

# FIRST GRADE

## Core Classes

- Bible
  - We are committed to the study of God's Word in all our subjects and its application to our lives as the foundation for living a joyful, victorious Christian life. Daily Bible class is an important part of spiritual development at FCS. We ultimately desire that every student discovers and strengthens a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and develops a biblical worldview.
  - Students read and study the Bible, sing Bible songs, memorize Scripture verses and discuss Christian character and missions.
  - Topics studied during Bible class include:
    - Gospel message through the Wordless Book
    - Patriarchs
    - Joseph
    - Moses
    - Life of Christ
    - Forgiveness: Whiter Than Snow
  - All parents are welcome to attend our chapels for worship and sharing about God's Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts
  - At the first grade level, students learn phonics as a key to sounding out and reading words. Students practice reading skills in small groups throughout the year, along with vocabulary-building and comprehension skills.
  - In English, students study the structure of sentences including parts of speech, types of sentences, vocabulary, grammar, usage and mechanics. Opportunities are given regularly for students to write about a variety of topics and experience the complete writing process.
  - Spelling words are learned on a weekly basis and students are held accountable for using the words correctly in writing. Handwriting is also taught and emphasized daily.
- Social Studies
  - History, geography, culture, economics, and current events are the foundation of the Social Studies program where students learn about God's providence in His world. First grade topics of study include My Family, Community, State and Country; Christopher Columbus; Native Americans; Jamestown and Plymouth. The continent study is Africa.
- Science
  - The basic principles of the scientific method are illustrated during the year. First graders specifically study several subjects including weather; sun, moon, and stars; matter; sound; health and safety; pushes and pulls; tame and wild animals; and simple machines.
- Mathematics

- First grade emphasis is placed in several key area: addition and subtraction, numbers and place value, measurement, data analysis, time, money, and geometry.

## **Extracurricular**

- Physical Education
  - In Physical Education class, offered twice each week, students learn to appreciate the abilities of the human body and are taught the importance of care of the body. Students also learn and practice skills in a variety of team, individual and lifetime sports.
- Fine Arts
  - Music and art are held once a week as a way to explore foundational elements of each unique art. Music develops rhythm, melody, tone, style and harmony. Art works to progress students in line, shape, space, texture and color.
- Library
  - Students attend weekly library class where they explore literary topics such as the parts of a book, authors and illustrators, listening skills, genres, research skills and overall literature appreciation. It also provides them the opportunity to expand their knowledge of the library and gain responsibility through returning and checking out books.
- Computer
  - Students receive training in hardware and technology basics, digital citizenship, research skills, word processing and presentation application. They explore various venues that are available to create digital projects and the methods they practice are used the classroom to enhance the learning of curriculum. They train and practice using digital resources safely, ethically, and morally to impact our world for Jesus Christ.
- Field Trips and Special Events
  - Field trips and special events are also a major part of our curriculum and are coordinated with the current curriculum units. These include Visual Arts Festival, Maymont Park, Richmond Children's Museum, George Washington's Ferry Farm, Field Day, Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day and a nursing home visit.