



G. S. LAKIE MIDDLE SCHOOL

# **GRADE 8**

# **OPTION COURSES**

# **2017 - 2018**

Welcome to the Grade 8 team. We are looking forward to working with students in their final year at G.S. Lakie Middle School. By following the four principles of the 'Fish' philosophy, **PLAY, BE THERE, MAKE SOMEONE'S DAY, AND CHOOSE YOUR ATTITUDE**, we know you will have an exciting year.

The grade 8 students have the added responsibility of leadership within the school as the younger students look up to them. It is important that students are aware of the impact they have on our school community. We hope our students are up to the challenge and look forward to sharing this educational experience with each other.

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# Registration Information

**WELCOME TO G.S. LAKIE MIDDLE SCHOOL!!!!** This booklet contains information about the “Option Courses” which are offered. At G.S. Lakie, students rotate through seven class periods a day. The “Core classes” – Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts and Physical Education, fill five of the class periods. The remaining two periods are option courses. The school year is divided into three terms and in each term, students rotate into two “new” options. Grade 8 students at G.S. Lakie have an opportunity to experience **SIX** option courses. We offer a broad selection of options and we are very proud of the fact that our teachers are well qualified to teach a wide range of subjects. We hope that your children have a wide exposure to all different kinds of programs in their years here.

**Please Note:** Depending on student numbers and the students’ option course choices, new courses may be created or courses may be cancelled.

## Option Courses

- It is important to remember that **BAND, CHORAL, DANCE (some classes) and FRENCH** run for **two terms**.

**Remember that you cannot take:**

- **Choral and French**

## Altered Art Explorations 8

This class will focus on turning found materials and items into new creations with fresh colour, collage elements, and interactive features like windows, pockets, and niches. Transform used cardboard into unique works of art. The possibilities are endless when you use tools and skills you already possess to fashion found objects – ranging from game boards and playing cards to vintage photos and objects – into wonderful expressions of your own artistic vision. Students could use a variety of techniques such as drawing, painting, papier-mâché, sculpture, paper making and bookbinding to create their project portfolios. Grading is based on completing the process, following instruction and putting forth a credible effort and not on artistic ability or talent.

### Art 8 – Art 101

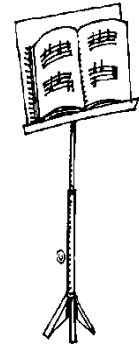
*Art 101* will focus on the completion of art projects for all artistic levels. Students who enjoy creating any type of art should take this class! All you need is your creativity and deep thinking skills! Possible mediums include paint, ink, recycled materials, graphite, paper mache’, scratchboard, charcoal, pastels and metal. Art is about making people feel, see or think differently; not just about technique or skill.

## Art 8 – Mixed Media

This *Mixed Media* class will focus on projects that are more challenging, uses more advanced artistic techniques and may require a little patience. Mixed Media means creating a piece of art that uses many different media or ‘things’. Don’t be afraid to get your hands a little dirty! The final products will be astounding and worth hanging on the wall at home!! Possible mediums include acrylics (paint), watercolor, pastels, recycled materials, India ink, crayons, tissue paper, gel medium, glue, sharpie, spray paint....etc.. Some supplies from home will be required. For example, 3 canvases are needed.

## Band 8

Grade 8 band is a two term option that happens during term 1 and term 2. This performance option is a continuation of the skills developed in grade 7 band. Students will expand their understanding of musical concepts and skills through a broad range of musical styles such as rock, pop, jazz and traditional concert band music. This is a *Performance* option and students taking this class will have several opportunities for public performance. Students who complete this option are invited to take the **Instrumental Performance Option** in term 3 to showcase their skills on a three day tour of southern Alberta.



## Boat Races 8

Armed with cardboard, duct tape and a few other odds and ends, students will use their skills to transform these materials into a boat for the water. The boat needs to be capable of carrying passengers and have the capability of speed. This option provides a challenge which is open ended, problem solving in nature and involves: Design research and presentation, principles of structure, strength, rigidity, buoyancy and displacement, and collaborative group work. The group of students that demonstrate a good knowledge of these principles and can apply it to their boat construction, will have the opportunity to participate in the southern Alberta Boat Races, at the University of Lethbridge.

