



St. Odilia School Middle School Handbook

St. Odilia School's Mission Statement

It is the Mission of Saint Odilia Catholic School to educate the whole child: spiritually, academically, emotionally, socially, and physically.

Each child will develop a clear Catholic identity, an understanding of the Gospel's call to service, and an appreciation for the larger community. Our faculty, staff, and curriculum promote a love of learning and a respect for self and others.

The middle school years are of great importance in the formation of young people. Students formulate the attitudes and habits they will carry into their high school years during this time. Middle school is a bridge linking the elementary school to the high school years. The philosophy of the middle school is to help students realize their potential academically and understand their place in the community of Christian persons. An emphasis on accepting personal responsibility, personal growth and independence is central in this philosophy. These are vital to the student's overall development.

This handbook is meant to provide a general overview of our middle school experience and expectations. Specific and detailed policies upon which the procedures in the handbook are based can be found on the St. Odilia School website.

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SCHOOL ROUTINES

Arrival:

Students should arrive between 9:05-9:20 AM. Students are not to arrive before 9:05 AM unless attending an extracurricular activity or morning study hall. Students are to be in their homeroom at the 9:20 bell and any student arriving after 9:20 must get a pass in the office. The morning arrival time is an important time for middle school students to practice their independence in preparation for the day. Teachers are also busy during this time connecting with students. As such, middle school parents should not accompany their child to the middle school hallway unless prearranged with a teacher.

Before-school Study Hall:

St. Odilia offers a before-school study hall for middle school students on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. This opportunity is offered for students looking for a quiet time to work alone or collaboratively. Students will be expected to use the time for school work only. It is not intended as a place to go for students who arrive before the 9:05 bell. Therefore, students who plan on attending before-school study hall must arrive no earlier than 8:10 and no later than 8:30 am. They should check-in with security and proceed directly to the designated study hall room. Students arriving after 8:30 will be sent Knight Watch and parents will be billed accordingly.

Attendance:

Students are to be in attendance during all school days (including field trip and activity days) unless ill or otherwise arranged by parents. It's important to remember that a missed school day is a lost opportunity for students to learn. Students' daily attendance is vital to their academic success. Missing two days per month throughout the school year is equivalent to missing 10% of the school year- which research has shown has a negative effect on academic performance.

Absence:

If a child is absent, the parent should contact the school to report the absence before 9:00 am. Students are responsible to get and complete assignments that they miss. In general, students are given the number of days they were absent to complete the work that was assigned. For example, if a student is sick for two days, the student will have two days after he/she has returned to school to complete the work that was assigned when he/she was sick.

Prearranged Absence:

Parents who feel that a family activity is important enough to require the absence of their child from school should advise the office and the homeroom teacher. Make-up work for credit must be made up in accordance with each teacher's procedures. Students are responsible to get and complete assignments that they miss. Teachers are not responsible for providing lessons or homework prior to absence.

Alternate Dismissal:

Anytime a student's usual transportation method is changed the student must have a permission note from their parent/guardian. The note must indicate the bus and/or the person by which the child will be transported. This note will be given to the student's teacher upon arrival at school. Participants of after school athletics will be dismissed when "teams" are called during the dismissal procedure. A team may

be dismissed before that time only when approved by the athletic director or school administration, teachers will be informed of this by the daily attendance report.

Middle School Grade Scale:

**Grade scale adjusted for 2018-19 school year.*

In 2017-2018 school, teachers of grades 4-8 and the administration met to discuss the grade scale below that has been in place for many years.

Previous Year's Grade Scale:

- A 94%-100%
- A- 93%
- B+ 92%
- B 86%-91%
- B- 85%
- C+ 84%
- C 78%-83%
- C- 77%
- D+ 76%
- D 70%-75%

The teachers and administrators were unclear as to the make-up or rationale of the scale in particular on the mid to lower end of the scale with a 75% being a D. We have high expectations for our students and what to challenge them, but we did not think the scale above provide these goals in a fair way.

A new scale was created to provide a challenging "A" range while extending the "B" and "C" range to also be challenging, yet fairer. These adjustments were then brought to the School Council for review.

