



Enrichment Course Catalog

5th & 6th Grades

Course: 5k Training

Sessions: 1st Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Ms. Ellmann

Come join a supportive group of novice and experienced runners as we tackle the challenge of training for a 5k fun run.

Course: Advanced Basketball Skills and Drills

Sessions: 1st Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mr. Fox, Mr. Schaefer, and Mrs. Yanes

The drills that will be taught in this course are for the intermediate to advanced basketball player with at least two years experience at a competitive level. The drills will focus on basketball conditioning, advanced skill development and strategic game play.

Course: A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

Teacher: Ms. Sweeney

Pictures play an important role in our world today. We use photographs to preserve memories, document events, and create artistic works. This enrichment course introduces students to the basics of photography. Students will learn what it takes to create a good photograph and how to improve photographs of animals, people, and vacations. Through a variety of assigned projects, students will engage their creativity by photographing a range of subjects and learning to see the world through the lens of their cameras.

Course: Art/Nature and Photography

Sessions: 1st Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mrs. Panico and Mrs. Tufaro

We will explore the natural world as we create art with leaves, sticks, stone, water and other natural elements. We will use photography methods, color, form, shape and light in our designs. We will be exploring and learning about the work of photographers Andy Goldsworthy and Ansel Adams We will photograph our art work, write brief descriptions through prose and poetry, or find meaningful quotes to describe our work. Finally we will produce a photo book to be donated to the school library. Students will be given the option to purchase their own printed version of the book.

Course: Battle of the Books

Sessions: 4th Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Ms. Ellmann

In Battle of the Books, students form teams of 4-6 members, and together are responsible for reading 15 books selected by a panel of judges. In June, the teams battle to see who can remember the most about the books.

Course: Board Game Mania

Teacher: Mrs. Jones

Do you like to play games? Do you like to have fun with new friends? Join Board Game Mania for a chance to play some classic board games.

Course: Brainteasers
Teacher: Mrs. Santhouse

Give your brain a workout! Like a healthy body, a healthy brain works better, longer, keeping memory accurate and thought processes clear. Research shows our brains do better in the long term if they are exposed to novel activities including brain teasers, brain games, logic puzzles, rhymes and riddles.

Course: Broadway: Stage and Screen
Sessions: 2nd Marking Period ONLY
Teacher: Mrs. Cifelli

Students will learn about and watch various Broadway shows, in both movie form and filmed live performances. We will learn about the composer (and his/her impact on both musical theatre and society), when the show was written (and how time period directly affected the show), and why the show is historically important and still relevant today.

Course: Cake Decorating
Sessions: 3rd & 4th Marking Periods ONLY
Teacher: Mrs. Cifelli

Students will learn how to decorate cupcakes using piping bags and a variety of piping tips. We practice decorating styrofoam cupcakes and parents volunteer to bake cupcakes once per week for us to demonstrate our skills (and then enjoy!)

Course: Card Games
Teacher: Mrs. Powell

Do you like to play cards? In this class, you will learn different card games such as crazy eights, uno, slapjack, go fish, gin rummy, solitaire, concentration, and many more. You will also get the opportunity to teach the class your favorite card game. You can play cards by yourself, as in solitaire, or with your friends.

Course: Checkmate! Chess for beginners and beyond
Sessions: 1st & 2nd Marking Periods ONLY
Teacher: Mrs. Vicendese

"There are more adventures on a chessboard than on all the seas of the world"

Chess is a game that has fascinated people worldwide for 1,500 years! Research has shown that students who play chess regularly outperform their peers who do not do so. Playing chess enhances concentration, logical thought, planning, pattern recognition and self-discipline. Learning to play and appreciate chess will open up a whole new experience for you. Join this program to learn how to play chess or improve your chess game, and make new friends at the same time!

Course: Coloring for Tranquility
Teacher: Mrs. Jones

Need a break? Need to destress? Like to color? Coloring is a great way to relax. Join us in a stress-free environment of coloring intricate pictures while listening to calming music.