## Book Club 8

Armed with books, students will have the opportunity to read books of their choice. The students will then have the opportunity to discuss their book with students in this option. Discussion of books can be done in different forms of the students choosing. Students will be required to complete at least three assignments during this option based on book or books they are reading or have read in class. They will also be required to do one book talk, either verbally or through media presentation.

## Choral 8

EXPERIENCE THE "JOY" OF SINGING

Do you find yourself singing along with the radio or scouring Youtube for new music? Are you a karaoke master? Do you eat, sleep and breathe music or even just enjoy singing in the shower? Well..... Choral 8 is the class for you. We will be teaching the correct way to use your voice and get you singing like a superstar. The curricular program is designed for all students regardless of self-perceived musical ability, background or experience. Simply put: come out to enjoy singing and learning more about expressing music! We will sing all kinds of music....from Bach to Rock! Scheduled concert activities include a Christmas concert, Singing For Our Soup concert, and the Spring concert.

**\*\*\*Note: Students can take only one of the following: Choral or French**

## Computers 8

Grade 8 Computers is an optional course intended to enhance student keyboarding skills as well as master basic computing skills. An 'entrepreneurial theme' is utilized in this course to allow students to explore a variety of media tools that can be used to create and design. Throughout this course, students will develop competencies in Microsoft Office and other Web 2.0/3.0 tools. This course will help prepare students for the array of assignments they may encounter in the future.



## Dance 8: Hip-Hop Performance

During this class students will have the opportunity to master new dance skills and original choreography. This class is suitable for all levels from beginner to advanced and it runs for **two terms**. Please note students enrolled in this class will have the opportunity to perform in a culminating production that will be viewed by thousands of audience members. You will feel like a star performing onstage with stylish costumes and cool lighting effects. This course incorporates various dance styles such as Hip-Hop, Break Dancing, House, Tutting, Waving, Gliding, Crumping, Pop/Locking and Stomp.

In this class you will also get to participate in our **student choreography** unit. During this unit you will select your favorite music, choreograph a dance routine, design lighting and choose your favorite performance outfit! Using Audacity (music editing software) Mrs. Legge will show you how to splice a variety of songs together and edit the music as you see fit. This will allow you to showcase all your favorite dance styles within your final project. Our student choreography unit challenges individuals to be creative, innovative and cooperative!

Through dance, students will gain spatial awareness, self-awareness, self-confidence, musicality and develop a greater appreciation for the arts. Participation in dance will improve muscle strength, balance, coordination, flexibility, core stability and cardiovascular fitness.

**Please note this option runs for two terms. A pair of indoor runners will be needed for this class. There is a \$30 production fee for this course.**



## Dance 8: Dance Fusion Performance



During this class, students will have the opportunity to master new dance skills and original choreography. This option is suitable for all levels from beginner to advanced and it runs for **two terms**. Please note students enrolled in this class will have the opportunity to perform in a culminating production that will be viewed by thousands of audience members. You will feel like a star performing onstage with stylish costumes and cool lighting effects. This course incorporates various dance styles such as Hip-hop, Jazz, Tap, Modern, Bollywood, Broadway, Ballet, Latin, African and Caribbean.

In this class you will also get to participate in our **student choreography** unit. During this unit you will select your favorite music, choreograph a dance routine, design lighting and choose your favorite performance outfit! Using Audacity (music editing software) Mrs. Legge will show you how to splice a variety of songs together and edit the music as you see fit. This will allow you to showcase all your favorite dance styles within your final project. Our student choreography unit challenges students to be creative, innovative and cooperative!

Through dance, students will gain spatial awareness, self-awareness, self-confidence, musicality and develop a greater appreciation for the arts. Participation in dance will improve muscle strength, balance, coordination, flexibility, core stability and cardiovascular fitness.

**Please note here is a \$30 production fee for this course.**

## Dance 8: Beginner Tap

Do you want to make music with your feet and learn a new dance genre like no other? Come learn how to tap dance with Mrs. Legge! You will have a blast learning basic tap skills and have the opportunity to choreograph your own tap routine for your final project. If you do not own any tap shoes that is not a problem! The Lakie program will provide high quality tap shoes that you may sign out during class. For students that have previous tap dance experience you are also welcome to take this class. You will have a leadership role and more opportunities for student choreography projects. This class will explore a variety of tap styles including Broadway, Street and Rhythmic. Mrs. Legge hopes to see you on the dance floor for a *tappin'* good time!