New Scale Starting in 2018-2019

- A 95%-100%
- A- 93% -94%
- B+ 91%-92%
- B 85%-90%
- B- 83%-84%
- C+ 81%-82%
- C 75%-80%
- C- 73%-74%
- D+ 71%-72%
- D 65%-70%
- D- 63%-64%

General Routine:

Students in middle school begin their day in homeroom. This 10 minute period allows the homeroom teacher to provide relevant information to students prior to beginning their school day. At 9:30, the first class for the day begins with students typically staying their homeroom for the first period. Students rotate to different teachers/rooms for each of their classes throughout the day. Students have passing time of 2 minutes with a locker break of 3 minutes between 2nd-3rd period and 6th-7th period.

Bell Schedule:

9:20-9:30	Homeroom	12:21-12:54	Lunch/Recess
9:30-10:11	1 st Period	12:59-1:40	5 th Period
10:13-10:54	2 nd Period	1:42-2:23	6 th Period
10:57-11:38	3 rd Period	2:26-3:07	7 th Period
11:40-12:21	4 th Period	3:09-3:50	8 th Period

Gym/Health:

Gym is held three days per week. The other two days, students attend health class. Middle school students receive a letter grade for gym that is primarily based on being prepared and participating. Students are expected to bring their gym uniform, including appropriate shoes, each day they have gym. Gym uniforms can be purchased by contacting Mr. Piersak via email (piersak@stodilia.org).

Lockers:

Each middle school student receives a locker for the school year. Students are expected to use their locker to securely store their personal items, books, and other education materials. Therefore it is important that students keep their locker combination private and do not alter their locker in any way to make it open without their combination. Lockers are school property and can be searched at any time by school staff. Locker dimensions inside the door frame are 11 15/16" wide x 13 7/8" deep. The opening at the frame is 9 1/2" wide.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS

General Middle School Expectations:

Middle school students are the leaders of the school. As role models for the younger students, there are high expectations for behavior. Some general expectations are listed below.

1. Speak and act respectfully to EVERYONE.
2. Follow directions the first time they are given.
3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
4. Be on time, seated, and prepared for homeroom and classes.
5. Use property with respect: Lockers, displays, books etc.
6. Keep halls and classrooms clean. Pick up after yourself- and others!
7. Walk quietly at all times.
8. No gum on campus at any time.
9. No water bottles allowed in classrooms.
10. Do NOT leave school grounds during school or while staying for extracurricular activities.

Middle School Eligibility for Activities:

Students must maintain a C- average or better in *each class*. If a C- average in each class is not achieved, the student will be suspended from all extracurricular activities for one week. A student not maintaining a C- average in a specific class may keep their eligibility if, in the assessment of the teacher, they are putting forth their utmost effort. The suspension is from Wednesday to Tuesday. Suspension time will be used to improve the student's average in the subject area(s) of concern. The student is responsible to bring home notification of ineligibility and return it signed by a parent. The notification is to be returned to the teacher who issued it. After one week, if the grade has been raised to a C-, missing or poor work has been completed, and/or in the assessment of the teacher, the student has made significant effort towards improvement, the student will be reinstated in all extracurricular activities. Extra-curricular activities include but are not limited to: Athletic teams, ski trips, Math Masters, MATHCOUNTS, field trips, robotics, student council, yearbook, and all other school sponsored curricular/extracurricular activities.

A student may become ineligible due to discipline issues as well. The eligibility rule also applies to students who have received multiple detentions due to discipline problems. See discipline consequences pages of this handbook.

In order for a student to participate in an after school extracurricular activity the student must attend, at a minimum, half of the school day on which the activity will take place, and in the case of an illness, must attend the last half of the school day. Exception is made for a student attending a funeral.

Cafeteria Expectations:

Students should go to the lunchroom promptly after the bell for lunch rings. Students are expected to stay in the lunchroom while eating and remain in the lunchroom until at least 12:30 or when the recess supervisor is ready. All food and drink must be consumed in the lunchroom. No food or drink should be brought to recess. After eating, students are required to go outside for recess (weather permitting). Students will not be allowed to sit in the lunchroom for recess and must leave by 12:40 so staff can prepare for the next lunch period. If a student needs extra time to finish eating they may ask the lunch supervisor. If approved for extra time, a student may be asked to finish their lunch at a different table or location depending on needs.