Course: Computer Games
Teacher: Mrs. Kowal and Mrs. Metcalfe

Do you enjoy playing games online? Do you like a friendly competition between friends? In this enrichment, we will feature an online game each week that you can practice and then compete for top scores against others in the class. Some online websites we plan to use are Kahoot and abcya.com.

Course: Creative Lettering
Teacher: Mrs. O'Connor

Do you love to doodle in your free time? Do you like to express yourself in creative ways? You don't have to consider yourself an artist to take this class, you just have to have an interest in colors, style & fun! Learn how to use a new type of creative & colorful handwriting that teaches you how to make and decorate letters of the alphabet. Lettering is JUST as expressive as words, but in the coolest way ever! You can use curly letters, goofy letters, chunky letters, funky letters, and even invent your own type of lettering just for fun! This class is everything you need to creatively letter your world and beyond!

Course: Curl Up and Read
Teacher: Mrs. Smith

Do you like to read? This class is just a time to relax and read a good book for enjoyment.

Course: Disney Princesses Through the Ages
Sessions: 1st & 2nd Marking Periods ONLY
Teacher: Mrs. Bradley-Natale

Do you enjoy watching the Disney princess movies? Did you ever think about how their representation is a reflection of society? In this class, we will focus on how the Disney princesses are portrayed from the 1930s through today. How is Snow White's portrayal different from Moana's? We will be considering Snow White, Cinderella, Ariel, Belle, Mulan, and Moana. Yes, we will be watching these movies!

Course: DuoLingo
Teacher: Mrs. Kowal and Mrs. Metcalfe

Are you interested in learning the language of your ancestors? Or are you a student that is just interested in learning another foreign language? Duolingo is an online way to learn a language. Students can select from Spanish, French, German, Italian, Russian, Portuguese, Dutch, Irish, Danish, Swedish, Polish, Greek, Norwegian, Hebrew, and others and immediately begin learning!

Course: Escape the Classroom
Teacher: Ms. Schaefer and Ms. Sweeney

Escape rooms have been popping up all over the country. That's where a group of people are willingly locked in a room and given an hour to "break out." They follow clues posted or hidden in the room and work together to beat the clock. Escape the Classroom is an enrichment class in which students solve a series of puzzles using clues, hints, and strategies to complete the objective at hand. Students are given a time limit to unveil the secret plot which is hidden within the room. This class will teach teamwork, problem solving, critical thinking, and troubleshooting by presenting students with challenges that ignite their natural drive to problem solve. If you like thinking outside the box this class is for you!

Course: Evolution of Cartoons
Teacher: Mrs. Santhouse

Some people may argue that we are who we are today because of the cartoons we watched as young children. The Evolution of Cartoons examines cartoons from black and white straight through to present day internet cartoons. We will research and study the impacts and changes of cartoons from the 1940's through today.

Course: From the Page to the Screen
Sessions: 2nd & 3rd Marking Periods ONLY
Teacher: Ms. Ellmann

Movie are a way for some of our favorite stories to come to life right before our eyes. Come join fellow readers and movie fans as we explore the film versions of classic and modern young adult novels. Some films we will explore are Roald Dahl's Matilda, JK Rowling's Harry Potter, and C.S. Lewis' The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.

Course: Great Books Discussion**Teacher: Mrs. Bradley-Natale**

Do you love to read? Do you love to talk? Do you love a treat as you do both? Come join me for a Great Books Discussion. In this course, we will read rich fiction short stories and have a discussion about what we've read. You heard it, no writing! Come unwind, listen to great fiction, and have a meaningful discussion.

Course: I Love the 90s! Cartoons**Teacher: Mrs. Bruno**

Before the Internet, there was the "Gold Age" of cartoons. Through 90s cartoons learn about important life lessons, such as: don't let others opinions bring you down, taking risks is what life is about, never give up, along with many others!

Course: Introduction to Sewing**Teacher: Ms. Magerr & Mrs. Villar**

Learn the basics of hand and machine sewing while completing three projects: a pincushion plush, a travel pillow, and a drawstring bag.

