



Academics and Enrichment

St. Simon School is open to students in grades K-8. We have two classes per grade with class size ranging from 27 to a maximum of 35 students per class. Our current student body is approximately 550 students. We offer before and after school care on site, as well as a wide range of enrichment opportunities.

The curriculum at St. Simon School provides a dynamic program intended to educate the whole child in a supportive environment. The administration and faculty utilize a differentiated approach to teaching which addresses the many and varied ways in which students learn. In addition to religious education, a strong emphasis is placed on language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. The curriculum also includes Spanish for all grades, art, music, technology, library skills, and physical education. All students are taught leadership and communication skills through a variety of strategies including group projects and oral presentations. Parents are encouraged to actively participate in their child's education and can monitor the student's progress using Power School, the on-line grading system.

Middle School

St. Simon's Middle School program offers students the opportunity to develop strong leadership skills and to become academically and socially responsible individuals. Students in grades 6-8 change classrooms each period and are taught by dedicated subject area teachers. The Student Council, open to students in Grades 4-8, gives students the chance to serve as leaders in the school. Student Council members take an active role in decision making and event planning, representing their fellow students to the administration and faculty.

The importance of community outreach and social justice is a hallmark of St. Simon School and is particularly emphasized in our Middle School. Our 7th grade students serve on the school safety patrol. 8th Graders are required to complete 20 hours of community outreach and they mentor younger students through the First and Eighth Grade Partner Program. 8th Grade Students also prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, helping to develop their identity as adult Catholics.

The Middle School program also includes several activities which address the students' increased maturity, independence and desire for new experiences. Students in Grade 6 spend a week at Walden West Outdoor School, a sleep away science camp located in the Santa Cruz foothills. The Jr. High Youth Group organizes interschool dances with area Catholic schools, as well as other social activities. "The Edge" Youth Group brings students in 7th and 8th grade together to discuss their growing interest in religious and social issues, as well as to participate in social activities and community outreach projects.

Enrichment

A wide variety of enrichment programs are offered to our students before and after school. These include school wide community outreach, "The Edge" Youth Group, Altar Serving, Student Council, Academic Decathlon, Band, Choir, Chess Club, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Technology Class, and Art.

After School Sports Program

St. Simon School has an active after school sports program for Grades 4-8. Over 90% of the students participate in at least one sport per year. Unlike participation in local sports programs, St. Simon teams give students the opportunity to play with their friends on balanced teams that welcome players at all skill levels. Sports offered for girls include basketball, soccer, softball, track, volleyball, and cheerleading (for 8th graders). Sports offered for boys include baseball, basketball, flag football, soccer, and track.

Student Achievements

St. Simon School students are highly successful academically. In 2007, over 60% of St. Simon Middle School students qualified for the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth by achieving a score in the 90th percentile or higher on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. The 2007 Jr. High Decathlon Team competed with 17 Catholic schools in the San Jose Diocese placing second overall. The overwhelming majority of St. Simon School graduates are admitted to the high school of their choice where they continue to excel academically and serve as leaders in their high school community.