Students should keep their table and floor area clean. When assigned as a table helper, it is expected that the job be done well and cheerfully.

Recess and Playground Expectations:

All middle students are expected to go out to recess in a timely manner after eating lunch and may not return to the middle school wing without a pass from a teacher. Middle school students are also expected to bring and wear the appropriate clothing for outdoor recess every day. Expectations on the playground include but are not limited to:

- Turf Hill: No pushing, grabbing or pulling people down the hill. No king of the mountain/hill.
- Playground Balls: Can be used anywhere in the appointed parking lot areas or soccer field. Also, balls are permitted on the basketball court portion of the playground only. No balls allowed on the playground equipment.
- Net Rope Mountain: 10 person maximum at a time. No jumping.

- Spinning Equipment: 2 person maximum on all three spinning devices. This does not count those on the ground spinning the 1 or 2 student(s) on the apparatus. No pulling/grabbing anyone on the spinning devices while in use.
- Slides: Slides are for going down, not going up.
- Monkey Bars: No sitting on top of the monkey bars.

Church and Assembly Expectations:

Walk to and from church quietly; silence upon entering church. Be reverent in your words and actions. Be courteous and show appropriate appreciation for performances.

Bus Behavior:

Middle school students are role models for the younger students who ride the bus. Middle school students should be leaders by always sitting while the bus is in motion, keeping their body and items out of the aisle, and speaking respectfully and at an appropriate level. Violation of rules or creating an unsafe environment on the bus will result in disciplinary action by the school which could include, but is not limited to, assigned seating and suspension/expulsion from the bus. Discipline is decided on a case-by-case basis by administration.

PIPs:

PIPs stand for Personal Improvement Plan—the purpose for a PIP is to help students improve their behavior while stopping undesirable behaviors that negatively affect the learning environment in a classroom. Students who have received 3 PIPs in one semester will receive detentions instead of PIPs thereafter. Depending on the severity of a behavior, a detention may be issued instead of a PIP.

Although PIPs are serious, they should be seen as a way to grow. When a student earns a PIP, it does not mean that the student is a bad person, nor does it mean that a teacher dislikes the student. A PIP is a way for a student to reflect on his or her poor behavior choice so he or she can improve his or her behavior in the future while recognizing how behavior affects how others learn in class.

Behaviors that earn PIPs (not an exhaustive list)—

- Repeatedly talking/ blurting out of turn (interrupting in any way) while a teacher is instructing/ not keeping hands/feet to oneself
- Repeatedly talking to another student during a teacher's instruction after being told to stop
- Yelling, running, or other disruptive behaviors in the hallway during or between classes— especially on the way to gym, church or lunch
- Arguing, being defiant/oppositional, or talking-back in a disrespectful manner when a teacher provides a direction or instruction—this includes arguing over a grade and negative/ rude/ oppositional language toward a teacher
- Disrespectful behavior toward another student—put-downs, rudeness, hurtful actions and unkind language that does not reflect St. Odilia's Catholic school values
- Choosing to not follow instructions as assigned
- Whispering, giggling or other irreverent actions during Mass
- Sneaking out of the classroom during bus dismissal before your bus or walker group is called
- Leaving a classroom or assigned area without a teacher's permission
- Using the iPad for non-academic pursuits, especially during instruction—playing games, scribbling/doodling, watching videos, listening to music
- Excessive roughness or carelessness with school or personal property

- Not respecting others' property

Detentions:

For students whose actions are beyond minor disruptions, consistently disruptive, or violate appropriate conduct, an after-school detention will be issued. The detention will be a 45 minute period and will be served on the next school day after being issued. Detentions will be issued to students whose behavior shows blatant disrespect, mutilation of property, fighting, blatant refusal to cooperate, behavior to be considered seriously disruptive, not returning a PIP when issued, having gum and other inappropriate behaviors.

