

# OLF Elective Offerings for Junior High 2025-2026

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# **OLF Elective Classes**

- Every student in grades 6-8 is given one elective class option per year in addition to PE. Elective classes are held on a yearly time period.
- All 6th grade students and all 8th grade students will attend PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- 7th grade Band/Chorus students will attend PE with the 8th grade students on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- All other 7th grade students will attend PE on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- If the need arises, a lottery will be held for student placement in the elective classes.
- When selecting 3 class choices, please be sure to choose the 3 classes that your student is interested in taking. Due to limited class sizes, not all students will receive their 1st or 2nd choice.

Elective	Grade Offered	Days
Art I	6	M, W, F
Band- Level 2	6	M, W, F
Chorus	6	M, W, F
Fitness for Life	6	M, W, F
French- Part I	6	M, W, F
Reading Workshop	6	M, W, F
From Creation to Christ	6	M, W, F
Art II	7	T, Th
Band- Level 3	7	M, W, F
Chorus	7	M, W, F
Disciples for Christ	7	T, Th
French- Part II	7	T, Th
Scripture Squad/Truth Trackers	7	T, Th
Technology	7	T, Th
Art III	8	M, W, F
Band- Level 3	8	M, W, F
Homemaker Studio	8	M, W, F
Broadcasting	8	M, W, F
Chorus	8	M, W, F
Disciples for Christ	8	M, W, F
Scripture Squad/Truth Trackers	8	M, W, F

# **Class Descriptions**

#### Art I- Design and Photography - 6th grade

Art I will offer 6th-grade students an opportunity for self-expression while gaining relevant artistic skills through design thinking. 6th-grade art will be an opportunity to dive deeper into principles of design and how to make what is on your paper look good compositionally. Using photography, 2D, and 3D design, you will learn how to make your artwork appealing to the viewer's eye through pattern, balance, contrast, unity, and more while exploring multiple art mediums. While learning all of this, multiple projects will be created throughout the year that you can take home and display for years to come.

#### Art II- Drawing - 7th grade

Art II will offer 7th graders a deeper dive into the art of drawing. Students will focus on learning how to draw what they see by focusing on objects and transferring it to paper. 7th graders will also dive deeper into using drawing mediums such as colored pencils, oil pastels, chalk pastels, pencils, and more. Gain confidence in your drawing abilities while exploring art throughout history. While learning all of this, multiple projects will be created throughout the year that you can take home and display for years to come.

#### Art III - 8th grade

Art III will offer 8th grade students an opportunity for self-expression, while gaining relevant skills for the 21st century learner. This in-depth experience will provide students a necessary means to foster and develop art making skills, while practicing various art techniques. Printmaking, painting, drawing, sculpting, and mixed media are among the areas of concentration that will be investigated over the course of the school year. Additionally, students will explore the world of art through the avenue of history, aesthetics, and art criticism.

## Band Level 2 - 6th grade

This is a skills-oriented class. Emphasis is placed upon the continued development of those fundamentals introduced in the beginning band, such as: tone production, technical proficiency, and rhythmic skills. Prerequisite: One year of beginning band or by special permission from the teacher. No after-school rehearsals are required, but there are two mandatory evening performances: Christmas and Spring Concerts. Additional performance opportunities may include the school pep rally and the Fatima-Cathedral football game.

#### Band Level 3 - 7th & 8th grade

This is a performance-oriented class. Emphasis is placed upon ensemble playing skills and sight-reading. Students are encouraged to switch to secondary instruments to achieve proper instrumentation in the ensemble. Prerequisite: two previous years of band or by special permission from the teacher. No after-school rehearsals are required, but there are two mandatory evening performances: Christmas and Spring Concerts. Additional performance opportunities may include the school pep rally and the Fatima-Cathedral football game.

#### Broadcasting - 8th grade

This course will be a combination of developing students' skills and an introduction to broadcast journalism. Basic principles will include writing captions and headlines, digital photography, creating scripts for news stories and creating live broadcasts. Students enrolled in this class will be responsible for weekly newscasts that will be shown on the Fatima Channel. Students will need a basic understanding of Garage Band, iMovie, Green Screen production, as well as be required to do some work outside the time of class.

#### Chorus - 6th, 7th, and 8th grade

Our Lady of Fatima Chorus is a vocal music class in grades 5-8. Students may enter the program at any grade level, and no prior experience is necessary. Emphasis is placed on vocal and performance techniques, as well as basic music theory. No after school rehearsals are required, but there are 2 mandatory evening performances (Christmas concert in December and Spring concert in May). Other performances throughout the year include Solo and Ensemble Festival, Children's Choir (optional), and singing at weekly school masses and liturgies. There is a \$30 class fee, which includes music/supplies, Solo and Ensemble Festival fees, chorus spirit shirt, and a spring concert shirt.

