



Welcomes You to 8th Grade

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome you to Young Americans Christian School. We are excited that you have chosen YACS for your child's Christian education. Welcome to the YACS family!

Eighth grade is a year where more oral information is given. Auditory skills are taxed, and less prompting is given by the teacher. Tests get harder, and homework increases for the student. Students have more details to manage, and less organization is imposed. Study skills are a must in 8th grade.

Eighth grade classes include Algebra I or Intro to Algebra, Grammar/Writing, Literature/Vocabulary, Bible, Physical Science, Georgia History, and electives.

Algebra I and Intro to Algebra are designed to introduce students to basic algebraic concepts, problem-solving strategies, and real world applications. Students will explore these concepts through a multistep approach, including guided instruction, modeling of appropriate problem-solving strategies, and opportunities to apply newly acquired skills. The course demonstrates the order of God's creation.

In Literature students will study concepts of critical reading and be introduced to a variety of literary devices. Students will also explore different genres and literary styles within the works such as the following: *Black Horses for the King*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Malchus*, *Treasure Island*, *Anne Frank*, *Turnabout*, and *Stingers*. Students will improve vocabulary and critical thinking skills which will prepare them for standardized testing.

In Grammar, students will write creatively and critically, incorporating grammatical mechanics into their various papers, such as persuasive, argumentative, informative, and comparison/contrast essays, as well as research papers. This course is designed to provide students with a basis for a clear understanding of basic English grammar and to increase proficiency in the use of English. It emphasizes that language is a gift of God and reflects the order of His nature.

In Physical Science, students will explore chemistry and physics, including the topics of matter, types of substances, interactions of matter, matter in motion, energy at work, electricity, and magnetism. Students will participate in many experiments and have opportunities for hands-on learning.

In 8th grade Bible, students will complete *Survival Quest*, in which each chapter presents an in-depth Scriptural study of the life of an Old or New Testament character. Using both positive and negative examples, students learn from the context of the individual's life how to face both the challenges of everyday living and the challenges of overwhelming experiences. Most weeks students will be memorizing a Bible verse.

In History, students will focus on an in-depth study of the state of Georgia and the state's role in American History. Students will explore how the state has impacted and been impacted by the world since its discovery. Students will participate in a GA Studies trip to Andersonville, Savannah, and Jekyll Island during the week of March 18-22, 2024. Approximate cost: \$500-550 per chaperone or student. Please be looking for more information to be sent out at a later date.

Students will take the elective courses STEM/PE or Band. STEM is designed to help students interpret and apply the engineering design process. Students will be given many opportunities to build and design projects and then modify them to meet differing goals. Students will learn that nothing is finished and that all products can be modified to design something better or more useful as needs, materials, and times change. For STEM students, PE will be offered 2 to 3 days per week.

Band allows students to learn how to express their creativity using God's gift of music. Students will learn the music fundamentals of rhythm, harmony melody, form, timbre and pitch. In addition they will learn correct performance practice, discipline in rehearsal and preparation, team building, and an appreciation for musicianship.

Young Americans looks forward to working hand in hand with you to cultivate your student to be academically successful and grow to be a light in the world for Christ.

Sincerely,

Terry Shelnett

Middle and High School Principal

Supply List for 8th Grade

You may choose to get a three-ring binder for each class or one large three-ring trapper keeper with folders for all classes. A homework folder will be provided for all middle school students. Organization is key! All students will need access to a computer, the Internet, and a printer away from school. Sixth through twelfth grade students are required to bring their own personal laptop or chromebook. The school is not responsible for any lost or damaged electronic devices. Students are required to have access to a printer outside of school. Students are not permitted to print assignments at school. One warning will be provided. Further violations will result in a 10 point deduction for any assignment printed at school.

- Chromebook or laptop (access to printer outside of school)
- 3 Ring Binder (2 in) w/ dividers - **Algebra I and Intro to Algebra**
- Ruler - **Math**
- TI 83 or 84 calculator - **Algebra I**
- TI30XIIS calculator (please get this exact model calculator) - **Intro to Algebra**
- 3 ring binder - **Grammar**
- Composition notebooks (no spiral) - **Bible, Science (2), and History**
- Notebook paper (college ruled) AND graphing paper (20-25 sheets)
- Choice of colored pen for grading and editing (not black or yellow)
- 2 highlighters (different colors)
- Pencils AND Black and blue pens
- Jumbo book covers - **Science, History, and Algebra I (Introduction to Algebra does not need a book cover)**
- Post-It Notes - **Literature**
- One bag individually wrapped candy (No chocolate or gum please) - **Science**
- NIV Bible
- One bottle of hand sanitizer and one box of tissue - **Homeroom**
- PE attire - tennis shoes, athletic shorts (No zipper, button or snap, and should be finger-tip length), YACS or solid colored T-shirt (no design on it, YACS emblem allowed), leggings, sliders, and yoga pants may be worn **only under** athletic shorts.