



# CORONADO MIDDLE SCHOOL

*“Tradition of Excellence”*

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## 6th Grade Electives Information

### Important Dates:

- **May 15:** Deadline for students to submit online electives form ([6th Grade Elective Choice Form](#))

### Frequently Asked Questions:

#### 1. What is a typical day as a 6th grader at Coronado Middle School?

On Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, school starts at 8:20am and ends at 3:05pm. On Wednesdays, school starts at 8:20am and ends at 1:41pm.

You will have the same seven class periods every day and you will have different teachers for different subjects. You will have Math, Science, Humanities (combination of English and History), lunch, PE and one elective class. Coronado Middle School has two lunches, but all 6th graders have lunch together.

You will regularly check your grades using PowerSchool. If you're not familiar with PowerSchool, don't worry! Your teachers and counselors will help you.

All students are enrolled in a class called T3 (or Triton Team Time). T3 is similar to an advisory or homeroom period. T3 is designed to strengthen Coronado Middle School's commitment to both academic achievement and character development. Students connect with each other and with teachers through team building and social-emotional wellness activities and lessons on the 8 Keys of Excellence. During T3, students can work on assignments and attend to academic responsibilities.

#### 2. What is PE like in middle school?

On Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, you will walk over to the high school for PE. That's where the middle school locker rooms are. Some days your class will have activities in the gym, or on the tennis courts, or the football field, or the pool, or on the middle school field. On Wednesdays, health lessons are taught in your classroom on campus.

#### 3. What electives are offered at CMS?

You will **have the option to select** one elective class. 6th grade elective options are choir, band, and the exploratory wheel. \*\*Yearbook

- **Choir** is a year-long class taught by Ms. Kullmann. Choir is offered to students in grades 6-8. No experience is needed. Choir will provide students with an opportunity to train their singing voices, learn to work together cooperatively as a team, sing popular music, improve performance skills, and participate in community for performances.
- **Beginning Band** is a year-long class taught by Mr. Heinecke. Beginning Band is offered to students in grades 6-8. There is no experience needed to join Beginning Band. The instrument families being taught are woodwind, brass, and percussion. Band will provide students the opportunity to learn note reading, rhythms, music theory, and proper care/handling of their instrument. They will also be able to perform in front of an audience with confidence and pride.
- **Advanced Band** is a year-long class also taught by Mr. Heinecke. Some sixth graders may be ready for Advanced Band. It is offered to students in grades 6-8. Students should have at least 1 year of lessons or experience playing their instrument. An audition is required. Mr. Heinecke will contact you about a date and time in May. Woodwind, brass, and percussion are the instruments of Advanced Band. The class is designed to utilize the musical skills the students have already achieved and to increase the students' knowledge of musical terms, composers, and musical theory. Advanced Band will provide students with an opportunity to perform in front of an audience with confidence and pride.
- **Exploratory Wheel** class consists of four courses - coding, digital media, art and performing arts. All students in the wheel will take each of the courses (one course per quarter) during the school year.
  - Art is taught by Ms. Walmsley. This class gives students the basic art vocabulary and knowledge. Students learn and practice the principles of art and elements of design using different materials like watercolor, color pencil, marker, paint, collage, and more.
  - Coding is taught by Ms. Loiselle. This course introduces computer science to students through an introduction to coding. Students learn by doing, working together to problem solve, and trial and error with coding programs that build from block code to line code. Students are given teacher support while using real programming languages. Students at every level of coding knowledge will have access to a variety of coding levels to practice.
  - Exploring Digital Media is taught by Ms. Evenson. Students learn about digital citizenship, technology, fact gathering and research as well as collaboration and creative thinking while producing digital media projects. Some possible projects include slide presentations, photography portfolios, podcasts, animation, and videos. Due to the equipment involved in this course, students and parents sign a contract agreeing to care for equipment responsibly.
  - Explore Performing Arts is taught by Ms. Kullmann. Students will learn the basic parts of the stage, how to develop a character, blocking, scriptwriting, improvisation and performance. Students also participate in the G.R.E.A.T. program taught by Coronado School Resource Officers.
- **\*\*Yearbook** is taught by Mrs. Evenson, and it's one of the five year-long application elective classes at CMS. Application elective classes are primarily for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders; however, Yearbook is accepting four sixth grade students for the 20-21 school year. The "Surfer Staff" produces an award-winning yearbook that captures the stories of the year. The Surfer Yearbook is one of the most decorated yearbooks in the nation, winning multiple awards and recognitions every year. Students are expected to cover news stories on and off campus during and sometimes after the school day. **Students must be**

**able to:** take initiative, be comfortable working with a team, care for photography equipment, be a self-starter and have strong writing skills. Students learn layout design, color theory, font choice, photography, Photoshop, journalism copywriting techniques, and alternative coverage applications. Four incoming 6th graders will be selected for the Yearbook class team. If you'd like to apply, You will need to complete an application and get a teacher recommendation if you would like to take yearbook. Both forms can be found linked here: [yearbook application](#) and [teacher recommendation](#).