

KINDERGARTEN



GOALS

Spiritual

Kindergarten students spend the first portion of each day in a grade level Morning Assembly where they discuss Bible stories, sing songs, share prayer requests, and pray together. The goal is to say, "Good Morning Lord, today is Your day, I am Your child, show me Your way."

Academic

Our Kindergarten students begin their school experience with tremendous input in both Language Arts and Math. By the end of the year, we see our Kindergarten students able to read close to 60 words per minute, identify all single-letter phonograms, spell common words, and complete 15-20 addition facts in 2 minutes.

Social/Emotional

Kindergarten students continue to grow in independence with unpacking/packing their backpacks, keeping their work area neat, accepting correction with a good attitude, and being patient with and thoughtful towards their peers.

TRADITIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Thanksgiving Feast

Students choose to research either a Pilgrim or Wampanoag Native American and assemble a presentation based on the lifestyle of these First Thanksgiving participants. Students also have the opportunity to dress the part for their presentation.

Fairy Tale Presentation

Students dress as a fairy tale character and share information about their character in a brief classroom presentation. Students also participate in a "fairy tale ball" where they rotate through engaging and educational centers and dance a dance (or two).

100th Day of School

We celebrate the 100th day of school in style by putting our counting skills to the test! Students count out and bring 100 items to share with their classmates.

Grade Level Capacity 48

Class Sections 3-4

Students per Class 14

Student to Teacher Ratio 14:1.5

GRAMMAR SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Grammar Stage

In the Grammar School, basic factual content and rules – the "grammar" – of each subject is mastered. The curricular emphasis during these years is on learning basic facts and figures during the time when children love to memorize (and when they are best at doing so).

Parent Involvement

The parent's role in Grammar School is that of a co-teacher. As such, one parent needs to lead in the co-teaching role and is expected to become familiar with the curriculum and basic teaching techniques to actively engage and implement lessons on school at home days. There are also ample opportunities for parents to volunteer on-campus as a Home Room Helper, Copy Mom, Field Trip Chaperone, and more. Parents are also encouraged to attend in-class presentations and grade level special events.

School Traditions

Special Grammar School traditions include Chapel, Veritas ROCKS, a special Homecoming Pep Rally, a winter Daddy-Daughter Dance, and an annual Food Drive.

Community Connections

Opportunities for Grammar School students to connect to the entire community include Adopt a School of Rhetoric Athlete, MLK Service Day, Family Defender Night, and Fall Fest.

Grammar School Chapel

Grammar School students gather regularly for Chapel. During this time, students participate in liturgies such as the singing of the Doxology, saying the Lord's Prayer, and singing Shalom. They also discuss what it means to be a Veritas Valiant.

Veritas ROCKS

Based on the biblical concept of building our homes on rock and not on sand, Veritas ROCKS summarizes the standard of behavior that will be promoted at Veritas Academy:

R – Respect Authority

O – Others are Important

C – Correction: Accept it and Learn from it

K – Keep Yourself Prepared

S – Seek Excellence

CORE CLASSES

MATH	Using a multi-sensory approach, students are taught to sequence numbers, compare quantities and size, learn patterning, count forward to 100 and backward from 20, count by 2s, 5s and 10s, recognize and read numbers to 1000, identify ordinal position to ten, recognize the names and value of coins, tell time to the half hour, understand the operations of addition and subtraction, and master addition facts, among numerous other skills.
HANDWRITING	Fine motor skills are strengthened as students are instructed in the proper pencil grip and proper letter formation. Kindergarten students receive instruction in both upper and lower case letters.
READING	The love of reading is best caught when students read in a book that fits them. Students receive individualized instruction by reading through basal readers with a controlled vocabulary. Classical read-alouds are also enjoyed in the classroom.
SPELLING	Students begin learning about the encoding of language through learning the sounds and spellings of phonograms. Beginning mid-year, students receive multi-sensory instruction in the spelling of some of the most frequently used words.
MEMORY WORK	With the desire that families would memorize Scripture together, all Grammar School students memorize a passage of Scripture along with the rest of the school. "Thinking Points" are provided to facilitate meaningful discussion around the dinner table.

DAILY SCHEDULE 8:20AM – 2PM, WITH AN OPTIONAL ELECTIVE UNTIL 3PM

Morning Assembly – 20 minutes	Handwriting – 30 minutes	Reading – 30 minutes
Calendar – 10 minutes	Music – 20 minutes	Bible – 10 minutes
Math – 30 minutes	Recess – 20 minutes	Phonics/Spelling – 30 minutes
ELF Movement – 20 minutes	Lunch – 20 minutes	Centers – 25 minutes

IN GRAMMAR SCHOOL, COURSES ARE COMBINED INTO ONE CORE BLOCK AND TEACHERS STRUCTURE THE SCHOOL DAY TO INCLUDE INSTRUCTION OF ALL SUBJECTS. THIS DAILY SCHEDULE IS A GENERAL GUIDE OF A TYPICAL SCHOOL DAY.

SCHOOL AT HOME DAY GENERALLY 2-3 HOURS PER DAY

Language Arts – 1-1.5 hours	Math – 1-1.5 hours
-----------------------------	--------------------

FIELD TRIPS

Beginning in Kindergarten, Veritas Academy offers one to two specifically crafted field trips for each grade level that are aimed at supporting the grade level's curriculum. Field trips are teacher-led, occur on a Veritas classroom day, and are required for students enrolled in the class.

FALL	SPRING
SWEET BERRY FARMS	AUSTIN NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER



PROJECTS/PRESENTATIONS

Kindergarten students also begin to present special projects to the class in order to provide ample opportunities for them to become comfortable and confident in their public speaking skills. Rhetoric skills learned in Grammar and Logic schools build toward the capstone Senior Thesis, a 20-minute memorized speech that students present and defend in the spring of their Senior year.

FALL	SPRING
THANKSGIVING SPEECH	FAIRYTALE PROJECT