After-school detentions must be served on the date designated, as the consequence of the student's actions should follow within close proximity of the act. Extra-curricular activities are not an acceptable excuse to reschedule the detention. A second detention will be issued if a detention time is missed. Should a student's behavior consistently violate appropriate conduct he/she may forfeit his/her privilege to participate in school sponsored activities and administration may provide additional consequences in accordance with our discipline policy.

Uniform Code:

The Catholic School uniform shows dignity for the process of education and is a visual sign of our school unity. It shows respect for authority and order as well as the idea of basic equality in the eyes of God. St. Odilia students wear their uniform in a manner which reflects pride in themselves and in their school. See the Parent/Student Handbook or policy for the complete [Uniform Code](#). Students who are in violation of the uniform code will receive a uniform infraction.

General Guidelines for Appearance:

- All students must have shirts tucked in at all times. (student will receive a PIP)
- Shoes and socks must be worn at all times.
- Socks must be solid black, navy or white.
- Heel height must be no more than 1 1/2 inches. No open-heel shoes are to be worn.
- Hats are not to be worn inside the building.
- Hair, makeup, and jewelry must be appropriate for school and not create a distraction.
- Hair cannot be colored to an unnatural color and accessories/extensions in the hair are not to be worn.
- No tattoos, stickers, or body glitter are to be worn.
- Students are not to write or draw marks on themselves or others.

Non-uniform Days:

On non-uniform days students are expected to dress appropriately. Students dress will adhere to the guidelines given prior to the non-uniform day and will dress with respect and modesty.

School Telephone Use:

Students are only given permission to use the office or classroom phones in cases of emergencies or if after school activities have been changed during the school day. A failure to follow through with responsibilities is not an emergency. Therefore, students do not have permission to use the phone for forgotten materials, books, assignments, or athletic equipment and not informing parents about after school activities.

Cell Phone Use:

Students are allowed to bring a cell phone to school but must adhere to the following guidelines. Cell phones may not be used during school hours (9:05 - 3:55) for any reason. Exceptions may be made for emergency contact if deemed appropriate by administration.

- Upon arrival to school students should turn their phone off and it should be stored in their locker for the entire school day.
- Upon afternoon dismissal, students should wait to have their cell phones out and turned on until they have entered their bus or, if being picked up, until they have entered the vestibule. Students should not walk down the hallways during dismissal with a cell phone in hand.

Students who do not adhere to the following guidelines will be subject to any of the following depending on the severity of the offense.

Cell phone confiscated for remainder of day. Must be retrieved from principal or assistant principal.
Cell phone confiscated for

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS

Assignments are meant to assist students in learning and then understanding the content. Each assignment has a specific reason and value to it. Considering the importance of assignments, we have implemented a policy/practice to teach students the importance of homework in their learning as well the importance of completing tasks on time.

MISSING ASSIGNMENT CONSEQUENCE SUMMARY

Step 1: First day assignment is late. Student loses 20% off final assignment grade.

Step 2: Second day assignment is late. Student must attend Power Lunch that day.

Step 3: Third day assignment is late. Student must attend Power Lunch that day. Student must also attend work detention that day after school.

MISSING ASSIGNMENT CONSEQUENCE DETAILS

Step 1:

Students who do not have an assignment completed when due or have forgotten it at home or in their locker will automatically lose an additional 20% off that assignment's final score. The student will be expected to hand-in the assignment by 9:30 am the next school day. The assignment should be given directly to the teacher for whom the assignment was due the previous day. *Teachers will designate this assignment as "Late" in PowerSchool the day it was due and not turned in. No email will be sent for assignments one day late.*

Step 2:

Students who fail to hand in a late assignment by 9:30 am the next day will be required to attend Power Lunch that day. Students will bring their lunch to the designated Power Lunch classroom and will be expected to work on the missing assignment through lunch and recess. If a student does not have the missed assignment or completes the assignment prior to the end of the lunch/recess time, they will be expected to work on other homework. Students who miss an assigned Power Lunch will receive a PIP.

