

# **KINDERGARTEN**

## **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
    - Creation
    - Noah, Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Joshua
    - Life of Christ
    - Paul
    - Missionary stories
  - All parents are welcome to attend our chapels for worship and sharing about God's Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts
  - Kindergarten begins the year with practice in listening, rhyming and sentence concepts. Students are then exposed to new letters and sounds every week and learn how to recognize, write, sound out and blend with other letters in order to read and write words. Students practice reading skills in small groups during the second part of the year. Vocabulary-building and comprehension skills are integrated throughout the program.
  - Daily objectives and activities are designed to give students opportunities to practice reading, speaking and writing in order to become effective communicators.
- Social Studies
  - Students study foundational concepts in American culture, including Pilgrims and Native Americans, historical figures, community helpers, and geography and maps skills. The continent study is Australia.
- Science
  - The study of God's world through science is exciting and full of opportunities for us to know our Creator and Lord. Units studied include light; states of matter; the underground; plants; sun, moon and stars; animals; nutrition; weather; seasons; senses; and care of the body.
- Mathematics
  - Students learn about many concepts including position and sorting, graphing and patterns, numbers and number patterns through 100, measurement, time and money, geometry and fractions, and basic addition and subtraction.

## **Extracurricular**

- Physical Education

- Offered once each week, students learn to appreciate the amazing abilities of the human body and are taught the importance of caring for the body. Also, students build skills in team and individual sports.
- Fine Arts
  - Including music and art, our fine arts programs are held weekly. Music builds skills in the areas of rhythm, melody, tone color and harmony. Art students develop the foundational elements of line, shape, space, texture and color.
- Library
  - Students attend weekly library class where they learn how to use a library as well as explore many literary topics such as the parts of a book, authors and illustrators, listening skills, genres, research skills and overall literature appreciation.
- 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. Students 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 Celebration, Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day, Field Day, and Flat Stanley projects. Field trips may include Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, the Fredericksburg fire station, and Friends of the Rappahannock.

## **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 family, community, jobs, our land, our nation and our history. The continent study is Africa.
- Science
  - The basic principles of the scientific method are illustrated during the year. First graders specifically study several topics including science and scientists, weather, the Earth and its lights, sound, care for the human body, animals, and simple machines.
- Mathematics
  - First grade emphasis is placed in several key areas: 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 Celebration, Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day, and Field Day. Field trips may include Maymont Park, Richmond Children's Museum, and George Washington's Ferry Farm.

## SECOND 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 essential 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:
    - Through the Wilderness
    - Joshua and Judges
    - Ezra and Nehemiah
    - Ruth
    - Jonah
    - Life of Christ
    - Study of prayer
    - Books of the Bible
    - Missionaries
  - All parents are welcome to attend our chapels for worship and sharing about God’s Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts
  - Language arts is a foundational subject area, and we commit considerable time and attention to it on a daily basis. A review of phonics as a key to sounding out and reading words is completed in second grade. Students practice reading skills in small groups throughout the year, and vocabulary-building and comprehension skills are integrated throughout the program. Two short novels are read during the year and are used to teach foundational literary concepts.
  - In English, students thoroughly 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, manuscript and cursive, 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. Second grade topics of study include changes in communities, how government works, buying and selling, people and places, and American culture. The continent study is Asia.
- Science
  - The basic principles of the scientific method are illustrated during the year. Second graders specifically study several topics including what science is, matter, plants, animals, habitats, the solar system, the earth’s structure, and how the body works.

- Mathematics
  - Second grade emphasis is placed in several key areas: 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 caring for their bodies. 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 develop in 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 Celebration, Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day, and Field Day. Field trips may include the Richmond zoo and Wakefield.

## **THIRD 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 essential 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:
    - Joshua
    - Samuel and David

- Elijah and Elisha
  - Esther
  - Daniel
  - Life of Christ including parables
  - Paul
  - Christian Heroes
- All parents are welcome to attend our chapels for worship and sharing about God's Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts
  - Language arts is a foundational subject area, and we commit considerable time and attention to it on a daily basis. Third grade students, with their mastery of phonics and independent reading ability, begin to apply their reading skills in every subject area. Students also maintain their reading skills and explore literary concepts through a class reading and study of novels which may include *Secret in the Maple Tree*, *The Courage of Sarah Noble*, *Encyclopedia Brown*, *Mystery in the Amazon Rainforest*, *Pocahontas and the Strangers*, and *Charlotte's Web*. Students complete their first independent book report in third grade.
  - In English, students thoroughly 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 (cursive) 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. Third grade topics of study include the Constitution, early presidents, Jefferson and moving West, the War of 1812, America Expanding and a Nation Dividing and the Civil War. The continent study is South America.
- Science
  - The basic principles of the scientific method are illustrated during the year. Third graders specifically study several topics including warm- and cold-blooded animals; ecosystems; matter and sound; soil, rocks, and minerals; the solar system; and cells, tissues, and organs.
- Mathematics
  - Third grade emphasis is placed in several key areas: addition and subtraction, data, multiplication and division, fractions, measurement, area and perimeter, and shapes.

