
Biblical Focus

We consider it vitally important to integrate Biblical teaching throughout the curriculum every day. In addition, students have these special opportunities to learn and grow in their faith:

Devotions

Our students:

- Begin each day with a Bible story or Scripture-based lesson about the character of God, the work of His Son Jesus Christ, and His purposes for our lives;
- Enjoy daily prayer for personal needs and concerns.

Chapels

Our students:

- Join grades K–6 in a weekly chapel time for worship, learning, and prayer;
- Are challenged by speakers to depend upon the grace of God by faith, and to measure all claims to truth by His inerrant word as they live out their faith in Jesus Christ.

Bible Class

Our students:

- Study the Old Testament beginning with Genesis through the book of Joshua.
- Learn a weekly Bible verse from one of the passages being studied to help remind them of the work and power of God;
- Integrate Bible studies with reading lessons, history, and art.

Language Arts

Reading and Spelling

Our students:

- Practice reading orally for precision, fluency, and comprehension using books such as: *Sword in the Tree, The Courage of Sarah Noble, Boxcar Children, Velveteen Rabbit, King Arthur, Winnie the Pooh*
- Practice decoding and spelling one-, two-, and three-syllable words;
- Learn all the consonant and vowel sounds, diphthongs, consonant blends, and common prefixes and suffixes;
- Learn the 28 spelling rules that govern English spellings;
- Learn to visualize and spell over 500 of the most commonly used words.

Writing

Our students:

- Review manuscript and begin cursive in the 2nd quarter;
- Learn to write sentences well using copy work that is integrated with grammar concepts, poetry, history, and Scripture;
- Learn to outline, edit, and write descriptive or factual paragraphs with correct spelling and punctuation.

Grammar

Our students:

- Learn to recognize and label these parts of speech in sentences: subject, verb, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, objects of prepositions, predicate nouns and adjectives, and possessive nouns;
- Learn to form the present, past, and future tenses of regular and irregular verbs.

Mathematics

We use the Singapore (Standards Ed.) math curriculum supplemented by math fact drills.

Our students:

- Identify place value, compare numbers and use expanded form within 1000;
- Add and subtract within 1000.
- Solve multiplication problems within 40 and relate to division.
- Multiply and divide by 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 10s;
- Use mental math to add/subtract within 100.
- Tell time to 5- minute intervals;
- Solve time interval problems;
- Count bills and coins to \$10.00;
- Measure length, weight and capacity using standard and metric units;
- Write and solve word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and fractions;
- Solve for unknown quantities in equations.

Science

Our students study these topics in physical science and chemistry:

- Newton's laws, gravity, forces, motion;
- Simple machines, inventions, flight;
- Types of energy;
- Inertia, friction
- Magnetism;
- Atoms, molecules, elements;
- Periodic Table;
- Chemical bonds;
- States of matter;
- Chemical vs. physical changes;
- Light and sound;
- Mixtures, solutions, compounds;
- Solids, gases, properties of matter.

History

The Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation

Our students study:

- The Fall of Rome;
- The Barbarian invasion;
- Byzantine Empire;
- The Rise and Spread of Islam and Christianity;
- Dynasties of China;
- Charlemagne
- The Vikings;
- Battle of Hastings
- William the Conqueror;
- Monks, Monasteries;
- Feudalism;
- Castles and Medieval Feasts;
- Knights and Knight hood;
- Cathedrals;
- Crusades;
- Magna Carta;
- Bubonic Plague;
- Ottoman Empire;
- Henry V;
- War of the Roses;
- Renaissance discoveries and artists Ferdinand and Isabella;
- Columbus and New World discoveries;
- Martin Luther / The Reformation;
- Copernicus and Galileo;
- Queen Elizabeth
- Shakespeare.

Enrichment

Poetry and Recitations

Our students memorize and recite a variety of poems and other materials to enhance their studies and make them fun; selections may include the following:

- “All Things Bright and Beautiful”
- “The Spider and the Fly”
- “Creation” song
- “Norman and Saxon,” Kipling
- “Kublai Khan,” Coleridge
- “Family Dragon,” Widemer
- “A Song of Sherwood”
- “The Land of Story-Books.” Stevenson
- “The Duel,” Field
- “The Song of Mr. Toad,” Graham
- “The Wise Old Owl,” Richards
- “The Atoms Family”
- Weekly Bible verses and longer passages
- “Old and New Testament Books” songs
- The Ten Commandments
- The Lord’s Prayer
- Apostles Creed
- Ephesians 2

Art

Our students have an extended art class each week in which they:

- Learn to identify God’s elements of design as seen in creation: value, color, space, shape, texture, and line;
- Use these elements to create their own works of art;
- Become familiar with the works of master artists throughout history.

Music

Students have music classes twice a week with a music specialist in which they:

- Learn music using the Kodaly method of vocal training;
- Learn to match pitch, sing the most common harmonic intervals, analyze rhythms, learn half and sixteenth notes.
- Learn classic hymns of the faith.
- Recognize compositions from different periods of history.
- Learn about the lives of famous composers.

P.E.

Our students participate in a physical education class twice a week. They work to develop agility, coordination, game skills, and good sportsmanship.

Field Trips/Events

Events vary year to year and may include the following:

- Kennedy Center concert
- Plays at GMU
- Frying Pan Park
- Colvin Run
- Udvar-Hazy Museum
- Shenandoah Discovery Museum
- Medieval Feast
- Apple Day
- “Making Paper” Day
- Community service project

Performances

- Christmas program
- Recitatio
- Grandparents Day
- Oratio (Speech Meet)
- Recitations for parents
- Ephesians Chapel