Exceptions will be made for students who have arrived late that day as long as a reasonable effort was made to get the assignment to the teacher in a timely fashion.

The student will again be expected to hand-in the missing assignment by 9:30 am the next school day. The assignment should be given directly to the teacher for whom the assignment was due the previous day. *Teachers will email a parent by 1:00 pm when an assignment was not turned in for the second school day in a row.*

Step 3:

Students who do not hand-in the missing assignment by 9:30 on the second day after the assignment was due will be required to attend Power Lunch that day and will also be required to attend work detention **after school that day**. *Teachers will email a parent by 10:00 am when an assignment was not turned in for the third school day in a row.*

After dismissal that day, a student who received a work detention will go to the school office and check-in with Mr. Ragatz or Mr. Pajak. They will be provided a quiet workspace in which to continue to work towards completion of the missing assignment. ***Students who are assigned a work detention must attend the day the detention was issued.*** *The student must be picked up at 4:45 by parent or guardian. Students who are not picked up by 4:45 will be sent to Knight Watch (in the school cafeteria) and parents will be billed accordingly. Attendance is mandatory and exemptions for extenuating circumstances must be approved by administration.*

TECHNOLOGY

Cell Phone Use:

Students are allowed to bring a cell phone to school but must adhere to the following guidelines.

- Upon arrival to school students should turn their phone off and it should be stored securely in their locker for the entire school day. Silent mode is not considered off.
- Cell phones may not be used during school hours (9:05 - 3:55) for any reason. Exceptions may be made if deemed appropriate by administration.
- Cell phones may not be brought on field trips.
- Upon afternoon dismissal, students should wait to have their cell phones out and turned on until they have entered their bus or, if being picked up, until they have entered the vestibule.
- Students should not walk down the hallways during dismissal with a cell phone in hand.

A student who is in possession of a cell phone during the school day will have it confiscated until the end of the school day. Students may retrieve their phone at the end of the day. Other consequences may include a parent need to retrieve the phone from the office or a student needing to check his/her phone in and out of the office for an extended period of time.

iPad Use:

Middle school students have the privilege of using a school-issued iPad to enhance the education experience. In addition to the items below, a full list of expectations can be found in the St. Odilia Student/Parent Handbook and the school iPad policy.

- Students should only use the school-issued iPad in ways that are educational, appropriate, and meet St. Odilia expectations regardless of where it is used- school, home, or other places.
- Students should bring iPad to school charged to at least 75% capacity.

- Students should not use or handle any other student's iPad without consent.
- A damaged or missing iPad should be reported immediately to a teacher.
- Students are not allowed take pictures or video with the iPad camera unless it is for an educational purpose and been approved by a teacher or staff member.
- Students should never post pictures or video taken with iPad camera any public capacity without expressed consent from a staff member.
- The iPad is subject to inspection at any time by a staff member.
- Students in violation of any iPad policy may lose access to applications and/or the iPad itself depending on the severity of the consequence. Alternative assignments may be required if a student loses iPad privileges.

School Issued Google Account:

The free tools provided by Google are available to students at school and at home online through the stodiliaschool.org domain name. Some tools may be available offline. It does not matter whether a student is working on a Macintosh or a Windows based computer. These tools help students keep organized, prevent lost homework, and allow students to work individually or collaboratively on school assignments. When using Google Apps and Tools, students work in a safe environment because assignments and other types of communication can only be shared within the stodiliaschool.org domain. In order to participate in an assignment, a student must have an account at the docs.stodiliaschool.org website and the creator of a document must share it with the other students involved. Students should only share their Google password with their parents.

Google Apps for Education also includes a stodiliaschool.org e-mail account. This account can only be used to send and receive e-mails to other people having accounts within the stodiliaschool.org and stodilia.org domains. This eliminates the possibility of inappropriate e-mails being sent to students by outside businesses and spammers. The e-mail accounts are filtered for inappropriate language and monitored by school staff. Students are to use their school issued email account to send emails about school-related content only. Students should be aware that any account may be opened and inspected by St. Odilia system managers at any time.

