

At Cape Henry Collegiate, our students benefit from high-quality instruction that fosters academic confidence and the social-emotional support needed to become increasingly independent learners. Our curriculum is thoughtfully designed to support the whole child while fostering creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and an enthusiasm for learning.

WHAT MAKES GRADE 1 DISTINCTIVE?

In 1st grade, students build strong academic and learning habits that serve as the foundation for future success. As they grow in confidence, students begin to take greater ownership of their learning by asking questions, solving problems, collaborating with classmates, and communicating their thinking through speaking, writing and creative projects. Teachers intentionally nurture curiosity while helping students develop the independence and resilience needed to thrive.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM A GRADE 1 CLASSROOM?

- Engaging, inquiry-based lessons that encourage students to ask questions, explore ideas and discover new ways of thinking.
- Hands-on learning experiences that build foundational literacy, mathematics, science and problem-solving skills.
- Collaborative learning opportunities that strengthen communication, teamwork and growing independence.
- Rich reading, writing and discussion experiences that build vocabulary, confidence and a curiosity about the world around them.
- A supportive classroom community where students are encouraged to persevere, take academic risks, and develop positive learning habits.

A GRADE 1 STUDENT WILL...

- Build strong foundational reading skills through phonics, decoding, fluency and comprehension.
- Write narratives, informational pieces and literary responses while developing confidence as a writer.
- Develop number sense, addition and subtraction strategies, and early mathematical reasoning.
- Explore coding and robotics through block coding and programming challenges.
- Investigate scientific questions through observation, experimentation, and hands-on exploration.
- Develop a deeper understanding of Asia's geography, cultures, traditions and communities.
- Share learning with growing confidence through discussions, presentations and collaborative projects.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GRADE 1 CURRICULUM

Language Arts

Students deepen foundational phonics skills while building reading fluency, comprehension, vocabulary and writing across multiple genres. Rich literature, meaningful discussion and evidence-based thinking help students become increasingly confident readers, writers and communicators.

Mathematics

Students strengthen number sense to 100 and beyond while developing fluency with addition, subtraction, measurement, graphing, and two- and three-dimensional shapes through engaging, real-world problem solving.

Science and Innovation

Students explore the scientific process, lab safety, energy, Earth's place in space, and the natural world through hands-on investigations. They develop computational thinking through block coding while exploring foundational robotics concepts.

Social and Global Studies

Students explore the geography, cultures and diverse regions of Asia through authentic cultural experiences, creative projects and research. They compare communities around the world, discovering both the unique traditions and the shared qualities that connect people across cultures.

First grade is a year of tremendous growth as students strengthen foundational literacy and mathematics skills, build confidence as learners, and develop independence. By the end of 1st grade, students have developed strong academic foundations and the confidence to apply their learning in meaningful ways. They leave the year well prepared for the increased responsibility, rigor and opportunities that await them in 2nd grade.