



MICDS

MARY INSTITUTE AND SAINT LOUIS COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

LOWER SCHOOL

Curriculum

2023-2024

LANGUAGE ARTS	<p>A literature-based reading curriculum develops word knowledge, fluency, and comprehension. Literature is chosen for literary quality (i.e. richness of language, structure, vocabulary, character development and plot, and authenticity of culture and history) as well as challenge and age-appropriate readability. A process-oriented writing program emphasizes ideas, word choice, organization, presentation, sentence fluency and conventions in narrative and non-narrative genres.</p>					
MATHEMATICS	<p>The program emphasizes concept mastery through a framework based on metacognition, processes, concepts, skills and problem solving. Math is experienced through a developmental continuum of hands-on instruction and practice, problem solving, skill consolidation and use of technology.</p>					
SCIENCE	<p>The developmentally appropriate and challenging curriculum includes explorations in life science (plants and animals), physical science (chemistry, magnets, physics) and earth science (geology, space, weather, archaeology).</p>					
SOCIAL STUDIES	<p>The curriculum consists of concepts and skill-building knowledge in areas such as culture, history, geography, citizenship, government, economics, global connections, science and technology. Organizing and presenting research is a key component.</p>					
THEMATIC AND PROJECT BASED STUDIES	JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN: Circle of Friends, Habitats (forest, desert, ocean and pond)	SENIOR KINDERGARTEN: Me and My World: Me, My Family, Cultures and Creatures	FIRST GRADE: Me I Am, Community, China and Community Connections	SECOND GRADE: Community Connections (MICDS & St. Louis)	THIRD GRADE: Family History, States, US Regions, Missouri (Civics)	FOURTH GRADE: US Pre-History & Movement of People, Conflict, US (Government & Civics)
WORLD LANGUAGE	<p>Spanish Students gain competence in listening, speaking, reading and writing in Spanish. Hispanic cultures are also introduced with literature, music, geography, holidays, dances and fiestas.</p>					
ARTS	<p>STUDIO ARTS: With the models of world art and the great masterworks, students' art creations develop in-depth understanding of the four elements of art: line, shape, color and texture. Each year, students develop their skills in ceramic art, sculpture, drawing, painting and other forms of image making.</p> <p>MUSIC: Through total involvement in the creative and performing process, children study how sound can be organized, read and written, as well as the cultural and historical significance of musical literature. Musical experiences occur through games, stories, songs, dances and improvisation.</p>					
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	<p>Daily classes emphasize the development of strength, balance, endurance, agility, locomotion skills and eye-hand coordination while enhancing the students' listening, thinking and sequencing skills and fostering sportsmanship.</p>					
INFORMATION LITERACY AND TECHNOLOGY	<p>Through library and integrated technology, students are taught information literacy and technology skills to become proficient in the location and use of information sources and tools, as well as becoming more creative and sophisticated in the communication and presentation of knowledge. This work is integrated into the homeroom curriculum at all grade levels.</p>					
SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EXPERIENCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All-Beasley Assemblies • Beasley Art Gallery Night • Beasley Community Day • Field Trips • Fourth Grade Invention Fair • Fourth Grade Overnight Trip • Fourth Grade Recognition • Grandparents & Special Friends Day • Music Performances • "Reading, Writing and Running, Too!" • Skate Week • Third and Fourth Grade Chorus • Thematic Interdisciplinary Weeks • Winter Holiday Program • Winter Term 					
AFTER SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES	<p>Extended Day, Enrichment Classes, Holiday Camp, Scouting Programs, Parent-led Recreational Team Sports</p>					