PowerSchool:

St. Odilia utilizes a PowerSchool as an electronic grade book to store and grade assignments, quizzes, and tests. PowerSchool also houses our teacher webpages where class syllabi, homework and announcements are posted. Teachers post homework assignments daily and indicate in the gradebook if an assignment due that day is missing. Some teachers have taken advantage of the advanced tools this system offers to create dynamic pages to help enhance the student learning experience with files, links, and videos for students.

Middle school students and parents each have a unique log-in to be able to view grades, assignments, and any other content that teachers have created. Students are expected to use PowerSchool each day to keep track of assignments, their due dates, and grades. Students will learn how to log-in to their account in their homeroom at the beginning of the school year.

Parents may also use PowerSchool to help stay current on their children's progress. Parents are able to see much of the same information as students, which can be helpful in guiding them to become independent and responsible. Each family is assigned one parent username. The username is the primary email on file. A second parent may request access by contacting the assistant principal.

To access PowerSchool for the first time, or if you have forgotten your password, follow the steps below.

- Visit <https://classroom.powerschool.com> (bookmark this page!)
- Click on "Forgot Password?"
- Enter your PowerSchool ID and click "Send Request"
 - We've assigned your PowerSchool ID for you. It is the **primary email** that has been registered with the school.
- You should receive an email with a link to create your password within a few minutes. This email will go to the email that you entered as your PowerSchool ID.
 - If you do not receive an email with a link after 15 minutes please try the process again.
 - Likewise, if you click the link and it says it has expired, please try the process again.
- The email you receive will provide a way for you to create a password. Once you've successfully created your password, go back to <https://classroom.powerschool.com> and log-in using your email and the password you created.
- Contact the assistant principal if you are having problems logging in to your account.

For more information on PowerSchool, including how-to videos, visit the St. Odilia School website (stodiliaschool.org) and click on "Parent Resources" then "PowerSchool."

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Curriculum Overview:

MATH

- Emphasis on Algebraic concepts.
- All students complete a full year of Algebra I.
- All objectives, goals and concepts *meet and/or exceed* the national and state standards for each grade level.
- Standard and Accelerated classes offered in every grade. An Honors class is offered when class numbers and student achievement warrant such a class.
- An individual student may be moved up or down a section upon teacher recommendation and consultation with the parents.

<u>Standard and Accelerated Classes</u>	<u>Honors Class</u>
6 th grade: Math w/ Pre-algebra emphasis	6 th grade: Pre-algebra
7 th grade: Pre-algebra	7 th grade: Algebra I
8 th grade: Algebra I	8 th grade: Geometry

LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

- Separate Language Arts and Literature classes are offered in grades 6-8. These classes are designed to prepare students for high school by fostering a love for great literature and developing students into strong readers and writers.
- Literature classes – novel & discussion-based:
 - Accelerated class offered in 8th grade

- Study of genre
- Careful literary analysis
- Relate character situations and themes to one's own life
- Literary terminology
- Language classes – Grammar and Composition:
 - Accelerated class offered in 7th and 8th grade
 - Essays
 - 5 paragraph model
 - Public speaking and technology integration
 - Research using APA and MLA formats
 - 6+ Traits rubrics and assessments are used
- 8th Grade Semester Grammar Class:
 - “Grammar Boot Camp”- a K-8 grammar standards review

SCIENCE

- Physical Science – 6th Grade:
 - Lab safety, measurement, and scientific method
 - Atoms, elements, compounds
 - Mixtures/solutions, physical & chemical changes and properties
 - States of matter & phase changes of matter
 - Waves
 - Energy
- Life Science – 7th Grade:
 - Cells and Genetics
 - The Diversity of Life
 - Human Biology and Health
 - Environmental Science
 - Engineering Design Challenge with Totino-Grace
- Earth Science – 8th Grade:
 - Inside Earth
 - Earth's Changing Surface
 - Astronomy
 - Water and the Atmosphere

SOCIAL STUDIES

- 6th Grade – World Geography and Ancient Civilizations.
 - World Expo: Each student researches and presents a country
- 7th Grade – US History from American Revolution-Vietnam War.
- 8th Grade – World History from the Renaissance to modern day
 - History Day research project

RELIGION

- 6th Grade- Old Testament and Family Life.
- 7th Grade- Poverty Project, Person and Mission of Jesus Christ, & The Sacraments.
- 8th Grade- Preparation for Confirmation in May of 8th grade. Prayer and Our Relationship with God, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Stations of the Cross, and Morality.
- Second Step- Bullying prevention curriculum.