## **Extracurricular**

- Physical Education
  - In Physical Education class, offered twice each week, students learn to appreciate the abilities of the human body and are taught how to care for their bodies. 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 teaches skills in the areas of rhythm, melody, tone color, form, style

and harmony. Students apply previously learned music skills as they learn to play the recorder. Art works to progress students in line, shape, space, texture and color.

- Library
  - Students attend weekly library class where they develop in 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 Celebration, Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day, and Field Day. Field trips may include Stratford Hall, Fredericksburg Battlefield, and the Science Museum of Virginia.

## FOURTH 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 essential 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 Wordless book
    - Attributes of God
    - Bible study and prayer
    - Faithfulness
    - Contentment
    - Love
    - Easter and Christmas
    - Christ and His people
    - Eternal promises
  - All parents are welcome to attend our chapels for worship and sharing about God's Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts
  - Students maintain their reading skills and explore literary concepts through a class reading and study of novels which may include *Cricket in Times Square*, *Farmer Boy*, *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, *The Magician's Nephew*, *McBroom's Wonderful One*

*Acre Farm*, and *Where the Red Fern Grows*. Vocabulary-building and comprehension skills are integrated throughout the program. Book reports in a variety of formats and literary genres are completed throughout the year.

- In English, students thoroughly 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 (cursive) 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. Fourth grade topics of study include VA history, Rebuilding the Nation, the Wild West, Growth of Cities, American Expansion, and Problems and Progress. The continent study is North America.
- Science
  - The basic principles of the scientific method are illustrated during the year. Fourth graders specifically study several areas including plants, forces & machines, electricity & magnetism, water & oceans, the moon, and Earth's resources, and digestion.
- Mathematics
  - Emphasis in fourth grade is placed in several key areas: place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, geometry, measurement, perimeter and area.

## **Extracurricular**

- Physical Education
  - In Physical Education class, offered twice each week, students learn to appreciate the abilities of the human body and learn how to care for their bodies. Students also learn and practice skills in a variety of team, individual and lifetime sports.
- Fine Arts
  - Music and art allow students to explore foundational elements of each unique art. Music teaches skills in the areas of rhythm, melody, tone color, form, style and harmony. Art works to progress students in line, shape, space, texture and color.
- Library
  - Students attend weekly library class where they develop in 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. Fourth graders also learn keyboarding skills.
- 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 Celebration, Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day, Field Day, and the National Geographic Bee. Field trips may include the Port Royal One-Room Schoolhouse and downtown Fredericksburg.

## FIFTH 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 essential 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 presentation
    - Character qualities
    - Obedience
    - Being holy
    - My body, God's temple
    - Evangelism and missions
    - Christmas and Easter
    - Life of Paul
  - All parents are welcome to attend our chapels for worship and sharing about God's Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts
  - Fifth grade students apply their reading skills in every subject area and practice reading on a daily basis. Students also maintain their reading skills and explore literary concepts through a class reading and study of novels which may include *Sign of the Beaver*; *Treasures of the Snow*; *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*; *Number the Stars*; *The Orphan of Ellis Island*; *The Journey that Saved Curious George*; and *Medallion*. Vocabulary-building and comprehension skills are integrated throughout the program.
  - Students thoroughly 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 (including research).
- Social Studies
  - History, geography, culture, economics, civics and current affairs are the foundation of the social studies program through which we seek to learn about God's providence in His world. In fifth grade, students continue their study of American history during the 20th century, including such topics as World War I, The Roaring Twenties, The Great Depression & New Deal, and World War II, and 1960 to the present. The continent study is Europe.
- Science

- The study of God’s world through science is exciting and full of opportunities for us to know our Creator and Lord. The basic principles of the scientific method are illustrated during the year. Fifth graders specifically study matter, weather, light, sound, interactions in an ecosystem, the respiratory system, and the circulatory system.
- Mathematics
  - The study of mathematics provides unique opportunities to learn about God’s orderliness, precision, absolute truthfulness and unchangeable nature. Emphasis is placed in several key areas: place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, patterns and graphing, measurement, geometry and volume.