## Dance 8: Dancing Duos!

Dancing with a partner is twice as much fun as dancing alone! During this class you will learn a variety of partner dances including Jive, West Coast Swing, Salsa, Merengue, Two Step, Lindy Hop, Waltz, Cha Cha and Tango. You will also have the opportunity to learn and create new line dances that could you could bust out at any school dance or wedding! Please note you do **not** need a partner to sign up for this class.

## Digital Media 8



Digital Media 8 students will learn advanced media production techniques by experimenting with a variety of media platforms such as video production and working in 2D and 3D space. As part of the Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) mandate, students will also be encouraged to investigate various technologies and link them to their own interests and passions while enabling them to make personal connections to possible career opportunities.

## Drama 8

*Action!* The goal of Drama 8 is to encourage a positive self-concept that explores life and situations by taking on the roles of others and acquiring new dramatic skills. Drama 8 students will explore acting, improvisation, movement, speech and theatre study. In Drama 8 there is an expectation of individual and group performances. You will discover the hard work that goes into memorizing scripts, thinking of lights and sound, and then performing a piece. If you want to have fun, while challenging your own thoughts on your abilities, then come into Drama 8. No previous experience necessary.

## Drivers Education 8

Turning 14? I bet you're excited about getting your learners license so that you can start driving. You may also be nervous about the written test you have to pass first. In this option we will attempt to prepare you as much as possible for the learner's license test. This may include activities such as summarizing each chapter, discussing driving situations, completing public education projects, and writing practice tests on the computer. We will also look at other aspects of driving like what Auto Insurance is all about, how the internal combustion engine actually works, and how to properly use some of the other bells and whistles that new vehicles come with properly. The goal of this course is to help you feel more confident and be more prepared for writing the actual test when you turn 14, as well as become a well-rounded and knowledgeable driver. **Note** - Unfortunately there is no actual driving in this option.

## Electronic Music Lab 8

In this new music class students are introduced to *Reason*, the music software that has changed electronic music production forever. This software is a staple in every professional studio from Hip-Hop to Intelligent Dance Music. Explore *Reason's* rack of virtual instruments, effects, mixers, built-in sequencer and patching system, and learn real-world production setups and techniques used by today's top producers. Students will learn how to analyze and recreate different styles of hip-hop, rap, dance and pop music. Most importantly, the goal is to teach students how to use *Reason* to compose beats, melodies and sounds in order to create original and **professional sounding** songs.

While a background in music would be beneficial (especially piano or keyboard skills), no previous formal music experience is required to create music using the *Reason* software computer lab. *Reason Music Lab 8 is offered for 1 term only.*



## Exploring Photography 8

In this course, students learn the basic skills and techniques needed to produce quality digital photos. Specifically, students learn the basic components and controls of digital cameras, how to download photos and do basic editing, photo composition techniques (how to take good pictures) and a variety of artistic techniques for photography. Finally, students apply all of this knowledge to prepare a presentation of their best photos for their peers and teacher.

## Fashion Design 8

The purpose of this course is to advance students' knowledge of fashion design through the elements and principles of design as they pertain to fashion. Design terminology for apparel and recognition of design styles from history are also included as components of this course. Students will be required to demonstrate creative use of inspiration through various projects and a fashion illustration sketchbook.

## Filmmaking 8

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to a three step approach to effective filmmaking. Students will be given an opportunity to build on communication, problem solving, planning and critical thinking skills through the filmmaking process. As students progress and develop as filmmakers, they will be introduced to and apply concepts of camera angles, movement, and post production techniques. Throughout this course students will complete a series of courses that will empower them to become more effective producers and consumers of media.

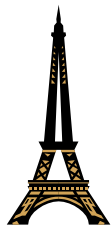


## Foods and Nutrition 8

Topics emphasized in this course will be nutrition and healthy food choices, as well as basic food preparation. Students will learn measuring, basic cooking techniques, operation of appliances and equipment as well as table setting. Students will have an opportunity to sample their work in the kitchen throughout the term. They will then celebrate at the end of the course by inviting a guest to lunch. The focus of the course is on choosing and preparing healthy food choices including breakfasts, lunches, suppers and snacks.

