

Her Monney starts

The Agnes Irwin School

Confident. Poised. Ready to lead.

That is the true mark of an Agnes Irwin girl.

Here, we know girls. We've been educating them for over 150 years — and have produced a legacy of inspiring women who continue to lead in the fields of medicine, engineering, finance, aerospace, public service, law, performing arts, government, and education, to name a few. When she comes to Agnes Irwin, she is empowered to explore, reach higher, and experience the joy of discovering her best self — and when she graduates, she is prepared to make an impact on the world in her own unique way.



We are not just a we are a

WE'VE BEEN EMPOWERING GIRLS SINCE 1869.

Our school was founded more than 150 years ago by Miss Agnes Irwin, the great-great granddaughter of Benjamin Franklin, first Dean of Radcliffe College, and advocate for the education of girls and young women — a radical concept in her time. Today, Miss Irwin's legacy serves as our inspiration. A rich heritage and tradition of challenging academics and independent thinking for girls and young women, as our founder envisioned, continues at Agnes Irwin today.

WE KNOW GIRLS.

Everything our students experience is rooted in research about what's best for girls: how they learn, how their brains develop, and what their social and emotional needs are — every step of the way. That's why we've dedicated Wednesday afternoons in Middle and Upper School to immersive learning opportunities during an extended Discovery Block in Middle School and Seminar Block in Upper School; why we developed our Leadership Toolkit[®] for lower schoolers; why we offer more than 80 courses in Upper School; and even why we've built a snack break into our Middle School schedule.



school *with* girls, school *for* girls.

OUR GIRLS ARE KNOWN.

Small class sizes, carefully designed curriculum, and committed faculty are key to fully knowing each AIS girl. Our teachers inspire her to challenge herself and pursue whatever ignites her passion. In our collaborative classrooms and robust wellness and athletic programs, every student has teachers, coaches, and advisors (experts in encouragement) who guide her to stretch and achieve. She also has a 570-strong cheering section of fellow Owls who root and hoot for her as she conquers multivariable calculus, choreographs an original dance, debates bioethics, or competes for the championship title.

THE CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF GIRLS IS OUR SUPERPOWER.

Only at Agnes Irwin will you find The Center for the Advancement of Girls. It's the incubator that supports the mission of The Agnes Irwin School, translating girl-centered research into pedagogies, programs, and partnerships that help our students succeed, in whatever path they choose. We forge partnerships with universities, nonprofits, and think tanks that extend the learning experience beyond the classroom to create the next generation of female leaders. See more about what makes our superpower so special in our Center for Advancement of Girls publication!

WE'RE COMMITTED TO BUILDING A DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY.

We know there's no one way to learn; every path is different. Our innovative curriculum is designed to ignite the curiosity and creativity of each student, allowing her to discover her passions and curate her learning.

We also know that diversity in our student body, faculty, and curriculum enriches the education we impart to our students, as well as the quality of our community which is why our Assistant Head of School leads the way for inclusive excellence, and why we have equity and inclusion coordinators in each division, as well as for our staff. Our girls have talents, interests, and perspectives that are wide-ranging, distinctive, and celebrated.

Our students represent an array of racial, ethnic, religious, socioeconomic, and geographic backgrounds. We welcome families from across the globe, whether their daughters are relocating or studying abroad. Many religious faiths are represented in our school, and we foster an environment where respect for the individual, appreciation of differences, and lasting friendships are developed and nurtured.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION PHILOSOPHY

The Agnes Irwin School respects and values diversity, including but not limited to differences in age, ability, ethnicity, family structure, gender identity, national origin, physical attributes, race, religion, sexual orientation and socioeconomic level. We actively promote and develop a school community that is culturally competent, socially responsible and globally engaged.



RESEARCH IS ON OUR SIDE.

A wealth of research demonstrates that girls' schools prepare girls for success in a co-ed world, inspiring them to develop higher expectations for themselves, take calculated risks in the classroom, elect to take more advanced math and science classes, and develop critical leadership skills. In other words: girls' schools help girls thrive.



