

HOW IS MY CHILD LEARNING IN FIRST GRADE?



Morning Meeting

When your child is engaged in our daily morning meeting, he/she is practicing skills such as greeting, listening and responding, speaking to a group, praying out loud, reading, group problem-solving, noticing, and anticipating. We integrate aspects of the classroom curriculum into the routine, which helps students make the transition to school and sets a tone of interactive and engaged learning from the outset of the day. Prayer focuses our hearts and minds on Christ and helps us to not only ensure that we are walking daily with Him, but also to care for one another as He cares for us.

Morning Work

When your child is engaged in morning work, he/she is independently practicing and reviewing fundamental math and literacy skills that spiral throughout the year to gain understanding and mastery of grade-level skills.

Readers Workshop

When your child is engaged in readers workshop, he/she is working cooperatively and independently by rotating through various literacy-based activities that provide him/her with opportunities to explore and practice writing, manipulating sounds and spelling patterns, reading, developing vocabulary, retelling and summarizing stories, and building fluency and comprehension.

Guided Reading

When your child is engaged in a guided reading lesson, he/she is learning various reading strategies needed to become a fluent, independent reader, building his/her fluency and comprehension, and practicing phonemic and print awareness. Guided reading takes place in small groups or in one-on-one sessions during readers workshop.

Writers Workshop

When your child is engaged in writers workshop, he/she is writing to communicate to an audience, building endurance and stamina, developing and refining grade appropriate writing skills, such as basic capitalization, correct punctuation, and spelling, working on the writing process (plan, draft, revise, edit, publish), and improving his/her fine motor skills and handwriting.

Math Workshop

When your child is engaged in math workshop, he/she is working both cooperatively and independently through activities designed for developing and honing fundamental skills in addition and subtraction, patterning, problem solving, estimating and predicting, graphing, telling time, counting coins, comparing, measuring, numeral recognition, one-to-one correspondence, sorting, sequencing, and number sense.

Science & Social Studies

When your child is engaged in science or social studies activities, he/she is making connections through knowledge, strategies, skills, and vocabulary to other learning areas such as reading, writing, and math concepts. Children learn about how the world works through a Biblical lens that encourages them to study both scientific and social concepts by comparing and contrasting them to the Bible, experiencing hands-on science experiments and theory, and exploring the social world first hand.

Enrichment

When your child is doing enrichment activities, he/she is involved in physical activities, participating in music and movement, and developing an awareness and appreciation for the arts. In the computer lab, he/she is working independently and building stamina, learning mouse control, enhancing fine motor skills, practicing basic computer functions, learning how to manipulate and operate various computer programs, and enhancing reading, math and phonemic awareness skills.

Bible

When your child is engaged in Bible lessons and activities, he/she is developing an understanding of the fruit of the Spirit, gaining basic Biblical truths at a developmentally appropriate level, and learning how much God loves and cares for each of them, enough that He sacrificed His only Son to die on the cross for their sins, so that they could have a personal relationship with Him.

Recess

When your child is at recess, he/she is developing in areas such as oral language, fine and gross motor skills, problem solving skills, spatial reasoning, interpersonal skills, self-confidence, sharing, and taking turns.

Project-Based Learning

When your child is engaged in projects, he/she is developing knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an authentic, engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge. Projects are focused on student learning goals at the appropriate level of challenge and require a rigorous, extended process of asking questions, finding resources, and applying information. Students make some decisions about the project, including how they work and what they create, and subject their work to reflection, critique, and revision before making their product(s) public.