



LOWER SCHOOL

Bancroft School is Worcester's premier independent day school for grades PreK-12 with students from 63 different cities and towns in Massachusetts. A learning laboratory constantly in motion, Bancroft empowers students to engage with one another, their communities, and the world in meaningful and impactful ways.

A walk through the Lower School hallways will lead you on an adventure around the globe. From African animal dioramas to Antarctic penguin portraits to Revolutionary War reenactments, our students learn about history and the world around them in a hands-on way — improving problem-solving skills and helping apply knowledge to real-world situations through active learning. Students channel their creativity and curiosity through fun activities that impart foundational skills and help to develop age-appropriate paths to mastery and independence.

LOVE WHAT YOU LEARN

A DAY IN THE LOWER SCHOOL

8:00-10:00 | LITERACY

Read a book as a class, then complete a guided writing exercise based on the book

10:00-10:45 | RECESS

Play a game of 4-square with friends from the grade below

10:45-11:30 | TECHNOLOGY

Create models of boats to 3-D print and test if they'll float

11:30-12:15 | MATH

Explore numbers through group and independent activities

12:15-12:30 | WRITING

Learn about sentence structure, and how stories have a beginning, middle, and end

12:30-1:15 | LUNCH AND RECESS

Eat a school meal of a chicken caesar wrap with a side of sliced apples

1:15-2:15 | SPANISH

Practice how to say different words and phrases in Spanish

2:15-3:15 | ART

Paint self portraits with watercolors

3:15-3:30

Gather things for the end of the day and get ready to head home

THE LOWER SCHOOL DIFFERENCE: WHY CHOOSE BANCROFT?

- Lower School students learn to be caring, compassionate, and curious. From the outset, they find and use their voice, both in the classroom and in front of an audience.
- While each classroom has its own identity, students from all grades enjoy opportunities to come together.
- Whether it's 'Friday Share' where grades PreK to 5 become the teachers presenting what they have been learning to their peers, to a homecoming pep rally with the entire school decked out in blue, to community service in the city we call home, we emphasize the responsibility of being a part of the larger community.
- At the core of the Lower School curriculum is Central Subject — a unifying topic or theme that students explore over the course of the year through academic lessons, writing projects, performances, and field trips.
- In the Lower School, play is just as important as class work. Two daily recess times shared across grades — allow students to use their imagination outside the classroom.
- Lower School teachers transform the development of fundamental skills into active, engaging activities. Starting in PreK, students learn through the Bridges in Mathematics program — a comprehensive PreK-5 curriculum that is designed to be rigorous, coherent, engaging, and accessible to all learners. The program taps into the intelligence and strengths of all students by presenting material that is as linguistically, visually, and kinesthetically rich as it is mathematically powerful.
- Specialty teachers in technology, science, art, theater, music, and physical education bring decades of combined experience in their fields to each student's learning experience.
- Lower School students devote 2 hours a day to literacy — sharpening their reading, spelling, and writing skills while establishing a lasting relationship with books and literature.