- Service projects throughout middle school.

SPANISH

- Avancemos Level I high school text.
- 8th grade students receive one full year of Spanish I.
- Curriculum development based on local high school consultations.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

- Physical education 3 days per week, Health 2 days per week
- Physical Education:
 - Team building and life-long activities
 - Physical fitness unit
 - Dodge Ball
 - Unique opportunities: Shuffleboard, Pickle Ball, & Cup Stacking
- Health:
 - Nutrition
 - Stress Management
 - CPR and First Aid Certification
 - Body Image and Disorders
 - Human anatomy
 - 8th grade Health Fair

Big Projects:

Students can expect several large projects during their middle school experience. Below are brief descriptions of several of the larger projects.

- 6th grade: World Expo. Students are assigned a country to research and report on in a culminating presentation to parents and students in the courtyard in late spring. Students begin research after Christmas break.
- 7th grade: Poverty project. Students research different aspects of the financial lifestyle that an impoverished person may live, such as cost of public transportation, food, daycare, etc. Students also learn about Catholic Social Justice Teachings and their application to their lives. Students begin this project at the beginning of the school year.
- 7th grade: Debate unit. Students are assigned a topic and side of a debate and engage in a final debate to exhibit the culmination of the research, public speaking, and persuasive skills students have practiced throughout the year. Students begin their final debate topic in the fourth quarter.
- 8th grade: Health Fair. Students are assigned a current health or safety topic to research and present their findings in skit form to the younger students in late April. Students begin research in February.

Athletics:

Team sports are a part of St. Odilia School as it is recognized that sports help students grow and develop physically, socially, emotionally, and cognitively. Within team sports, players have the opportunity to have fun, to build a positive self-image, to enjoy being a member of a team, to learn the skill of the game, and to play the game. We encourage students at St. Odilia to participate in our athletic programs even if they haven't or don't normally play a certain sport. The expectations of the players and coaches

are that the players learn the rules of the game and play the game, attend practices, and make a commitment to the team.

Registration for athletic teams is done on the St. Odilia website for each season. Sign-up links can be found under the 'School Life' tab then clicking on 'Athletics.' Contact information for the athletic director can also be found here.

Field Trips:

Middle school students can expect to take several field trips during each school year. Some of the consistent field trips are listed below.

- All middle school students attend an all-day retreat early in the fall. Retreats are separated by grade, but all focus on the value of authentic friendship, being a leader, and developing a close relationship with Christ. Retreats are off-site and led by contracted retreat leaders.
- All middle school students attend a ski trip in January. All middle school students are expected to attend as this is a field trip for physical education. All students are provided with ski lessons during the trip. Snowboards are not allowed during the first ski trip. Subsequent trips may allow snowboards if approved by the staff and the destination.
- 6th grade students visit the Temple of Aaron annually in the spring in conjunction with their study of the Old Testament.
- 7th grade students take a three-day overnight trip (usually Wednesday-Friday) to Long Lake Conservation Center. This trip coincides with the 7th grade science life science curriculum. This trip is a higher cost than most trips because of the length of the trip. Parents should plan to pay approximately \$125 for this trip and contact the principal if there are financial concerns.
- 8th grade students visit Base Camp in the fall. The trip focuses on teambuilding and community.
- The 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classes each participate in a fun end of the school year field trip.

Sweatshirt Points:

A Middle School Blue Sweatshirt is awarded to students who exhibit outstanding citizenship and involvement in the middle school. A student earns points by being an active volunteer, participant, and demonstrating responsibility and leadership. Once earned, the sweatshirt may be worn as part of the school uniform. See below for the blank sweatshirt point sheet that teachers keep for each student in their homeroom.