Course: Legomania/ Puzzlemania**Teacher: Mrs. Powell**

Do you like to build with legos? This class will let you use your imagination to create anything you want using legos? Please know that these are not kits, with specific directions. You create the masterpieces that you desire. You can work with a friend or by yourself. Or do you like to do puzzles? You and your friends can do jigsaw puzzles, word searches, or Sudoku puzzles. Let's be creative!

Course: Magic Mania**Sessions: 3rd & 4th Marking Periods ONLY****Teacher: Mrs. Vicendese**

Train your brain, learn magic tricks and amaze others! Surprise your friends and family with mind-blowing illusions. Learn the basics of easy, beginner magic tricks, card tricks, and other magician techniques. Participate in your first magical performance. No experience necessary.

Course: Math Games**Teacher: Mrs. O'Connor**

Do you enjoy math and playing games with friends? This course will provide you with an opportunity to learn about hands-on games using basic knowledge of mathematical operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication & division). We will be using a variety of materials including dice, board games, playing cards and puzzles and you will work in teams to play games that will keep you highly engaged and entertained!

Course: Mind of Matter**Teacher: Ms. Sweeney**

Can you really "wash" a brain? Are people really just like lab rats when they learn? Is there a way you can train your little sister to eat worms? This enrichment course will look at these questions and many more about how individuals (including kids, parents and pets) learn, think, feel, and behave. It will offer you a chance to learn what psychology is and what psychologists do. It will let you experience psychological phenomena and design and conduct a psychological experiment. Mostly, it will let us talk about things like intelligence, habits, dreams, learning, thinking, and why we act the way we do.

Course: On the Move
Sessions: 4th Marking Period ONLY
Teacher: Ms. Schaefer

Let's get fit! This class will challenge students with total body, functional strength training movements while developing muscular endurance and coordination. Students will learn a variety of exercises and movements that integrate balance and body awareness, promote physical strength, and build self-confidence.

Course: Origami
Teacher: Mrs. Smith

Origami is the ancient art of folding paper. The creations that you could make in this class is endless and beautiful. We would start off easy for beginners with a bookmark and then more complex like animals, jewelry boxes, flowers, or 3-D figures.

Course: Piecing the Puzzle Together
Teacher: Mrs. Santhouse

Are you up for a challenge? Do you enjoy figuring out puzzles? Piecing the Puzzle Together offers a variety of puzzles such as sudoku, crossword puzzles, mazes and word searches to complete to help improve memory, give better problem-solving skills, lower stress levels and improve your visual-spatial reasoning.

Course: Sketchbooking Fun
Teacher: Mrs. Panico

Do you like to be creative, draw, experiment with different art materials or work on building up your art skills? If so, this is the course for you. Come join and have some sketch-booking fun.

Course: Theater Games and Improv.
Teacher: Mrs. Ferrara

In this fun, highly-participatory class we will play theater games and learn the art of improvisation! These games are designed to spark your creativity, increase your self-confidence, and help you to break out of your shell.

Course: Winter Walks
Sessions: 2nd Marking Period ONLY
Teacher: Mrs. Panico

This course will be offered the 2 or 3 marking period. It will provide students an opportunity to bundle up, go outside and take a walk. Join us as we get our steps in and breathe in some fresh air.



Enrichment Course Catalog

7th & 8th Grades

Course: 8th Grade Slideshow/End of Year Activities

Sessions: 3rd and 4th Marking Periods (Must participate in BOTH sessions)

Teacher: Ms. Wetzel

In this course, students will create the 8th grade class end of year slideshow to be displayed at graduation and at the end of year party. This will include collecting photos from throughout elementary and middle school years, creating and organizing slides, inserting music, and anything else that can be imagined. Students who take this course may have a personal copy of the slideshow upon its completion.

