



## CURRICULUM OVERVIEW AND EXPECTATIONS

### GRADE 5

At Cape Henry Collegiate, our Grade 5 students receive high quality instruction and the support to become mature, self-directed learners. Our curriculum is designed to support the whole child, to encourage creativity, and to foster curiosity. We believe our Fifth Grade curriculum is vitally important in helping students develop the academic, social-emotional skills and confidence for succeeding in the CHC Middle School.

#### **WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM A CHC GRADE 5 CLASSROOM?**

- Opportunities for students to take on independent learning and research activities
- Integration of technology in instruction
- Environments emphasizing problem solving, personal accountability, and self-discovery
- An intentional focus on building intrapersonal intelligence

#### **WHAT DOES THE CHC GRADE 5 CURRICULUM LOOK LIKE?**

Fifth Grade is the culmination of the Lower School experience. In this final year, teachers and faculty work closely with our fifth graders as they exercise greater choice in selecting their Math, Language Arts, and Music courses. This autonomy allows students to better understand their goals, motivations, and skills. Across subject areas, students gain the tenacity to work independently and pursue projects of their interests. In Language Arts, they use various research tools and analyze texts from different genres. In Science, students pose questions, look for answers, and explore the natural world around them. The carefully designed, cross-curricular activities in Spanish, Art, Physical Education, Music, Guidance, and Library classes support academic and social development.

#### **WHAT KEY SKILLS/CONCEPTS DO CHC GRADE 5 CLASSROOMS INTRODUCE TO STUDENTS?**

##### **Math: *Math in Focus***

- Explore and use algebra in problem solving
- Use ratios, decimals, percentages, and fractions
- Explore concepts of geometry
- Demonstrate mastery of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division

##### **Science:**

- Investigate human body systems
- Identify local environmental issue, plan, design, and implement Geo-Inquiry project to address the issue
- Explore concepts of chemistry
- Compare and Contrast beach ecology; Virginia Beach, mangrove, tropical coral reef

##### **Language Arts: *Reader's Workshop and 6+1 Writing Traits***

- Expand writing skills for various audiences/ purposes
- Study Greek and African mythology and folklore
- Analyze novels, articles, and digital texts
- Compete in the Battle of the Books, Virginia Beach
- Use digital tools for research and presentation

##### **Social/Global Studies: *Africa***

- Investigate the history of America including, the Founding Fathers, foundations of American democracy, the Civil War, and Reconstruction
- Complete a year long study of Africa in order to create essays, poems, skits, and other projects focusing on geography, culture, and history