## French 8

Lethbridge School District No. 51 offers a "Nine Year" French program, which means that students begin studying French in Grade Four and may continue to do so through Grade 12.



To qualify for French 8, it is recommended that students have successfully completed French 7.

In French 8, students will learn to read, write and speak the French language while experiencing and appreciating an integral part of our bilingual country. French 8 is scheduled for **two terms**. **Please note: Students can only take one of the following: French or Choral.**

## Guitar 8 – Intro

This class is set up for students who did not have guitar 6 or 7. The class will start from the beginning covering the basics of the instrument. Basic technique and songs will be taught. This class is ideal for the student that wants to see what the guitar is all about.

## Guitar 8

This is the final year in the GS Lakie guitar program. This class continues from year one and two. Students will be playing at a high level and will add on to their knowledge of the instrument. Students will master power, open, and jazz chording for the music being studied. Major and minor scales will be studied in all keys. Students will learn to read multiple voices and play the guitar as a solo instrument. An appreciation for playing all styles will be encouraged and career opportunities in the field of music will be discussed. The students will perform in "GATORSTOCK" and many performance situations around Lethbridge.

## Hockey Development 8

The hockey program will focus on further development of hockey basics such as skating, passing, stick handling, and shooting. Students will participate in both on and off ice activities to develop hockey skills.

**There is a \$90 fee associated with this course to help defer transportation, and ice costs.**

## Innovative Project Design 8

The Innovative Project Design class allows students to discover and explore their interests, passions and skills through hands-on project work in the Shop, Computer lab and Sewing lab. Students will design, create, appraise and communicate in a team approach, developing real life skills through an innovative project. Please contact Mrs. Adamson, Mr. Smith or Mr. Kubik for more information.

## Instrumental Performance 8

This *performance* oriented class is designed for band and guitar students to collaborate and participate on a musical tour. The trip will be a three day experience for musicians to play their music for a wide array of audiences in southern Alberta. Guitar students must have completed grade 8 guitar in order to be eligible for this class. Band students must complete the two terms of grade 8 band to be eligible for the class. The class will put music together with guitar and band instruments to make an interesting new sound. ***There will be a fee for this course to cover accommodation and touring costs. Previous tours have been between the range of \$150-\$200 per student.***

## Marine Biology 8

Marine Biology is an introductory course for students who are interested in possibly pursuing this area of study or just want to gain a better understanding of marine environments.

In this class we will be exploring the creatures of the ocean by learning about their habitats and their physical and behavioral characteristics. Students will also learn about different types of Killer Whales and the impacts humans have on marine environments.

**This class is not a prerequisite to attend the Marine Biology trip, nor does it guarantee you a spot.**

## Musical Theatre 8

### **BRINGING BROADWAY TO THE CLASSROOM!**

Newsies, Annie, Les Misérables, Hairspray and more! Do you love singing along with your favorite musicals or just want a chance to bring song and dance together? In this class we will focus on the three elements of musical theatre: singing, acting and dancing. In addition to listening to, watching and learning about dozens of musicals, students will be given a variety of group and/or solo projects and will have the opportunity to block and choreograph their own songs and scenes for a final class performance. You don't need to be an experienced singer, actor or dancer to enjoy this lively class. Just come as you are and leave as a performer!

## Needle Crafts 8

This option is designed to teach beginners the basics of knitting and crocheting, but it is also for those who already know how to knit or crochet or those who might need a refresher. Whether you have no knowledge, a little or are an expert knitter or crocheter – this option is for you! Students will learn the basic knitting and crocheting stitches in order to complete a knitted and crochet square. Once the basic skills are mastered, students will be set free to complete a project of their choice and ability, whether it be a scarf, hat, stuffed animal, or garment. The options are endless. **Practice yarn and needles will be supplied but students will be responsible for purchasing supplies to make their final project(s).**



## Outdoor Education 8: Archery

Archery is another “outdoor” sport you will most certainly enjoy! In this option you will learn about safe range set-up and procedures, determine your dominant eye, make a string bow, learn and use the 11 basic steps to archery success, and of course practice, practice, practice, in order to become proficient at shooting arrows at a target. The best part is ANYONE can shoot a bow and get good at it with practice and focus so why not give it a try?

