



TO PREACH THE  
UNSEARCHABLE  
RICHES OF  
*Christ*

EPHESIANS 3:8

SAINTAUSTINSCHOOL.ORG



# THE ST. AUSTIN SCHOOL

---

CATHOLIC ✠ CLASSICAL

## PROSPECTUS

### 2024-2025

THAT IN

ALL

THINGS

GOD

MAY BE

GLORIFIED

# OUR MISSION



The St. Austin School provides a rigorous academic program which prepares our students to excel in secondary schools of the highest caliber. In collaboration with our families, we help form students in Christian virtues and the lifelong practice of the Catholic Faith.



# PHILOSOPHY

The St. Austin School firmly holds to the Catholic conviction that parents are the first and most enduring educators of their children and that the family is a privileged school in which children learn Christian virtues and establish the practice of the Catholic Faith (cf. CCC2223 ff.). The school works collaboratively with parents and families and values the close associations that naturally develop between those involved in the care of the children.

The St. Austin School endeavors to extend this family environment so that children may “increase in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52). We believe that education is primarily the work of helping form character in each child so that the student develops sound judgment and self-mastery. We seek to assist parents in passing on their religious and moral values by promoting a consistent message at school and in the social relationships of the extended school community.

Central to the school’s mission is the inculcation of Benedictine spirituality, a 1500 year-old tradition carried on by the monks at St. Louis Abbey, which provides the school’s chaplaincy. Following in the footsteps of St. Benedict, the school teaches the students the value of listening, in order to hear what God is saying and to learn the faith so well that they can explain it to others. The students are taught to seek God in everything they do, and to grow closer to Him through their work and especially through prayer. Additionally, the school teaches the children to see Christ in everyone they meet, and to strive to become Christ for every person they meet. We wish to develop the natural love of God in the hearts of the children so that they may seek Him above all things and find joy in worshiping Him in the beauty of holiness. Therefore, Holy Mass and regular Confession are the central core to the school’s chaplaincy.

We strive to instill in each child a love of learning and the ability to speak well, write well, and think well. To that end, the school follows a demanding classical liberal arts curriculum which allows the students to succeed and excel in secondary schools of the highest caliber. The curriculum is integrated so that the students can see the relationships between art, history, literature, and mathematics. The students are presented with a curriculum that presents a coherent Catholic worldview.

The motto of the school is taken from St. Paul’s Epistle to the Ephesians: To preach...the unsearchable riches of Christ (Ephesians 3:8). There is a two-fold meaning to this text. First, the teachers of the school wish to bring St. Paul’s inspired wisdom to their teaching. The transmission of the Christian faith consists primarily in proclaiming Jesus Christ in order to lead others to faith in Him (CCC 425 ff). Second, we hope that our children when they are fully formed will likewise ...burn with the desire to proclaim Christ: “We cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”(Acts 4:20) (CCC 425 ff). On September 8, 2021, we dedicated our school to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

LISTEN  
WITH THE  
EAR  
OF YOUR  
HEART

RULE OF ST. BENEDICT



LET THE SERENITY OF YOUR SPIRIT  
SHINE THROUGH YOUR FACE.

*Let the joy of your mind burst forth.*

LET WORDS OF THANKS BREAK FROM YOUR LIPS.

ST. PETER DAMIAN



# SCHOOL STAFF

## HEAD OF SCHOOL

Mrs. Gerry Dolan

## ASSISTANT HEAD OF SCHOOL

Mr. Thomas Capps

## CHAPLAIN

Prior Dominic Lenk, OSB

## ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR

Mrs. Danielle Morgenthaler

## BUSINESS MANAGER

Mr. Jim Spellmeyer

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

Mrs. Tracy Stemler

Mrs. Amanda Lowe

Mrs. Sarah Giammanco

## SCHOOL SECRETARY

Ms. Pat Nieberding

Mrs. Theresa Leland

## DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Mr. Mark Kraus

## FORMATION TEAM

Mr. Thomas Capps

Mrs. Michele Chronister

Mr. Jose Silva

## MASTER TEACHER TEAM

Mrs. Marilyn Lonigro

Mrs. Mary Agnew

Mrs. Mary Ann Hunker

Mrs. Pat Luna

Mrs. Jane McCabe

## SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Mrs. Danielle Morgenthaler, President

Prior Dominic Lenk, OSB

Mr. Jim Spellmeyer

Mrs. Willa Frattini

Mrs. Colleen Kinnison

Mrs. Laura Stock

Mrs. Jane McCabe, Secretary

Mrs. Gerry Dolan, Ex Officio

# SCHOOL FACULTY

PreK Lead Teacher  
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Mrs. Julie Riley  
MA, Theology  
BA, French and English  
BS, Secondary Education  
CGS, Level 1 and 2

PreK Teacher's Assistant

Mrs. Brigida Leonard  
BS, Early Childhood/Elementary Ed.