#### **Disciples for Christ - 7th and 8th**

Rooted in the Corporal Works of Mercy, students will be given the opportunity to respond to their baptismal call of service allowing them to be witnesses to Jesus' Gospel message and enabling them to embody virtues through daily discipleship. This class provides leadership formation, which prepares the student to effectively lead others in the tradition of Jesus Christ. Students are encouraged to develop and use personal skills, talents and knowledge. Leadership is demonstrated through liturgies, prayer services, retreat experiences, service activities and example. Through spiritual reflection and guidance, Disciples for Christ can unite the entire school into what all of us are called to be, the Body of Christ.

#### Fitness for Life - 6th grade

This course will provide a foundation for students to be physically active and fit throughout their whole lives. In Fitness for Life, students will follow the recommendations of the Physical Activity Pyramid to perform the correct amounts and kinds of activities. They will also learn skills like how to assess their own fitness levels and develop plans for improvement using short- and long-term goals. They will develop skills to help them build self-esteem, communicate effectively, deal with peer pressure and handle other social concerns and they will understand how their bodies work so they can move more effectively and efficiently. In all, Fitness for Life will not only set the stage for high school by exposing middle-schoolers to a variety of develop mentally appropriate and fun physical activities, but it will also help prepare them for a lifetime of health and fitness.

#### French- Part I - 6th grade

This will be an introductory course offered to 6th graders this school year. Learning conversational French and the basics of the language will be the focus of this elective all while having fun and exploring French and Cajun culture. Taking two consecutive years of French as an elective in junior high at OLF will allow students to earn a high school credit for French I at St.Thomas More. There will be a fee of \$25 for this elective course.

#### French- Part II - 7th grade

This course will build upon French (Part 1), so students must have taken the previous course in order to sign up for Part 2. We will continue learning the basics of the language and will incorporate more conversation skills. This will be the final year to earn a high school credit for French I at St.Thomas More. There will be a fee of \$25 for this elective course.

# From Creation to Christ; The Road to Redemption - 6th grade

Get ready for an exciting journey through the Bible! This Scripture class is designed for students to explore the remarkable story of God's love and redemption. Together, we'll take a chronological walk through the Bible, starting with creation and leading up to the teachings and miracles of Jesus. Each session will bring Scripture to life through hands-on activities like skits, creative projects, and songs. This class focuses on making the stories personal and relatable, helping students connect the lessons of the Bible to their everyday lives. Along the way, we'll dive into fascinating stories like Noah and the ark, David and Goliath, the birth of Christ, and the miracles of Jesus, discovering how they all fit together in God's plan and how God speaks to us today through them.

## Homemaker Studio - 8th grade

From the basics of cooking to making a budget, students will learn practical real life skills that will stick with them for a lifetime. Timeless skills such as writing a thank you note, sewing a button, and setting a table are just some of the skills students will walk away with by the end of the year. Guest speakers will also enhance the experience of this class by providing students with necessary basic information. This elective is the perfect choice for students who want hands-on experiences.

# Reading Workshop - 6th grade

The purpose of this course is to learn the organizational skills necessary for survival in the 21st century. Students will continue to build upon their reading foundation while receiving tips on how best to study and organize their time and work. Students will be encouraged and given time to work on the A.R. reading and testing and will engage in literary discussions that will facilitate a better understanding of the texts read in the reading classroom.

# Scripture Squad/Truth Trackers - 7th and 8th grade

This class is an exciting opportunity for students to dive deeper into God's Word, exploring its stories, characters, and themes. Together, we will uncover timeless lessons about faith, kindness, courage, and love that are still relevant in today's world. Classes are interactive and include engaging activities like skits, projects, and lively group discussions. Unlike a traditional academic course, this class takes a more personal approach, inviting students to explore how Scripture connects to their own lives and challenges. From exploring fascinating stories from the Old Testament to uncovering the deeper meaning behind Jesus' parables, this class will inspire students to see the Bible come to life in new and meaningful ways. Don't miss out on this upbeat and joyful experience - join us as we learn, laugh, and connect through Scripture!

## Technology - 7th grade

In this elective, students will learn programming in Python and programming an Arduino. Python is a widely used high-level programming language for general-purpose programming. Students will use science, technology, engineering and math skills to design and program Lego Mindstorm robotics equipment. The objective of this course is to introduce the students to basic programming as well as problem solving strategies. This course will involve students in the development, building and programming of an autonomous robot. Students will work hands-on in teams to design, build, program and document their progress. This class has a \$50 fee which will be used to purchase supplies.