LAKE NORMAN
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# LOWER SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW
# 2026/2027

# PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

Lake Norman Christian School is committed to our mission to "**Provide a College-Preparatory Education in a safe and nurturing environment grounded in the Christian Faith."** In keeping with that mission, we seek to lead our students to personally own their faith and live out a biblical worldview. The desire of the administration and staff of LKNC is that graduates will reflect the scripture of Luke 2:52. This scripture describes that Jesus grew in **wisdom, stature, favor with God, and favor with man.** We seek to follow this model in nurturing and educating students.

From this approach, we prayerfully commit to leading our graduates to live out the LKNC vision of "**External Citizenship in the Kingdom of God and Unselfish Service to Humanity"** as they develop:

**L**eadership which is reflective of the servant and transformation leadership Christ exemplified.

**I**ntegrity reflective of the Bible and a testimony to faith and character.

**O**wnership of Faith and the responsibility of a Disciple of Christ with a Biblical Worldview.

**N**oble virtue and character in conduct.

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

LKNC aligns and supports our Mission, Vision, and Motto to teach truth, transform lives, and serve others. This is accomplished as LKNC graduates are equipped with a biblical worldview based upon established spiritual disciplines, sound academic thinking, and appropriate skill development. Articulation of a biblical worldview solidifies the truth; therefore, an immersion of speech and communication arts will be woven into the curriculum. The biblical worldview at LKNC will be based on the principles and resources of:

- An intellectual defense for the truth.
- Biblically-minded administrators, faculty, and staff.
- Applications and implications of truth.
- Biblical saturation in every discipline, classroom, extra-curricular, and school activity.
- Chapel programs with experts in the field of evangelism, apologetics, biblical worldview, and discipleship.
- Expository and persuasive speeches presented in Bible classes which are developmentally appropriate and measured according to a clearly defined rubric.
- Service opportunities where students apply the principles of truth through practical service and evangelism.

# LOWER SCHOOL BIBLE

From kindergarten to fifth grade, students will complete a survey of the Bible using the apologetics-focused *Answers in Genesis* Curriculum Resource. Daily lessons constructed to encompass a full survey of the Bible chronologically. This curriculum and resource used in conjunction with God's Word will increase Biblical literacy in an organic sequence, allow for thought provoking questions, and guided assignments will embed an overview of biblical content on student's hearts and minds.

**Some of the Biblical Truths Covered:**

- God is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit
- God is truth and always tells us what is right and true
- God created people in His image
- God created people to need Him for everything
- God created His image-bearers to love and serve one another
- God holds His creation together by His power
- Jesus death and resurrection restores fellowship/harmony between people and God

# LOWER SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS

A strong foundation in reading, writing and communication is built through a comprehensive and balanced literacy program that includes phonics, reading, writing, handwriting, spelling, and grammar. Students practice and apply these skills through hands-on experiences guided by a combination of whole class, small group, and one-on-one instruction within a reading and writing workshop format. All students in kindergarten through fifth grade will focus on writing narrative, persuasive, and informational essays with progressive sophistication.

**Kindergarten**

- *BJU Reading - Phonemic awareness*
- *BJU Language Comprehension*
- *Hands-on Literacy centers*

**First Grade**

- *BJU Writing & Grammar*
- *BJU Phonics*
- *BJU Spelling*
- *BJU Handwriting*
- *BJU Reading: Travels Together*
- *Hands-on Literacy centers*

**Second Grade**

- *BJU Writing & Grammar*
- *BJU Reading: Expeditions*
- *BJU Spelling*
- *BJU Handwriting*
- *Hands-on Literacy centers*

**Third Grade**

- *BJU Writing & Grammar*
- *BJU Reading: Adventures*
- *BJU Spelling*
- *BJU Handwriting*
- *IXL Diagnostic and Enrichment*
- *Novel Studies*

**Fourth Grade**

- *BJU Writing & Grammar*
- *BJU Reading: Voyages*
- *BJU Spelling*
- *BJU Handwriting*
- *IXL Diagnostic and Enrichment*
- *Novel Studies*