PreK Teacher's Assistant

Mrs. Micaela Plumb (M,W,F)

Form I (Grade K)

Mrs. Elizabeth Climaco  
BS, Early Childhood Education and Special Education

Form I Teachers' Assistant

Mrs. Lynn Hellmuth

Form II (Grade 1)

Mrs. Tracy Mohon  
BA, English

Form III (Grade 2)

Miss Emily Schaper  
BA, Communications

Form III Teacher's Assistant

Mrs. Micaela Plumb (T,Th)

Form IV (Grade 3)

Miss Emma Reddy  
BA, Elementary Education

Form V (Grade 4)

Miss Claudia Sahm  
BS, Theology and Evangelization  
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level 1

Form V (Grade 4) Co-Teacher

Mrs. Pat Luna  
MA, Educational Processes  
BS, Education

Form VI (Grade 5) Homeroom Teacher  
Religion and Logic/Philosophy (5-8)  
English and Literature (5,6)

Mrs. Michele Chronister  
MA, Theology  
BA, Theology and Philosophy

Form VII Homeroom Teacher (Grade 6)  
English and Literature (7,8)  
History (7,8)  
PE (2-8)

Mr. Travis O'Dea  
BA, English

# SCHOOL FACULTY

Form VIII (Grades 7 & 8) Homeroom Teacher  
Spanish  
Science (5-8)

Mr. Jose Silva  
EdD, Higher Education Leadership (ABD)  
MA, Music Theory  
BM, Music Performance  
AAS, Music

Math (5-7)

Mr. Nicholas Cook  
MA, Education  
BS, Business Administration and Finance  
BA, Philosophy

Latin (1-8), History (5,6)

Mr. Thomas Capps  
BA, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

Art

Mrs. Carrie Blase  
BA, Graphic Arts

Music

Dr. Patrick Bergin  
PhD, Musicology  
BA, Music Education

Library

Mrs. Jeanmarie DeCoster  
BA, English Literature

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Mrs. Vickie Gardner  
BS, Health Sciences  
CGS, Level 1

SEEKING  
TRUTH  
GOODNESS  
*and*  
*Beauty*

---

✠

# ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

The St. Austin School is an independent private Catholic school situated in West St. Louis County. The school is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The St. Austin School Association of the Faithful is responsible for the Catholicity of the school.

**Address:** The St. Austin School  
P.O. Box 6906  
Chesterfield, MO 63006

**Website:** [www.SaintAustinSchool.org](http://www.SaintAustinSchool.org)

**Phone:** 314-580-2802

**Email:** [secretary@SaintAustinSchool.org](mailto:secretary@SaintAustinSchool.org)

The school admits boys and girls as day students in grades PreK through eighth. It offers a classical program of primary education from the intellectual and spiritual wealth of the Catholic Faith. The school year runs from August through May, and the school day is in session from 8:30 AM until 3:15 PM Monday through Friday. The school year is divided into three terms.

The children are organized into Forms:

PreK

Form I: Grade K

Form II: Grade 1

Form III: Grade 2

Form IV: Grade 3

Form V: Grade 4

Form VI: Grade 5

Form VII: Grade 6

Form VIII: Grades 7 and 8

# ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

## ADMISSION OF PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

Prospective parents should always visit the school early on in the admissions process. This is a good opportunity to look around the school, see the children at work, and also meet the Head of School and other staff. Please contact the school secretary to make arrangements for a visit.

In the year prior to formal entrance into school (PreK), parents have the option of two, three or five day a week class and full or half days. This allows parents the flexibility to choose the configuration that works best for their family.

The St. Austin School does not discriminate against applicants and students on the basis of race, sex, color, and national or ethnic origin. The St. Austin School adopts this racially nondiscriminatory policy as to students, makes this policy known to the general public, and operates in a bona fide manner in accordance therewith in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, tuition assistance, scholarship and loan programs (if any), and other school administration programs.

## CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Central to The St. Austin School's philosophy is to provide for each individual child according to the student's needs. However, as a small school we are not able to provide adequately for children with special needs. In situations where we might be able to help, the school will seek to accommodate needs on an individual basis at the discretion of the Head of School.

# SCHOOL CURRICULUM

At The St. Austin School, each child is encouraged to develop socially, intellectually, and spiritually at his optimum pace. This is achieved by involving the children in active and independent learning. Emphasis is placed on the essential skills of literacy, numeracy, and religious instruction. These are worked out through a varied and exciting curriculum, which we believe is both broad and balanced and is intended to help children engage with the greatest ideas found in the best books.



WHATEVER YOU DO, THINK OF THE  
*Glory of God*  
AS YOUR MAIN GOAL.  
ST. JOHN BOSCO

# SCHOOL CURRICULUM

## CORE SUBJECTS

### **Religious Instruction (RI)**

St. Anselm defined theology as *fides quaerens intellectum* – an active love of God (*fides*) seeking a deeper knowledge of God (*intellectum*). Religious Instruction (RI) provides the foundation for understanding that will allow the lifelong process of living the Catholic Faith. The tools for this are the Holy Bible, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Faith and Life Series, and thorough understanding of the Church's Sacraments and Ceremonies, especially Holy Mass. In middle school, understanding Hebrew will be used to help the students develop an understanding of Israelite culture by learning the language, which will open their minds to Scripture, thereby helping them to better understand it.

