

SECOND GRADE



GOALS

Spiritual

Second Grade students participate in daily devotionals and class prayer. Through a unit just before Thanksgiving, students are also taught to value the gift of service to others, which is carried out as a theme throughout the remainder of the school year.

Academic

Second Grade students continue building upon what was learned the previous year by increasing their reading fluency to 100 words per minute, coming closer to mastering both single and multi-letter phonograms, and increasing their speed with addition and subtraction math facts. They also begin learning to write in cursive.

Social/Emotional

In the Second Grade, teachers focus on cultivating a greater sense of independence and ownership over daily assignments and materials to help prepare students for upper Grammar School grades.

TRADITIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Solar Ovens

After their study of weather, seasons, and the solar system, students use the power of the sun to make s'mores in a solar oven they created.

Volcano Experiment

As a part of their study of Earth Science, classes spend an afternoon outside creating and erupting volcanoes.

Renaissance Festival

After both their study of chivalry & knights and the Renaissance period, students celebrate by dressing as royalty, playing ancient games, and enjoying a feast.

Grade Level Capacity 48

Class Sections 3

Students per Class 16

Student to Teacher Ratio 16:1

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	In this course students learn to compare numbers to 1000; understand the place value of hundreds, tens and ones, add/subtract 3-digit numbers, measure length/weight in standard and metric units, multiply/divide, solve mental addition and subtraction, count money, recognize fractions, tell time, recognize time intervals, recognize 3-dimensional shapes, and solve one-step word problems.
HANDWRITING	After a solid review of print, Second Grade students transition to learning cursive handwriting.
READING	The love of reading is best caught when students read a book that fits them. Students receive individualized instruction by reading through basal readers with a controlled vocabulary. As students are ready, they transition into appropriate chapter books and specified comprehension questions are introduced. Classes enjoy <i>Mr. Popper's Penguins</i> as their class read-aloud.
SPELLING	Students continue to build their knowledge of single and multi-letter phonograms and study the spelling of the most frequently used words. Several spelling rules are introduced as words grow more challenging.
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 – 3PM, WITH AN OPTIONAL ELECTIVE UNTIL 4PM

Morning Meeting – 10-15 minutes	Science/History – 30-40 minutes	Latin – 10 minutes
Math – 60-70 minutes	Spelling – 20 minutes	Specials Wheel – 50 minutes
Writing – 30 minutes	Reading – 20 minutes	
Lunch/Recess – 40 minutes	Grammar – 15 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 4-5 HOURS PER DAY

Language Arts – 1.5-2 hours	Math – 1-1.5 hours	Science/History – 40-60 minutes
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FIELD TRIPS

Second Grade students go on two specifically crafted field trips 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
VOLUNTEER WORK	INNER SPACE CAVERNS



PROJECTS/PRESENTATIONS

In order to provide ample opportunities for students to become comfortable and confident in their public speaking skills, Second Graders have two major presentations during the school year. 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
COAT OF ARMS PRESENTATION	SOLAR SYSTEM PRESENTATION