**NOTE:** This option will be taught by a nationally certified archery instructor (sponsored by AHEIA and NASP) and all equipment will be provided for the course. **There is a \$25 fee attached to this course.**

## Recording/Studio Music Technology 8

This option is geared up for all music students (Band, Guitar, Rock/Pop, Choral). The students will learn how to operate and run a recording studio and record their own songs and music. This is ideal for solo band students, guitar players, rock bands, and solo singers to get their music on compact disc. Students will have time to work up the music in class and then record their music along with other classmates.

## Rock & Pop Band 8

Rock/Pop 8 is a continuation from the grade 7 class. Students will work on developing better musicianship and performance skills. Emphasis may be placed on songwriting, sound and recording techniques. Students will work on making their own demo cds and promoting their groups. Many community performance opportunities will be available for these upper level groups. These groups will be the “headliners” of our rock concert “Gatorstock”. Students are **required** to have taken either **guitar, band or choral** to qualify for the class. New students to GS Lakie should talk to Mr. Arvay or Mr. Ponech regarding the class.

## Sewing 8

When students register in Sewing, they will be given an opportunity to create garments and other projects while learning skills and techniques for using commercial patterns to sewing on the machine. Possible project choices include: pillows, quilts, scarves, seasonal decorations, PJ pants, hats and simple stuffed animals. The focus of the course is to learn life-long skills in a fun environment. **There is a fee for this course.**

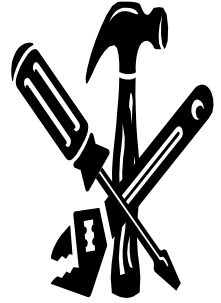


## **Shop 8- Construction and Fabrication**

**Please Note:** Due to safety considerations in the shop area, only a limited number of students are able to take shop at one time.

*There will be a \$10 shop fee added to school fees.*

*Students in Shop 8 will complete work in both Metal Fabrication and Woods Construction. Connections to occupations and career paths will be explored.*



### **Metal Fabrication**

Students use basic tools and equipment to make projects from flat, round and sheet metal. Projects might include mini basketball hoops, security box, gate handles, toolbox, garden tools and aluminum dice.

### **Wood Construction**

Students develop fundamental hand and power tool skills to safely build projects made from solid wood. Some possible projects are a secret locking box, checker boards, benches, folding stools, chilling chairs, wooden dice and skateboard decks.

## **Sketchbook 8**

This class is an introduction to the use of a sketchbook as a visual diary. Students will learn the basic elements and principles of design through the use and exploration of mixed media.

## **Spanish 8**

Did you know that Spanish is a more common native language than English? In this class students will learn to speak, read and write in Spanish, as they learn about the culture, food and music of various Spanish speaking countries. No previous experience with Spanish is required. Just come and be prepared to be immersed in a new language!

## **Sports Enrichment 8**

Here is a chance to enjoy physical games that you don't always have a chance to do in Phys Ed or community sports. Try Tennis, Ultimate Frisbee, Speedminton, Bocce and other games that will have you moving, learning and laughing. Your marks are based on your attitude and effort as you learn new games and develop new skills. Lose marks each day for things like failing to participate that day, breaking rules of the game, or showing a bad attitude. Show up with a positive attitude every day, do your best, and get great marks!

## **Strength and Conditioning 8**

Do you want to be stronger? Do you want to jump higher? Do you want to run faster? Farther? This option will have you moving non-stop with some traditional and non-traditional training techniques to build full body strength and endurance. You will get out of it whatever you are willing to put in, so come ready to sweat, push yourself and others and to grow and develop a faster, stronger you.

# Hockey Development 8

## **Course Description**

The hockey program will focus on further development of hockey basics such as skating, passing, stick handling, and shooting. Students will participate in both on and off ice activities to develop hockey skills.

**There is a \$90 fee associated with this course to help defer transportation, and ice costs.**



There is limited space for this program.

**Please note: This course is an option class and will be presented on the option form.**

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_