## **Extracurricular**

- Physical Education
  - In Physical Education class, offered twice each week, students learn to appreciate the amazing 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
  - Students may choose to attend a choir class or begin the study of a musical instrument. Concerts and other performance opportunities during the year allow students to share their gifts with others. Students attend art class weekly and explore the foundational elements of line, shape, space, texture and color.
- Library
  - Students attend weekly library class where they learn how to use a library as well as explore many literary topics such as the parts of a book, authors and illustrators, listening skills, genres, research skills and overall literature appreciation. Students enjoy checking out books and develop personal responsibility for returning them each week.
- 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. Fifth graders also practice keyboarding skills.
- 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 Celebration, Grandparents’ and Special Friends’ Day, Field Day, Narnia Day the National Geographic Bee and National Museum of the Marine Corps field trip.

## **SIXTH 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 discover and strengthen a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and develop a biblical worldview.

- At the sixth grade level, students participate in a survey of the Old Testament and discover the themes and characters of the Old Testament.
- All parents are welcome to attend our weekly chapels for worship and sharing about God's Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts
  - Students thoroughly study the structure of sentences including parts of speech, types of sentences, vocabulary, grammar, usage and mechanics. Opportunities are given regularly to write about a variety of topics and improve students' ability to communicate with words. Effective paragraph writing and research skills are emphasized and often integrated with other subject areas.
  - A variety of literature is read and utilized to develop increased literacy, comprehension and critical thinking skills. The sixth grade studies literary concepts through novels which may include *Tuck Everlasting*, *The Bronze Bow*, and *A Christmas Carol* as well as various short stories and poetry.
  - Spelling and vocabulary development are integrated with the study of literature. Greek and Latin roots and their application to word spellings and meanings are studied in sixth and seventh grades. Basic MLA Format is taught consistently in various subjects.
- History
  - During the middle school years students embark on a chronological study of history in order to recognize God's providence and sovereignty in world events. Students begin with ancient world history in sixth grade. Geography concepts and current events are integrated throughout the year.
- Science
  - Students explore a variety of topics from the life, earth and physical sciences. Creation is taught in accordance with the account in Genesis, and other issues in science are studied in light of biblical principles. Hands-on learning opportunities and emphasis on the scientific method are a regular part of science class.
- Mathematics
  - The study of mathematics provides unique opportunities to learn about God's orderliness, precision, unchangeableness and absolute truthfulness. Emphasis is placed in several key strands: number sense, patterns, algebraic thinking, decimal operations, fractions, data analysis and probability, integers, equations, ratios and proportions, percent, and geometry.

## **Extracurricular**

- Physical Education
  - Students attend Physical Education on a rotation basis during the year. They learn to appreciate the amazing 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.
- Art
  - Students attend art class for a portion of the year and explore the foundational elements of line, shape, space, texture and color. An annual Visual Arts Celebration highlights each student's artwork.
- Computer Class

- Students attend computer class for a portion of the year and use a variety of programs to complete projects in technology basics, digital citizenship, presentations, and word processing. Students also continue keyboarding which includes learning correct fingering and daily practice to improve proficiency.
- Band and Orchestra
  - The main emphasis of the instrumental program at FCS is to provide a medium through which musicianship and social skills can be formed through a well-rounded music education. This full-year class encompasses a basic knowledge of music history and music theory in addition to technical and expressive skill in the student's respective instrument. Students may participate in band or orchestra. Concert performances, competitive festivals and other opportunities to share and grow in musical ability are experienced throughout the year.
- Choir
  - Choir for middle school students is an opportunity to develop their musical talents and honor the Lord by sharing them with others. Students in choir meet every day all year to explore basic techniques of singing and vocal production, expand their score reading skills and understanding of musical elements, develop personal vocal range, tone, control and listening skills, and perform a variety of types of music. The choir performs concerts, competes in festivals and sings in other venues during the year.

## SEVENTH 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 discover and strengthen a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and develop a biblical worldview.
  - At the seventh grade level, students participate in a survey of the New Testament and discover the themes and characters of the New Testament.
  - All parents are welcome to attend our weekly chapels for worship and sharing about God's Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts and Literature
  - Students thoroughly study the structure of sentences including parts of speech, types of sentences, grammar, usage and mechanics. Opportunities are given regularly to write about a variety of topics and improve students' ability to communicate with words. Effective paragraph writing and research skills are emphasized and often integrated with other subject areas.
  - A variety of literature is read and utilized to develop increased literacy, comprehension and critical thinking skills. Literature concepts studied and novels read may include various short stories, poetry, Shakespeare, *Through the Gates of Splendor* and *Running for My Life*.
  - Spelling and vocabulary development are integrated with the study of literature. Greek and Latin roots and their application to word spellings and meanings are studied in sixth and seventh grades.
- History

- During seventh grade students complete a chronological study of world history in order to recognize God's providence and sovereignty in world events. Geography concepts and current events are integrated throughout the year.
- Science
  - Students explore a variety of life science topics including topics such as cells, plants, animals, organisms and more. Creation is taught in accordance with the account in Genesis, and other issues in science are studied in light of biblical principles. Hands-on learning opportunities and emphasis on the scientific method are a regular part of science class.
- Mathematics
  - The study of mathematics provides unique opportunities to learn about God's orderliness, precision, unchangeableness and absolute truthfulness. Students may be in Math 7 or Pre-Algebra.

