

Curriculum Enhancement Programs

Lower Elementary School Visual Arts

The art program in the Lower School is more than mere craft projects. Art history is incorporated into the program and artist are studied. Student's work is prominently displayed throughout the year leading to a selection of the top pieces for the Fine Arts Festival of Indianapolis. A variety of media is used including clay, paint, chalk, pencil, pen, crayons, pottery, and porcelain. Art classes meet once each week for one hour.

Middle School Visual Arts

The visual arts curriculum consists of studying the elements of art (line, color, value, texture, form/shape, and space) and also the principles of design (balance, unity, repetition, emphasis, rhythm, perspective, and contrast). The students use a variety of materials and equipment such as: chalk, pencil, markers, colored pencil, watercolor, scratchboard, acrylics, wood, tissue paper, clay, charcoal, pen and ink. There is a strong emphasis on art history, art criticism, the art process, and seeing and responding to works of art. The students have two periods of art per week.

Lower School Music

The music program is a strength of the Lower school. Children participate in the Cantata choir and sing in church and at chapel services throughout the year. Emphasis on proper singing, rhythm, and beginning note reading are taught by using rhythm instruments and the *All God's People Sing* hymnals. Music classes are taught twice a week using the Silver Burdette series.

Middle School Music

Each grade level is exposed to numerous music genres. The "Music Connections" curriculum from Silver Burdett is the text used at each grade level. Areas covered include: music history, music literature, choral singing techniques, themes and styles, note reading, and music theater. Every other year the middle school performs a musical. Classes are held twice each week.

Students in Grade 4 take one quarter of recorder instruction to introduce them to instrumentation. Students in Grades 5-8 may participate in the school's band program.

Computers and Technology

Our Shepherd's goal for our technology program is to provide the children with motivational access to educational opportunities, which foster creativity and curiosity. The use of technology integrated within existing curricula provides a base for lifelong use of technology. The Lower School children use computers for enrichment and beginning Internet research. The Middle School emphasis is on keyboarding, Internet research, PowerPoint presentations, spreadsheets, and use of a database. Each classroom is equipped with computers and our 20 unit computer lab is used daily. Middle school students have computer class two times each week. Kindergarten and Lower Elementary students have class one time each week.

Grades 1-8 Spanish

Spanish classes are provided to all students in grades 1-8. They meet twice each week. The global society in which we live requires us to prepare our students to meet this world. Further languages will be added in the future as the need and interest arise.

Children are not only taught conversational Spanish but grammar and culture as well.

Physical Education

The Lower School and Middle School physical education curriculum is structured to assist the children in developing proficiency in movement and motor skill through variety of activities and games. The main goal of the program is to honor God by developing the mind, body, and spirit.

The following objectives attain the main goals of the physical education curriculum.

- To develop a positive self concept
- To develop a sense of fair play
- To learn function within a group situation
- To learn to accept children with various skill levels and limitations
- To put winning and losing in proper perspective
- To provide a sense of enjoyment and/or appreciation for athletic and related activities
- To help form and provide basic skills which will be used for more enjoyable life
- To provide constructive use of the students' leisure time
- To develop a belief in physical fitness as a way of life

Students in first through fourth grade have two thirty minute periods a week.

Students in fifth through eighth grade have three forty five minute periods a week.

Inter-Scholastic Sports

Basketball	Grades 4-8 JV & Varsity	(Boys and Girls teams)
Soccer	Grades 4-8 JV & Varsity	(Coed teams)
Volleyball	Grades 4-8 JV & Varsity	(Girls' teams)
Track and Field	Grades 4-8	(Coed team)
Cross Country	Grades 4-8	(Coed team)
Cheerleading	Grades 4-8	(Girl's only)

Clubs

Chess club	Grades 4-8	Meets once each week
Girl Scouts	Grades 1-6	Meets twice each month
Boy Scouts	Grades 1-6	Meets twice each month
Little Rams Soccer and Basketball	Grades K-3	



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