

Section 5 ACADEMICS

ACADEMICS

INSTRUCTION:

It is our objective that Catholicism be woven into the fabric of each curriculum area for all students. Students are grouped by mixed abilities in grades K-8 in all curriculum areas except for academic and accelerated Math and Social Studies in grade six, academic and accelerated Math in grade seven, and academic and accelerated Math, Language Arts, and Social Studies in grade eight. We recognize that students learn in a variety of ways visually, hands-on, and auditorily. Therefore, teachers strive to incorporate within their lessons all opportunities for students to be successful based upon their learning styles, interest, and ability.

REPORTING SYSTEM:

Holy Name of Jesus School uses the Rediker Plus Portal, an on-line grade reporting system for parents/guardians to view their child(ren)s continuous academic progress.

The parent/guardian has login access to Rediker Plus Portal from the Holy Name of Jesus School website. Parents/guardians log in to the electronic reporting system to view student grades, progress reports, and homework. Holy Name of Jesus School issues electronic report cards three times a year - December, March, and June. Progress reports via the Rediker Plus Portal are available to parents/guardians to print, sign and send in to school to the teacher mid-way through each trimester.

MARKING SYSTEM:

GRADES K, 1, 2, and 3:

Graded Subjects

Religion
Integrated Language Arts
Math

Marking System

E - Exceeded Expectations
P - Proficient
IP - In Progress

Blank means content was not taught during the trimester.

GRADES 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8

Graded Subjects

Religion
Language Arts
Math
Science
Social Studies
Art
Computer
Music
Physical Education
Spanish (Grades 7 and 8)

Marking System

A = Excellent
B = Above Average
C = Average
D = Progressing
F = Not meeting curriculum

Marking Code

E - Exceeded Expectations
P - Proficient
IP - In Progress

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HOMWORK-STUDY TIME:

Each student in grades one through eight is given a homework assignment book. This book can be an integral part of home and school communication. Homework assignments may be posted on the Rediker Plus Portal.

Homework includes both written and study assignments. While students should complete homework independently, parental help and interest are encouraged when needed. Written work should be done neatly and legibly. Studying is most beneficial when done in a quiet place conducive for learning. All assignments are expected to be completed.

HONORS AND EFFORT AWARDS:

Students in grades four to eight receive honor card awards. To achieve:

- **First Honors** a student will have earned an **A** in all academic subject areas and at least a **C** or greater in all special subjects.
- **Second Honors** a student will have earned, any combination of **A's** or **B's** in all academic subjects and at least a **C** or greater in all special subjects.
- **Honorable Mention** the homeroom teacher will choose those students whom he/she feels are doing their best.
- **Overall Honors** at the end of the year, teachers also consider a student's character development.

STANDARDIZED TESTING:

As directed by the Diocese of Harrisburg students in grades three to eight are administered IOWA Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) standardized tests and CogAT for third and fifth grade students each year. These tests measure student progress against national norms. The teachers review each student's scores and note those students with weaknesses in particular areas. We also note the students who have above-average scores. We will be working to meet the needs of all the students in need of remediation as well as those who need more of a challenge. These scores are not the only criteria for judging your child(ren)'s ability.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES:

Student Support Team (SST):

Recognizing and acknowledging that all students have a unique gift from God, Holy Name of Jesus School strives to develop the gifts of each student. In an effort to support children who demonstrate through their classroom performance that they need assistance with their learning - academically, socially/emotionally, or behaviorally - a team of teachers, support staff, and administrators meet weekly to review the needs of students as requested by classroom teachers. Action plans are developed in conjunction with the parent/guardian of referred students that include instructional strategies for teachers, monitoring the progress, and determining if the instructional interventions are successful.

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Intensive Instructional Support (IIS):

Catholic schools of the Diocese of Harrisburg do not offer exceptional programs for special education students. Holy Name of Jesus School offers Intensive Instructional Support. Students who have been recommended by the Student Support Team (SST) as in need of intensive intervention and specially designed instruction qualify for this type of service.