Sweatshirt Points Tracker Sheets:

Middle School Sweatshirt Points

Name _____
Homeroom _____
Grade _____ Year _____

Points Required for Sweatshirt: 20
New student point requirements:
8th grader: 5 points 7th grader: 9 points

FIRST QUARTER POINTS

- _____ Marathon
 - \$10+ (2)
 - \$100+ (1)
 - Attend (1)
- _____ Soccer (2)
- _____ Volleyball (2)
- _____ Cross Country (1)
- _____ Additional Fine Arts Elective (1)
- _____ *Volleyball Scoreboard (1; min. 3 games)
- _____ Student Council (1)
- _____ Cones/Gates/Flag Helper (1)
- _____ Office Help (1)
- _____ Bus Caller (1)
- _____ Parent Night Helper (1)
- _____ Conference meal helper (1)
- _____ Initiate service project (4; must get principal preapproval)
- _____ School mass server (1; min. 2 times)
- _____ Parish Volunteer- 2 activities min. (1; VBS, Fall Festival, Mass Server, Funeral slides)
- _____ PIP/Detention Free quarter (1)
- _____ Child of the Light nomination (1)
- _____ New Family Welcome night helper (1)
- _____ STREAM Night Helper (1)
- _____ Soccer Concession Stand Helper (1)

_____ **TOTAL- 1ST QUARTER**

SECOND QUARTER POINTS

- _____ Basketball (3)
- _____ Additional Fine Arts Elective (1)
- _____ Robotics (2)
- _____ Student Council (1)
- _____ Cones/Gates/Flag Helper (1)
- _____ Office Help (1)
- _____ Bus Caller (1)
- _____ Quiz Bowl (1)
- _____ Catholic Schools' Week Speaker (1)
- _____ Initiate service project (4; must get principal preapproval)
- _____ School mass server (1; min. 2 times)
- _____ Parish Volunteer- (1; Mass Server, Funeral slides, etc.)
- _____ PIP/Detention Free quarter (1)
- _____ Child of the Light nomination (1)
- _____ Volunteer for School Event (1)
- _____ Team Manager (must be pre-approved) (1)
- _____ Perfect Attendance- 1st Semester (2)

_____ **TOTAL- 2ND QUARTER**

Middle School Sweatshirt Points

THIRD QUARTER POINTS

- _____ Wrestling (2)
- _____ Swimming/Diving (2)
- _____ Hockey (1)
- _____ *Basketball Scoreboard (1; min. 3 games)
- _____ Additional Fine Arts Elective (1)
- _____ Student Council (1)
- _____ Yearbook (1)
- _____ Cones/Gates/Flag Helper (1)
- _____ Office Help (1)
- _____ Bus Caller (1)
- _____ Conference meal helper (1)
- _____ Initiate service project (4; must get principal preapproval)
- _____ School mass server (1; min. 2 times)
- _____ Parish Volunteer- (1; Mass Server, Funeral slides, etc.)
- _____ PIP/Detention Free quarter (1)
- _____ Child of the Light nomination (1)
- _____ Kindergarten Open House Helper (1)
- _____ Preschool Open House Helper (1)

_____ **TOTAL- 3rd QUARTER**

FOURTH QUARTER POINTS

- _____ Track (1)
- _____ Softball/Baseball (2)
- _____ Additional Fine Arts Elective (1)
- _____ Student Council (1)
- _____ Cones/Gates/Flag Helper (1)
- _____ Office Help (1)
- _____ Bus Caller (1)
- _____ Parent Appreciation/Graduation Helper (1)
- _____ Initiate service project (4; must get principal pre-approval)
- _____ School mass server (1; min. 2 times)
- _____ Parish Volunteer- (1; Mass Server, Funeral slides, etc.)
- _____ PIP/Detention Free quarter (1)
- _____ Child of the Light nomination (1)
- _____ PAA Babysitting (1)
- _____ Perfect Attendance- 2nd Semester (2)

_____ **TOTAL- 4TH QUARTER**

TOTAL POINTS EARNED:

6th: _____

6th + 7th: _____

Teacher Signature (Please verify points)