Agnes Irwin Fast Facts



Our Mission

The Agnes Irwin School empowers girls to learn, to lead, and to live a legacy. We accomplish our mission by embodying these four core values of The Agnes Irwin School:

Our Core Values



We **provide** an exceptional education that develops each girl's highest potential and produces passionate, resilient, and empowered learners and leaders.

Character

We **expect** honesty, kindness, and personal integrity in all that we do and say.



Community

We **foster** an inclusive environment where individuals are valued, contributions are celebrated, deep connections are formed, and traditions are cherished.

Kespect

We **treat** all with dignity and understanding, welcoming differences in backgrounds, perspectives, and cultures.



Ideas here.

WE ENCOURAGE OUR GIRLS to create, innovate, collaborate, and think about problems from a new angle — which is why we've established multiple campus spaces and a full-time faculty team dedicated to innovation.

INNOVATION EXPERTS

The Innovation Team — or iTeam for short is comprised of three full-time faculty members who are our "innovation experts" at Agnes Irwin and serve as catalysts and coaches for our teachers. The iTeam partners with teachers to bring innovative ideas, technologies, and curriculum-enhancing resources to classrooms — designing project-based learning experiences that ignite curiosity and creativity in our students and create meaningful learning opportunities for our girls.

iWONDER LAB

Lower School students meet in the iWonder Lab to work collaboratively on multidisciplinary projects, and are encouraged to value the process of learning through creating, rather than solely focusing on the finished product. Students engage in making, tinkering, and engineering with circuitry kits, codeable robots, art supplies, and more. Teachers integrate coding, computational thinking, and robotics into their curriculum by scheduling class time in the space, and students are encouraged to drop into the iWonder Lab to pursue personal passions during our open "Maker Mondays."

EXPANDING HORIZONS

In the STEAM Studio, Middle and Upper School students engage in project-based learning experiences that grow from partnerships between teachers and our iTeam — utilizing a green screen, dry-erase walls, laser cutters, 3D printers, and other creation tools to construct new understandings of content and find innovative ways to share it with others. On Maker Mondays, students can pop in to learn new skills and gain comfort with fabrication tools and digital resources. In our Middle/Upper School building, you'll also find our robotics lab — home base for upper schoolers who build and program a robot to compete in regional matches — along with a new fabrication lab and the Innovation Center, an iMac studio where students use graphic design software to bring creative concepts to fruition.



MAGGIE POWERS, MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF STEAM INNOVATION

Agnes Irwin girls aren't afraid to

Friday



In Lower School, she will Gind Confidence

We want every girl to see herself as a leader, empowered to ask questions, seek answers, and self-advocate.



in ner voice and learn to lead.

We know that every girl can lead. That's why our girls learn to see themselves as leaders from the first day of PreK — and why we created our Living Leadership in the Lower School program, or L3. The program centers on our proprietary Leadership Toolkit[®], which brings abstract ideas about leadership to life for young learners. Developed by a team of faculty, our Center for the Advancement of Girls, and Bryn Mawr College researchers, the L3 program is integrated at every grade level, and gives Lower School girls an understanding of who a leader is and what a leader does — along with endless opportunities to practice the nine leadership identity traits featured in the program.

Our Let's Care program, facilitated by our Lower School psychologist and Lower School counselor, is central to Lower School life and promotes the "four Cs" of social intelligence: communicating, caring, coping, and character building. Through the program, girls learn about mindfulness and self-care, and practice friendship-making skills that promote a warm and inclusive environment.



FOURTH GRADE CAPSTONE PROGRAM

As leaders of the Lower School, our fourth grade students participate in a series of experiential learning experiences, putting them in situations which provide opportunities to apply the traits of the Leadership Toolkit[®]. Whether it's practicing resilience while attempting to traverse a low ropes course, or problemsolving and collaborating with a team during a Breakout EDU challenge, our girls leave the Lower School with the knowledge and skills necessary to lead in Middle School.

We teach her to stand up, speak up, and let her voice be heard.

Public speaking in class, at assemblies, and during capstone projects builds self-confidence, and is a hallmark of an Agnes Irwin Lower School education.