Course: Advanced Basketball Skills and Drills

Sessions: 1st Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mr. Fox, Mr. Schaefer, Mr. Weeks, Mrs. Yanes

The drills that will be taught in this course are for the intermediate to advanced basketball player with at least two years experience at a competitive level. The drills will focus on basketball conditioning, advanced skill development and strategic game play.

Course: All Time Great Sports Movies

Sessions: 2nd Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mr. Esposito

In this course, students will compile a list of their favorite sports related movies of all time and we will watch these movies. We will then hold discussions as to what makes this movie stand the test of time.

Course: American Sign Language for Beginners

Teacher: Ms. Lehlbach

American Sign Language for beginners will teach students the basics about sign language including the alphabet, numbers, and short phrases. Students will also be able to learn how to sign animals, colors and their names.

Course: American Sign Language for Intermediate Learners

Teacher: Ms. Lehlbach

American Sign Language for Intermediate Learners is recommended for those who have taken American Sign Language for Beginners. Students will be watching Switched at Birth, where they will be able to learn how to sign more advanced phrases.

Course: Art/Nature and Photography

Sessions: 1st Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mrs. Panico and Mrs. Tufaro

We will explore the natural world as we create art with leaves, sticks, stone, water and other natural elements. We will use photography methods, color, form, shape and light in our designs. We will be exploring and learning about the work of photographers Andy Goldsworthy and Ansel Adams. We will photograph our art work, write brief descriptions through prose and poetry, or find meaningful quotes to describe our work. Finally we will produce a photo book to be donated to the school library. Students will be given the option to purchase their own printed version of the book.

Course: Battle of the Books

Sessions: 3rd and 4th Marking Periods (Must participate in BOTH sessions)

Teacher: Mrs. Darr

In Battle of the Books, students form teams of 4-6 members, and together are responsible for reading 15 books. The books are chosen annually by librarians who are members of NJASL (New Jersey Association of School Librarians). In the spring, the teams battle to see who can remember the most about the books. Come and join our team and compete against other schools!

Course: Board Games Extravaganza

Teacher: Mrs. Lam

Do you love playing games with your friends? Come and play a variety of board games during PGC. From the Game of Life to Guess Who to Connect 4, this PGC has it all! You can either play the games provided or you can bring your own board games to play.

Course: CARD Club

Teacher: Mr. Mojta

Play classic card games with your friends. Play many different types of card games such as Uno, Kemps, Spit, Hearts, and Poker. Practice playing these traditional card games while engaging in friendly competition.

Course: Dungeons & Dragons

Sessions: 3rd and 4th Marking Periods (Must participate in BOTH sessions)

Teacher: Mr. Ellis

Dungeons and Dragons is a table-top, pencil-and-paper, collaborative storytelling role-playing game, where your imagination is the only limit. Players will create story together and go adventuring in a fantasy setting. Course covers two marking periods.

Course: Gamers' Gauntlet

Teacher: Ms. Dally and Ms. Truchan

The Wii and other (retro) gaming consoles will be available for friendly tournament style competitions using school-appropriate games. While you wait your turn, you can watch others battle or choose to go head-to-head in variety of computer/card/board games.

Course: Gardens

Teacher: Ms. Vinhal

Little or large, a garden benefits the environment in many ways. Not only are plants lovely to look at, they also play a very important part in keeping the natural world healthy. ... Plants reduce pollution by reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the air and giving off oxygen – just what we need to survive! School gardens are a wonderful way to use the schoolyard as a classroom, reconnect students with the natural world and the true source of their food. Students will plant vegetables in school garden. Plant bulbs and flowers around the school. Make kindness rocks to place around the school for others to find.

Course: Greenhouse Gardening

Teacher: Ms. Vinhal

Whether it's being able to see firsthand where food comes from, or figuring out how to tend to and care for a living organism and garden. Like any garden, a school greenhouse comes with certain tasks: watering, seeding, harvesting, monitoring for pests, etc. We will be starting plants, flowers and vegetables from seed, care for them, and watch them grow. This will also contribute to the knowledge of how to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Course: Introduction to Sewing

Teacher: Mrs. Clark

Learn the basics of hand and machine sewing while completing three projects: a pincushion plush, a travel pillow, and a drawstring bag.