**Fifth Grade**

- *BJU Writing & Grammar*
- *BJU Reading: Quests*
- *BJU Spelling*
- *BJU Handwriting*
- *IXL Diagnostic and Enrichment*
- *Novel Studies*

# LOWER SCHOOL SCIENCE

Students deepen their understanding and love for our Creator and His creation while engaging in active and meaningful learning experiences working within the areas of physical, earth, and life sciences at each grade level. Through hands-on activities and investigations, children develop increasing sophistication in their scientific thinking that builds from year to year. Students are taught to evaluate scientific learning through the creation, fall, and redemption narrative of the Bible.

**Kindergarten**

BJU Science Units:

- God's creation, Animals, Weather, Earth

**First Grade**

BJU Science Units:

- Earth Science: Earth, Sun, Moon, Stars, Seasons & Weather
- Life Science: Plants, animals, human body, and health
- Physical Science: Energy & sound

**Second Grade**

BJU Science Units:

- Earth Science: earth movement, layers, natural resources
- Life Science: plants, animals, human body systems
- Physical Science: matter & forces

**Third Grade**

BJU Science Units:

- Earth Science: rocks, minerals, soil, weather, solar system
- Life Science: animals, plants, ecosystems, cells
- Physical Science: motion, sounds, matter, electricity

**Fourth Grade**

BJU Science Units:

- Earth Science: water, ocean, landforms, natural resources
- Life Science: plant structures, human organ systems
- Physical Science: energy, motion, work, waves, light, sound, and forces

**Fifth Grade**

BJU Science Units:

- Earth Science: earth systems, atmosphere, weather, rocks, solar systems
- Life Science: ecosystems, plants, animals, human organ systems
- Physical Science: matter, atoms, mixtures, solutions, chemical changes

# LOWER SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES

The social studies curriculum and instruction provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to become educated and responsible citizens. The goal is to enable students to understand, participate in, and make informed decisions about their world locally, nationally, and globally with a biblical worldview. The social studies program is created by using quality literature-based units integrated with biblical concepts.

**Kindergarten**

- BJU Press: Heritage Studies - Geography, History (Early America), and Culture

**First Grade**

- BJU Press: Heritage Studies 1 - Family and Community

**Second Grade**

- BJU Press: Heritage Studies 2 - Community and Government

**Third Grade**

- BJU Press: Heritage Studies 3 - World Religions

**Fourth Grade**

- BJU Press: Heritage Studies 4 - Our United States
- Gibbs Smith Education: Making North Carolina North Carolina History

**Fifth Grade**

- BJU Press: Heritage Studies 5 - History of America

# LOWER SCHOOL MATH

The math curriculum allows students to gain a progression of knowledge each year to develop a strong mathematical foundation. Students will utilize a variety of materials, tools, and strategies to deepen their understanding of mathematical domains including operational and algebraic thinking, number and operations in base ten, number and operations-fractions, measurement and data, and geometry. Interactive learning encourages students to strengthen essential math concepts while enhancing critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

**Kindergarten**

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive and manipulative-based lessons*
- *Hands-on math centers/tubs*

**First Grade**

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive and manipulative-based lessons*
- *Hands-on math centers/tubs*

**Second Grade**

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive and manipulative-based lessons*
- *Hands-on math centers/tubs*

**Third Grade**

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive and manipulative-based lessons*
- *IXL Diagnostic and Enrichment*

**Fourth Grade**

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive lessons*
- *IXL Diagnostic and Enrichment*

**Fifth Grade**

- *BJU Math*
- *Interactive lessons*
- *IXL Diagnostic and Enrichment*

# LOWER SCHOOL ENRICHMENTS

LKNC is fortunate to provide a wide range of enriched learning opportunities for lower school students. We understand the value of art, music, STEM, library and physical education for students to build skills to improve their work in math, science, and literacy. In addition, these enrichment classes provide students with further physical and creative outlets throughout their school week.

# NOTES