



Lower School

Class Four

Laying the Foundation for a Lifetime of Learning

The Lower School beautifully continues the great work established in the early learners years by strengthening students' foundation of good habits and increasing their knowledge of academic subjects.

BIBLE

- Daily Bible reading at the beginning of each day

LANGUAGE ARTS

- **Spelling**
 - 72 phonograms—oral and written reviewed daily
 - 600 most commonly used words
 - Application of 26 spelling rules
- **Reading**
 - Daily oral reading by child
 - “Living books” read aloud in class to children
 - Parents encouraged to read from the Providence reading list
 - Reading comprehension strategies
 - Regularly scheduled visits to school library
- **Grammar**
 - Simple and compound subjects and predicates
 - Compound sentences
 - Nouns—simple/compound, singular/plural, common/proper
 - Pronouns—first, second, third person
 - Indirect object
 - Predicate adjective and nominative
 - Conjunctive adverbs
 - Adverbial and adjectival prepositional phrases
 - Verbs—active and passive voice
 - Sentence diagramming
- **Mechanics**
 - Review and practice rules learned to this point
 - Apply rules in all writing

- **Punctuation**
 - Review and practice rules learned to this point
 - Apply rules in all writing
- **Vocabulary**
 - Develop by reading challenging literature in class and out of class
 - Use context clues to discover word meanings
 - Learn words assigned weekly from a variety of subject areas
- **Writing**
 - Oral and written narration
 - Narrative, expository, and descriptive paragraphs
- **Memorization/Recitation**
 - Memorize approximately 30 selections—poems, Bible passages, hymns, and speeches
 - Recite in class, at Grandparents’ Day, and on Fine Arts Day programs
- **Penmanship**
 - Review and practice: proper posture and correct grip; proper formation in cursive letters; neatness and legibility in all work
- **Literature**
 - Excellent literature read aloud by teacher
 - Love for living books, with rich vocabulary and complex sentence structure, nurtured by teacher
 - Exposure to books that reinforce strong moral character (such as virtue, justice, honor, and boldness), present a biblical world view, and enhance the imagination
 - Exposure to a variety of genres for pleasure and information
 - Literature read and discussed in class
 - *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis
 - *The Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth George
 - *The Matchlock Gun* by Walter D. Edmonds
 - *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Lathom
 - *Caddie Woodlawn* by Trina Schart Hyman
 - *The Perilous Road* by William O. Steele
 - *Just So Stories* by Rudyard Kipling
 - *The Incredible Journey* by Sheila Burnford
 - *Class Four Book of Recitation* (produced by Providence)
- **Speaking Skills**
 - Continue to practice: speaking in correct sequence; speaking with clarity, appropriate volume, and expression; maintaining eye contact.
 - Recite poetry and scripture in class and on various occasions
 - Present explorer and patriot reports in class
- **Study Skills**
 - Continue to work on organizational skills
 - Analyze text information—pictures, charts, graphs
 - Make and use an outline
 - Use reference books—dictionary, thesaurus, and encyclopedia

- **Saxon Math 5/6**
- **Daily computation drills**
- **Number sense**
 - Read and write whole numbers to 1,000,000,000 with digits and words
 - Identify place value for numbers 100-100,000,000,000
 - Read and write numbers in expanded forms
 - Identify multiples and factors of a number
 - Use comparison symbols
- **Basic Operations**
 - Addition—decimal numbers, fractions, and mixed numbers
 - Subtraction—decimal numbers, fractions, and mixed numbers
 - Multiplication—decimal numbers, fractions, and mixed numbers
 - Division—whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and mixed numbers
- **Properties of numbers and operations**
 - Identify and use multiples, factors
 - Identify and use prime and composite numbers
 - Find GCF and LCM
 - Use positive exponents with whole numbers
 - Understand the concept of square numbers and square roots
 - Use correct order of operations
- **Fractions, decimals, percents**
 - Read and write fractions and mixed numbers
 - Locate and name fractions and mixed numbers on a number line
 - Compare and order fractions
 - Model a fractional part of a whole, a group, or a set
 - Name a fractional part of a whole
 - Find equivalent fractions
 - Find the LCD
 - Convert between improper fractions and mixed numbers
 - Simplify fractions
 - Read and write decimals
 - Locate and name decimals on a number line
 - Compare and order decimals
 - Convert between fractions, decimals, and percents
 - Find a percent of a whole, a group, or a set
 - Write reciprocals of numbers
 - Find rates and ratios
- **Estimation**
 - Round decimals, and mixed numbers