Course: Intermediate Sewing

Teacher: Mrs. Clark

For students who have completed the Introduction to Sewing Course and want to continue to practice and expand their sewing skills with new projects. Students should be prepared to supply their own fabric and notions.

Course: Journalism

Teacher: Ms. Dally

Want to get your ideas and opinions out the the GBMS community? Students interested in reporting news about topics like school, sports, and entertainment are encouraged to join this course.

This PGC is designed to introduce students to the basics of journalism and have students contribute the school newspaper, The Bengal Beat. Not a writer? We are always looking for artists and photographers to help design. If you can't attend weekly Newspaper Club meetings after school, you can still participate during PGC.

Course: Monologues and Scenes

Sessions: 3rd and 4th Marking Periods ONLY

Teacher: Mrs. Ferrara

In this class students will have the opportunity to prepare a monologue or scene for audition or competition. Or just for fun! Any student interested in participating in the county Teen Arts festival in the theater category should consider enrolling in this class in order to be more fully prepared.

Course: Movie and Music Appreciation

Sessions: 2nd and 4th Marking Periods ONLY

Teacher: Mr. Weeks

Students will have the opportunity to watch, analyze and create (optional) movies and short films. Students will also have the opportunity to listen, watch, and perform (optional) live and recorded music. Movie and Music Appreciation will focus on observing movies and short films from a critic's perspective, as well as observing songs and performances from the audience's and artist's perspective. Students will have the opportunity to share their own interests so that their classmates may see new styles of film and music.

Course: National History Day

Sessions: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Marking Periods (Must participate in ALL 3 sessions)

Teacher: Mr. Mojta

National History Day is a yearly competition for middle school and high school students. Hundreds of thousands of students across the country compete in an annual theme to create a rigorous, scholarly and annotated academic work. Students in this competition will create a ten-minute documentary movie about people or events revolving around a common theme. For the 2017-2018 National History Day competition students made documentaries based on the theme of Compromise & Conflict.

Course: Overall Fitness Games

Sessions: 4th Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mr. Esposito, Mr. Fox, Mr. Schaefer, and Mrs. Yaness

The games and activities in this course will focus on cardiovascular endurance, strength, flexibility and mental challenges. This program will be held indoors and outdoors.

Course: Rubik's Cube

Teacher: Ms. Truchan

Learn to master the elusive Rubik's Cube and impress your friends with your strategy skills!

Course: School Muralification

Sessions: 4th Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mrs. Panico and Mr. Smith

This group will focus directly on the mural aspect of beautifying the school. If you are serious about creating murals, have talent to draw and paint and want to liven up the hallways with beautiful and inspirational artwork, then look no further and apply to this group.

Course: Science-gram

Sessions: 4th Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mr. Smith

Embrace the power of social media to educate, entertain, and inspire your followers in the world of science. Each week, we will create content, seek out followers, and spread beautiful images and fun facts about the natural world. Posts can include interesting facts, nature photography, and informative videos.

Course: Scrapbooking

Sessions: 1st & 2nd Marking Periods ONLY

Teacher: Mrs. Darr

Scrapbooking is a fun way to treasure memories and make them come alive. It allows students to express their creativity. Students will create their own scrapbooks using a variety of scrapbooking techniques such as cropping and layouts. They will incorporate writing and poetry into their scrapbooks. Making a scrapbook provides hands-on experience in a variety of disciplines, including photography, art, writing, poetry, and history. Students work on individual scrapbooking projects that are focused on their interests and family history. Students will be encouraged to bring themed photos such as family vacations and other fun memorable times in their lives. Also, other memorabilia such as ticket stubs, stickers, pins, brochures, etc. which can be added to their scrapbooks. Come join our scrapbooking fun!

Course: Softball Skills and Drills

Sessions: 3rd Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mr. Weeks

The drills that will be taught in this course are for the beginner to intermediate softball player. The drills will focus on softball conditioning, skill development, and strategic game play.