## **Extracurricular**

- Physical Education
  - Students attend Physical Education on a rotation basis during the year. They learn to appreciate the amazing 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.
- Computer Class
  - Students attend computer class for a portion of the year and use a variety of programs to complete projects in technology basics, digital citizenship, presentations, and word processing. Students also continue keyboarding which includes learning correct fingering and daily practice to improve proficiency.
- Band and Orchestra
  - The main emphasis of the instrumental program at FCS is to provide a medium through which musicianship and social skills can be formed through a well-rounded music education. This encompasses a basic knowledge of music history and music theory in addition to technical and expressive skill in the student's respective instrument, while participating in various concert performances and competitive festivals throughout the year.
  - Students with knowledge and experience in a musical instrument may participate in the middle school orchestra or the middle school band.
- Art
  - Students can attend art class for either a portion of the year or the full-year. They explore the foundational elements of line, shape, space, texture and color. An annual Visual Arts Celebration highlights each student's artwork.
- Choir
  - Choir for middle school students is an opportunity to develop their musical talents and honor the Lord by sharing them with others. Students in choir meet every day to explore basic techniques of singing and vocal production, expand their score reading skills and understanding of musical elements, develop personal vocal range, tone, control and listening skills, and perform a variety of types of music. The choir performs concerts, competes in festivals and sings in other venues throughout the year.

## **EIGHTH 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 discover and strengthen a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and develop a biblical worldview.
  - At the eighth grade level, students participate in an in-depth study of several books of the Bible as well as learning about faith with the study of *Know Why You Believe*.
  - All parents are welcome to attend our weekly chapels for worship and sharing about God's Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts
  - Students thoroughly study the structure of sentences including parts of speech, types of sentences, grammar, usage and mechanics. Opportunities are given regularly to write about a variety of topics and improve students' ability to communicate with words. Effective paragraph writing and research skills are emphasized and often integrated with other subject areas.
  - A variety of literature is read and utilized to develop increased literacy, comprehension and critical thinking skills. Literature concepts studied and novels read at the eighth grade level may include selected short stories, *The Miracle Worker*, and *The Diary of Anne Frank*.
  - Spelling and vocabulary development are integrated with the study of literature.
- History
  - During eighth grade, students complete a chronological study of American history in order to recognize God's providence and sovereignty through the history of our nation. Geography concepts and current events are integrated throughout the year.
- Science
  - Students explore a variety of physical science topics such as motion and forces, matter, simple machines, electricity and magnetism, sound, light, atoms and the Periodic Table, compounds, acids, and bases. Hands-on learning opportunities and emphasis on the scientific method are a regular part of science class.
- Mathematics
  - The study of mathematics provides unique opportunities to learn about God's orderliness, precision, unchangeableness and absolute truthfulness. Students may be in Pre-Algebra or Algebra I. Students in Algebra I earn high school credit.

## Extracurricular

- Physical Education
  - Students attend Physical Education class for a portion of the year. They learn to appreciate the amazing 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.
- Computer Class
  - Students attend computer class for a portion of the year and use a variety of programs to complete projects in technology basics, digital citizenship, presentations, and word processing. Students also continue keyboarding which includes learning correct fingering and daily practice to improve proficiency.

- Band and Orchestra
  - The main emphasis of the instrumental program at FCS is to provide a medium through which musicianship and social skills can be formed through a well-rounded music education. This encompasses a basic knowledge of music history and music theory in addition to technical and expressive skill in the student's respective instrument, while participating in various concert performances and competitive festivals.
  - Students with knowledge and experience in a musical instrument may participate in the middle school orchestra or the middle school band.
- Art
  - Students can attend art class the full-year and explore the foundational elements of line, shape, space, texture and color. An annual Visual Arts Celebration highlights each student's artwork.
- Choir
  - Choir for middle school students is an opportunity to develop their musical talents and honor the Lord by sharing them with others. Students in choir meet every day to explore basic techniques of singing and vocal production, expand their score reading skills and understanding of musical elements, develop personal vocal range, tone, control and listening skills, and perform a variety of types of music. The choir performs concerts, competes in festivals and sings in other venues during the year.
- Foreign Language
  - Students have the opportunity to attend a full-year foreign language class. These classes earn high school credit.
- Drama
  - Students have the opportunity to attend a full-year Introduction to Drama class. Students learn drama techniques and have various performance opportunities throughout the year.