- Round money amounts to the nearest dollar and 25 cents
- Estimate sum, difference, and product
- Estimate quotients
- Divide using the division algorithm
- **Patterns, relations, and functions**
 - Describe and extend an arithmetic or geometric sequence
 - Recognize patterns in multiplication
 - Compare function tables
 - Analyze a pattern or sequence to name a rule
- **Variables, expressions, and equations**
 - Solve multiplication and division equations using concrete and pictorial models
 - Write and solve equations to solve word problems
 - Choose an appropriate formula to solve a problem
 - Solve one- and two-step equations with whole numbers
- **Geometry**
 - Describe and name points
 - Describe, identify, and draw segments, angles, rays, and lines
 - Classify triangles and quadrilaterals
 - Understand congruence and similarity
 - Identify parts of a circle
 - Name and graph ordered pairs
 - Identify types of symmetry
 - Identify transformations
- **Measurement**
 - Use customary units of length, weight, and capacity
 - Use metric units of length, mass, and capacity
 - Use Fahrenheit and Celsius temperature scales
 - Measure time and elapsed time
 - Convert in the U.S. Customary and the metric systems
 - Find the perimeter of polygons
 - Find the area of rectangles
 - Estimate the perimeter, area, and volume
 - Find area of complex figures
 - Find volume of rectangular prism
 - Find the measures of a circle
 - Use U.S. Customary and metric rulers, a thermometer, a stopwatch, and a compass
- **Data Analysis and Probability**
 - Represent and interpret data on pictographs, bar graphs, tables and charts, frequency tables, line graphs, circle graphs, line plots, histograms, stem-and-leaf plots, and Venn diagrams
 - Find mean, median, mode, and range
 - Describe the likelihood that an event will occur
 - Calculate simple and experimental probability
 - Make predictions based on experiments

- **Problem solving**
 - Find/extend a pattern
 - Guess and check
 - Make or use a table, chart, or graph
 - Use logical reasoning
 - Work backwards
 - Write a number sentence or equation
 - Write about math
- **Mathematical reasoning and connecting**
 - Use algebraic reasoning
 - Use spatial reasoning
 - Classify and sort
 - Explain and answer
 - Make generalizations and justify conclusions
- **Connections**
 - Connect math to other subjects and sports

HISTORY

Exploration-1995 People

- European Explorers
- American Indians
- Missionaries to the Indians
- Pilgrims
- Jonathan Edwards
- John Wesley
- George Whitefield
- Benito Mussolini
- William Penn
- Pochahontas
- Paul Revere
- Betsy Ross
- General William Sherman
- Captain John Smith
- Joseph Stalin
- Booker T. Washington
- Wright Brothers
- Presidents

Topics and concepts

- Years of discovery
- The Year of Conquest

- The First Americans
- English come to America—Roanoke and Jamestown
- The New England Colonies
- The Middle and Southern Colonies
- A Picture of Colonial Life
- The Great Awakening
- The French and India War
- The American War for Independence
- Building a New Nation
 - Branches of government
 - Constitution
 - Bill of Rights
 - Election process
- Westward Expansion
- War of 1812
- The Civil War
- Reconstruction
- Westward movement
- Industry inventions
- Alaska and Hawaii
- The Spanish—American War
- Panama Canal
- World Wars I and II
- Korean War
- Freedom and responsibility—presidents and the Civil Rights Movement

Geography—define and/or identify on a map

- Longitude and latitude, coordinates, degrees
- Typhoon
- Earthquake
- McKenzie and Yukon rivers
- Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn
- Caribbean Sea and Great Lakes
- Mount McKinley and Sierra Nevada Mountains
- States and capitals

Additional Activities

- Explorer and patriot reports
- Participate in field trips—JFK Museum
- Living History Day—Patriot Day

ART

While learning about the lives, works, and styles of the following masters, students create their own artwork.

- Edward Hicks (1780-1849) American Folk Painting and Eugene Delacroix (1798-1863); Romanticism: drawing and painting animals with acrylic paint
- Edouard Manet (1832-1883), Auguste Renoir (1841-1919), Paul Gauguin (1848-1903), and Mary Cassatt (1844-1926); Impressionism and Post-Impressionism: the practice of drawing children with pencil and chalk pastel
- Henri Rousseau (1824-1910); Post-Impressionism: jungle scenes, color theory, and blending with the practice of ink markers
- Edward Hopper (1882-1967); Realism: landscape with the use of oil pastel

Picture Study

- accomplished in language arts as well as in art classes
- teaches art appreciation through the study of great paintings
- “learning by practice to see detail and draw the beauty of the work into their souls” (Elaine Cooper: *When Children Love to Learn*).

LATIN

- Vocabulary
- Beginning Grammar
- Reading and Recitation
- Conversation
- Culture

MUSIC

Course Content:

- Singing folk songs, hymns, performance works
- Folk games and dances, including square dance and use of instruments
- Exposure to rhythm recognition and reading
- Exposure to staff recognition and reading
- Listening to selected classical works
- Biographies of Copland and Debussy

Additional Activities:

- Performance on Grandparents' Day
- Performance on Fine Arts Day

NATURE STUDIES AND SCIENCE

Studying nature enables children to fulfill their covenant obligations to nurture and care for the earth and the plants and creatures with which God has filled it. In the nature-study approach, the children learn that God made everything for a purpose. Whenever possible, the children study and organism in its environment, seeing its relation to the world about it and the features which enable it to function in its surroundings. The study of nature is an aesthetic experience as well as a discipline. It is an opening of the eyes to the individuality, the ingenuity, the personality of each of the unnoticed life forms around us. Nature study is not merely a study of life, but an experience of life.

Nature Studies Course Content

- Trees and plants

Science

- Earth science

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The P.E. program is designed to help children develop appropriately the skills and knowledge necessary to allow them to enjoy a lifetime of physical activity and to be wise stewards of their bodies. (Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 6). Class Six students may participate in Middle School Athletics (football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, cross country, track) or may be in a P.E. class.