GOT A PROBLEM? SHE CAN SOLVE IT.

Our kindergarteners showcase their innovation and problem-solving skills during the annual Invention Convention. Our inventors create solutions to everyday problems utilizing the design-thinking process. Students research, blueprint, prototype, and finally present their findings to parents, teachers, and classmates during the convention.

TAKING CENTER STAGE

Every spring, the PreK students take the stage in the West-Wike Theatre to perform a musical for parents, teachers, and their buddies in Middle and Upper School. Students actively participate in the theater arts process — creating costumes, using power tools to construct sets, calibrating lighting, memorizing lines and learning stage blocking — culminating in a performance on the same stage where, 13 years later, they will deliver their senior assembly address.

LEARNING THROUGH NOTABLE WOMEN

In fourth grade, students dive into the rigor and passion of independent research. For our Women in Wax project, each student identifies an inspiring woman from history that is meaningful to her, then researches her life, writing and performing a monologue for fellow students, teachers, and parents during the capstone event. This project lays the foundation for larger research projects students will undertake in eighth grade and in Upper School.

By the time she enters Middle School, she will have the foundation to exceed



At the end of the day, there's more to explore.

WHEN THE SCHOOL DAY IS OVER, THE FUN AND LEARNING CONTINUE FOR GIRLS IN OUR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.

A multitude of mind-expanding activities makes After Session popular among Lower School girls. The program, which provides after-school care for families, runs until 6 p.m. daily and, besides the fun stuff, also offers homework help and quiet time.

We also offer Extra Session activities from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Led by Agnes Irwin faculty and local instructors, these enrichment activities change throughout the year and may include theater, engineering, "seed-to-snack" food education, and fitness classes.

Because even at the end of the day, she has the power to do more. Explore more. And learn more.

her own expectations.

In Middle School, she will *ind Confidence* and learn to *Take on*



Interdisciplinary, hands-on learning abounds in Middle School. Through research sourced by our Center for the Advancement of Girls, we know that girls learn best when they can engage with each other and connect academic concepts to real-world experiences.

That's why our fifth graders design 3D models of the Nile to teach lower schoolers about early Egyptian life; why sixth graders explore the Middle East through virtual reality tours; why seventh graders make microloans to female entrepreneurs across the world; and why eighth graders build websites and develop video games to share their U.S. History knowledge.

It's also why we take our girls on the road. In the fall, our eighth graders embark on a three-day excursion to New York City, where they engage in a 1900s immigrant family experience, following the footsteps of 12 million immigrants through Ellis Island as they pursue a better life in America. This immersive experience helps girls make connections between what they're learning in U.S. History, English, Earth Science, and the arts.

Middle School is also about building connections, sometimes outside of comfort zones. Through our daily Parliament advisory program, middle schoolers continue to build leadership identity traits, discuss the importance of respectful discourse with classmates both in person and digitally, and more. Plus, through service opportunities at every grade level, our girls also consider how they can impact the world outside our walls.



in taking risks the challenge.

We want our middle schoolers to discover the connections between content in the classroom, its relevance to the outside world, and how they see themselves in it.

There are countless opportunities for explore ideas and be unapologetically,

AVENUES FOR DISCOVERY

Middle School is when new opportunities for personal exploration emerge, and students can begin to participate in co-curricular activities and leadership positions. Students are invited to run for Parliament rep, join our Robotics Club, or participate in Middle School Chorus (The Grace Notes), where they study, rehearse, and perform an array of genres of music throughout the year. And in seventh and eighth grade, students can further pursue interests in theater arts though our annual Middle School play; compete for the Owls on the 11 teams we field over the course of our fall, winter, and spring seasons; and run for a core leadership position on our Middle School Student Council.

GIRLS IN STEM

Every May, the Middle School hosts a Science Symposium, an evening for parents to experience the inquiry and experimentations that happen in our science curriculum. During the symposium, parents head back to school, and learn as fifth graders explain the engineering design process; sixth graders demonstrate various systems of the body and microorganisms in action; seventh graders perform chemistry experiments highlighting different states of matter and physical versus chemical changes; and eighth graders present sustainable farming concepts they've developed for potential use on a Pennsylvania farm.