Course: Solar Sprint - Grade 7

Sessions: 2nd Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mrs. Bruno, Mr. Smith, Ms. Cerofeci

Go fast and furious with the power of the sun. Students will create a model solar car that runs on the power of the sun. Cars will be judged on speed as well as design, environmental impact, and engineering. Winning teams will compete against other schools as part of our regional division.

Course: Solar Sprint - Grade 8

Sessions: 3rd Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Mrs. Bruno, Mr. Smith, Ms. Cerofeci

Go fast and furious with the power of the sun. Students will create a model solar car that runs on the power of the sun. Cars will be judged on speed as well as design, environmental impact, and engineering. Winning teams will compete against other schools as part of our regional division.

Course: Storytelling and Star Wars
Sessions: 2nd Marking Period ONLY
Teacher: Ms. Wetzel

Students will view the entire Star Wars saga with a new perspective. Whether you are a current fan or just getting into the films, will read and listen to the theories and analysis of authors, scientists, philosophers, and fans while enjoying the 8 movie series.

Course: Strategy Board Games
Sessions: 1st & 2nd Marking Periods ONLY
Teacher: Mr. Ellis

If you like complex rules, detailed boards, and lots of game pieces, this is the course for you. Catan, Pandemic, Shadows over Camelot, Machi Koro, One Night Ultimate Werewolf, Forbidden Island, Tsuro, Betrayal at House on the Hill, and much, much more!

Course: Theater Games and Improv.
Sessions: 1st & 2nd Marking Periods ONLY
Teacher: Mrs. Ferrara

In this fun, highly-participatory class we will play theater games and learn the art of improvisation! These games are designed to spark your creativity, increase your self-confidence, and help you to break out of your shell.

Course: Tons of Puzzles
Teacher: Mrs. Lam

Do you enjoy the challenge of figuring out puzzles? Come to the Logic Puzzle PGC where you can work on different puzzles such as Sudoku, crossword puzzles, mazes, and word searches. Enjoy making your own puzzles or completing puzzles that are provided to you!

Course: Trick Shots (Dude Perfect)
Sessions: 1st Marking Period ONLY
Teacher: Mr. Esposito and Mr. Smith

For this course, students will compete against other teams creating "Dude Perfect" type videos. Ideas for possible video include basketball & frisbee trick shots. Students will participate in all aspects of this from coming up with the idea, participating in the "trick shots", and editing the videos together.

Course: Trivia Challenge
Sessions: 1st & 4th Marking Periods ONLY
Teacher: Ms. Cerofeci

Test your knowledge in all areas of trivia through competitions in Trivial Pursuit, Who Wants to Be a Millionaire, and your own creative trivia challenge developed with peers.

Course: Up-Cycled Fashion
Teacher: Mrs. Clark

For students who have completed the Introduction to Sewing course, reimagine your old T-shirts and jeans as new wardrobe pieces. Go green and get creative to experiment with fashion creations!

Course: Winter Walks
Sessions: 2nd & 3rd Marking Periods ONLY
Teacher: Mrs. Tufaro and Mrs. Panico

This course will be offered the 2 or 3 marking period. It will provide students an opportunity to bundle up, go outside and take a walk. Join us as we get our steps in and breathe in some fresh air.

Course: Women's Empowerment through Disney Movies

Sessions: 1st Marking Period ONLY

Teacher: Ms. Wetzel

This course is a tribute to the women of Disney whose strength, courage, spirit, compassion and confidence have the ability to empower their female viewers with their stories for years to come. It's important for young women to have positive role models who show them that women can achieve any goal they set their mind on. Some of the characters we will be discussing include Mulan, Elsa, Tiana, Moana, and Belle to name a few. Join this course to explore the ways in which Disney is providing positive role models for young women.

Course: Yoga

Teacher: Ms. Truchan

Increase your flexibility and ease your mind in yoga. We will focus on various yoga flows and holds to not only stretch but to help release tension and ease the mind. A change of clothes and mat are necessary for the class.