled in a block of two classes each for ELA and Math. Research shows that typical 5/6th grade students need 90+ minutes of effective instruction in ELA and Math every day to make adequate progress. With two classes set aside each for ELA and Math, students are receiving an average of 94 minutes a day in each subject.

Science for 5-6th Grade Students

All students are enrolled in Science year-round for 1 period, averaging 47 min per day, 5 days a week. With the challenging new NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards), this is critical to student success. In addition to CORE Science, students may choose Lego Robotics as an elective.

Social Studies for 5-6th Students

For fifth grade students, Social Studies is integrated into the ELA CORE block, where students read, write and present around text in the areas of history, civics and geography. At the 6 grade level, students take one semester of Personal Finance/Citizenship.

Homeroom

Homeroom is attached to first period with some extra minutes allotted each day. This is where we make school announcements, say the Pledge of Allegiance, and distribute flyers. This also allows time for teachers and students to look at Skyward together, clean lockers, and have special assemblies. These activities help students stay organized and celebrate student success in academics and athletics.

Opportunities for Advanced Math Class

Students in Grade 6 who qualify take advanced math rather than general math. They work at a faster pace and cover more material. To qualify for advanced math, students must consistently perform at a high level on the SBA, in class and on school wide assessments (Iready).

Reading and Math Support for 5/6th Grade Students

5/6th grade students who need support in addition to their CORE ELA block are enrolled in a Reading class. These classes are very small and do explicit, targeted instruction to increase reading capacity. The reading class replaces one elective. Students enrolled in reading classes still get one special a day, one semester each: PE and Technology.

5/6 Grade Elective Descriptions

YEAR LONG OPTIONS

Beginning Band (All Year):

Beginning Band is a class for students who wish to learn to play one of the musical instruments found in a traditional Symphonic Band. These instruments include flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, trumpet, baritone horn, trombone, and percussion. Students will learn techniques for sound production, music reading, and technical proficiency on their chosen instrument. Students will also participate in required quarterly concert recitals. No previous experience is required to participate in this class. This class is open to all grade levels. Students coming into this class will need to purchase a low-cost methods book and rent or purchase an instrument for their own use within the class. The school does have a LIMITED number of instruments available for students who cannot afford to purchase or rent their own instrument.

5/6 Choir (One Semester or All Year):

This choir will focus on singing different songs from a variety of eras, cultures, and subject matter. Students will learn concepts of melody and begin to sing in harmony in two parts. Students will also learn some basic music theory including music notation, rhythms, note names, music vocabulary, and basic music history of prominent composers. There will be an evening concert near the end of each quarter.

SEMESTER LONG OPTIONS

5/6 Lego Robotics (One Semester)

Lego Robotics is a great way to learn about the world around us using science, technology, engineering, math, and creativity. Through teamwork, imagination, and cooperation students solve problems, work missions, and compete in competitions.

Additional PE/Team Sports (One Semester):

This class is designed for the student who wants to extend his/her physical education experience to include two semesters worth of PE. Students will get to learn and participate in a variety of games and sports.

5/6 Art (One Semester)

In Art survey we will be learning how to express ourselves in a variety of media including drawing, watercolor, printmaking, ceramics, and paper mache. We will also learn about art history, art professions, and the elements and principles of art to inspire our creations.

5th and 6th Grade Leadership (Application Required-one semester)

Through large and small group activities, students will learn and develop a variety of useful skills as they plan and organize activities for the middle school. Students must fill out an application form to be considered for this class. **Leadership is a requirement for Class Representatives (schedule permitting).**