A KNIGHT TO REMEMBER

Sixth graders express their creativity and knowledge of the art, history, music, and texts from the Middle Ages during a storied AIS tradition, Medieval Night. This event, where parents and educators come together for a medieval feast orchestrated by the students, is the culmination of months of interdisciplinary, hands-on learning by our students and is an evening filled with period costumes, artwork, music, and dancing — a feast for the senses!

By the time she enters Upper School, she will have the courage to take risks



Middle School students to

joyfully, themselves.

and the foundation to approach challenges fearlessly.

In Upper School, she will

Land contra ence

We want every student to discover her true passion, and pursue a personal pathway of success so she can live a legacy in her own, unique way.



to forge her own path.

Upper School is an intellectual adventure.

At Agnes Irwin, we know every path is different, and we work with each student and her family to curate learning. Our curriculum is designed to empower girls to explore their interests through tailored classes, independent research, and extended opportunities to dive deep into areas of inquiry and uncover hidden passions along the way. So whether she takes International Relations, Artist as Entrepreneur, Research in Microbiology, Calculus, or Advanced Topics in Computer Science, the adventure in learning is hers to create.

Our Center for the Advancement of Girls creates original, research-based programs that amplify our curriculum and expand our students' horizons. In partnership with the Athletic Department, the Center co-created our AthLEADs program, a leadership development seminar series for all student-athletes. Our girls dive deep into confidence-building strategies, and explore how what they're learning about leadership can apply to future endeavors, both on and off the field, court, or water.



We know that representation matters: if she can see it, she can be it. Through the Center for the Advancement of Girls, upper schoolers also have access to our AIS Allied program, a cohort-style mentoring program that connects our Upper School students with alumnae mentors to guide them as they grapple with career aspirations, societal issues, and identity. Additionally, students learn from female leaders through speaker series and partnerships that bring executives from diverse industries to campus to share their career journey and pathways to success.

Our curriculum empowers girls to embrace all of the possibilities that await her.

PARTNERS ALONG THE PATHWAY

Our girls are known, supported, and lifted up every step of the way in Upper School. Starting in ninth grade, students are paired with advisors who are experts in Upper School life and meet several times a week in a small group environment to discuss balance, wellness, school expectations, and more. And you couldn't ask for better college counselors. Our College Counseling Office is led by veteran college admission officers who kick off the college counseling process in ninth grade, and as the process becomes more intensive junior and senior year, host seminars, family meetings, coordinate on-campus college visits, and meet one-on-one with students to conduct application sessions and map out plans for higher learning.

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Agnes Irwin is one of eight schools nationwide — and the only school in PA — that is partnering with the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy & Practice for the Social Innovators Program, a 13-week independent initiative that offers participants realworld experience in developing ideas and passions into companies, nonprofits, and social movements. Students who complete the program receive a certificate in social entrepreneurship from the university.

BUSINESS 101

In partnership with the Center for the Advancement of Girls and Villanova School of Business, Agnes Irwin hosts a Business 101 conference that brings Villanova professors to campus to augment classroom learning for Economics and Computer Science students, providing an immersive learning experience that explores what a future in business and economics might look like. In college-style workshops, participants learn from professors of marketing, business management, finance, and supply chain management, and analyze real-world case studies from Fortune 500 companies.

When she graduates from Agnes Irwin, for herself – and to determine how she



she will have the skills, experience, and confidence to advocate will live her legacy and impact the world in her own way.





Why Agnes Irwin? Because the future of the *world*

Do you want to see your daughter lead and succeed like our graduates?

Come visit us!

There are many ways for your family to learn more about Agnes Irwin. Schedule a private tour for your family, check out a Touring Tuesday, or attend an Open House. Please see our website for opportunities to connect virtually with our team at **interactwithais.org**.

Contact our Admission team at **admission@agnesirwin.org** to start your daughter's journey at Agnes Irwin.

The Agnes Irwin School

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