

Special points of interest:

- What to Expect
- Grading Scale

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ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN MIDDLE SCHOOL ORIENTATION

6th, 7th, and 8th Literature

Curricular Overview

ST. MICHAEL’S LANGUAGE ARTS PHILOSOPHY: Communication skills are necessary in all aspects of life. These skills include both the verbal and written word. Reading, writing, speaking, and listening are the four crucial elements that constitute communication – the process of conveying and receiving information.

LITERATURE: At Saint Michael Lutheran School, we believe that students need to learn the skills to read and then employ those skills as a tool for learning and for enjoyment. Students will use these skills in all curricular areas and to become lifelong readers and students of God’s Word.

The sixth grade program begins to broaden each student’s reading skills with the exploration of different genres, the practice of organizing information, the retelling of stories (in written and oral form), and the study of literary terms. There is an emphasis on the elements of a story and an in-depth look at fictional pieces. As a result students will form an interest in literature.

The seventh grade program continues to reinforce reading skills and the development of vocabulary. Along with the exploration of genres, students will thoroughly investigate the elements of poetry and drama.

The eighth grade program has an emphasis on non fiction work, especially pieces relating to American history. Students will continue to read quality literature and enhance their vocabulary. It is the hope that students will develop a love a reading and will continue to be lifelong learners.

Course materials:



8TH LITERATURE

- *Wordly Wise 3000: Book 5* by Educators Publishing Service, 2001. ISBN 0-8388-2435-8
- *Elements of Literature: Second Course* by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2000. ISBN 0-03-052059-2

7TH LITERATURE

- *Wordly Wise 3000: Book 4* by Educators Publishing Service, 2001. ISBN 0-8388-2434-X
- *Elements of Literature: First Course* by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2000. ISBN 0-03-052058-4

6TH LITERATURE

- *Wordly Wise 3000: Book 3* by Educators Publishing Service, 2001. ISBN 0-8388-2433-1
- *Elements of Literature: Introductory Course* by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2000. ISBN 0-03-052057-6

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Getting To Know You: Diane M. Kratt

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 Ext. 262

When I'm at school, I'm ... trying to make sure the needs of all students are met--physically, emotionally, academically, and spiritually

What I like most about teaching is: forming relationships

My most memorable teaching experiences are: continued communication with former students

I decided to become a teacher : because I enjoy learning and being with children

Nobody knows that: Billy Dean (famous country singer) is a family friend

People would be surprised to see me: enjoying the roller coasters at Busch Gardens

My dream vacation would be: to sail the Virgin Islands all summer

When I have leisure time I like to: read, watch movies, go out to dinner, do yard work, be at the beach, do things with my family (like boating)

I was born and baptized in: Fort Myers, FL

My college degree is: A B.S. in Elementary Education from USF and a Master's Degree in School Age Child Development from Concordia University. I have a Florida teaching certificate with endorsements in ESOL and Gifted education.

Members of my family are:

- My husband, Jim Kratt
- My son, Ethan Martinez
- My two step sons, Ryan and Daniel Kratt
- Many extended family members (most of whom live locally)

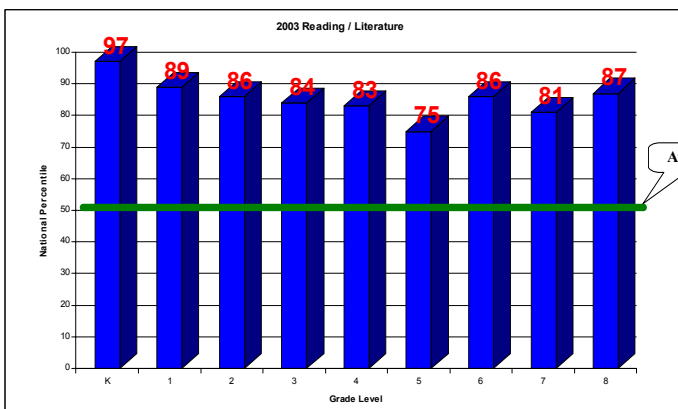
What to Expect:

Reading makes a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man.

Sir Francis Bacon
 (1561 - 1626)

Students can expect to read various class novels, read from the text book, and read independently throughout the school year. We will continue to use the AR program to keep track of the independent reading and earn school rewards. There will also be writing assignments, as well as journal writing, in response to the literature we are reading. In order to gain exposure to as many classics as possible, audio visual materials will be utilized. New vocabulary will be learned with the help of our Wordly Wise workbooks and any material being read.

SAT's :



Grading Scale:

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>GPA</u>
	A+	100+	4.33
	A	96-99	4.0
	A-	94 - 95	3.67
	B+	92-93	3.33
	B	87 - 91	3.0
	B-	85 - 86	2.67
	C+	83 - 84	2.33
	C	77 - 82	2.0
	C-	75 - 76	1.67
	D+	73-74	1.33
	D	67 - 72	1.0
	D-	65 - 66	0.67
	F	0 - 64	0

<u>Literature Categories / Weight:</u>		
Assignments		35%
Tests and quizzes		50%
Independent reading		15%