### **English**

A sound knowledge of grammar and the ability to express oneself clearly and articulately, both orally and in writing, are the goals of the English program.

### **Logic and Reasoning**

Logic instruction focuses on teaching students to think critically. Developing a propensity for right reasoning will impact every aspect of the student's academic life and personal development.

### **Literature**

Reading good books is not only central to teaching English but touches on all subjects. The best books are used across the curriculum in all subjects. These books engage the mind, delight the soul, and provide food for the imagination. A good book makes every topic come alive; therefore, the best literature is the most important element in instruction.

# SCHOOL CURRICULUM

## CORE SUBJECTS

### **Latin**

Latin is the language of the Church and the foundation of our culture. It is essential for the fullest participation in the liturgical life of the Church, provides excellent mental training, and assists the understanding of English; therefore, Latin vocabulary, song, and prayers are taught from Grade 1 onwards. Latin grammar is introduced in conjunction with the study of English grammar to help the children understand how the science of grammar works.

### **History**

History is presented in a chronological perspective in order to help the students develop a historical sense as well as a real and profound understanding of the people and events which have shaped human culture.

Geography covers all aspects of the study of the earth, its physical attributes, climate, and its peoples. Map work is incorporated into the subject.

### **Mathematics**

Mathematics is a tool relevant to everyday life. The early grades concentrate on measuring, estimating, working with shapes, money, number patterns, graphs, tables, and number calculations. The latter grades concentrate on rational numbers, geometry concepts, and Algebra. Students should have completed Algebra I by the end of Grade 8.

### **Science**

Nature study is the basis of the science program. This includes observation, classification, use of the scientific method, and recording data findings in a scientific manner. Our aim is that children will develop flexible, inquiring minds, a scientific approach to problem-solving, and be led to a sense of wonder and gratitude at God's creation.

*Almighty God,*

GIVE ME WISDOM TO PERCEIVE YOU,  
INTELLIGENCE TO UNDERSTAND YOU,

DILIGENCE TO SEEK YOU,

PATIENCE TO WAIT FOR YOU,

EYES TO BEHOLD YOU,

A HEART TO MEDITATE UPON YOU

AND LIFE TO PROCLAIM YOU,

*through the power of the  
Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Amen.*

ST. BENEDICT

# SCHOOL CURRICULUM

## ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS

### **Spanish**

Spanish is one of the most popular and useful languages today. The students will read, translate, and understand words, genders and associated articles; greetings, both formal/informal; and verbs in varying tenses. They will engage in dialogues and conversation.

### **Music**

Through an emphasis on developing each student's first and God-given instrument--the voice--students are taught good vocal technique (*bel canto*), and given a comprehensive music education through the Ward Method including elements of ear training, note reading, solfege, music theory, improvisation, and composition. Students sing daily at morning prayer, at regular school Masses, and annual Christmas and Easter concerts in addition to other special events. Middle school students receive additional instruction in the history and appreciation of music (especially sacred music) and are welcome to join the after-school choir program for further musical development.

### **Art**

Students will explore the techniques and processes for the production of visual arts, the principles and elements of different art forms, and apply the design process in their own works of art. They will interpret and evaluate works of art and understand visual art as it relates to other disciplines and in historical and cultural contexts.

### **Drama**

The drama program provides instruction in the performing arts, as well as the production of a play at the end of the year. Students will develop skills in acting methods, story-telling, set construction, character development, and improvisation. Ultimately, students will learn how they can inspire the world through acting.

### **Physical Education (PE)**

Year-round outdoor play will be emphasized. Students will develop motor and movement skills, team building skills, and enjoy physical activity which provides challenge, social interaction, and self-expression.

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## PRE-KINDERGARTEN

The PreK at St. Austin follows the Montessori method and follows a multi-year cycle in which children are exposed to the following:

### **Religious Education**

PreK utilizes Catechesis of the Good Shepherd as our religious education program

### **Story Time/Literature**

Exposure to well-known folk tales and nursery rhymes and finger plays  
Books related to seasonal themes

### **Logic**

Various puzzles and sensorial manipulatives to create ordered patterns and eventually complex designs.

### **Penmanship**

Montessori sandpaper letters and sand trays to become familiar with letter shapes and sounds  
Metal insets to practice pincer grip and control of movement with writing utensils.

### **Literacy and Numeracy**

Montessori materials allow children to read and spell small words and become familiar with numbers and relationships among numbers.

### **Science:**

Nature walks and nature study on property  
Manipulatives and card materials for:  
    life cycles of various animals and plants  
    gardening and growing from seeds  
    planets and solar system  
    physical science (buoyancy, magnetics)

### **History:**

Geography puzzles for countries of each continent  
Flags for countries of each continent  
Animals and biomes of all continents

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## PRE-KINDERGARTEN

### Art:

Expression in various media: watercolor, crayon, colored pencil, tempera paint, oil pastel, cut and paste, dough, and clay

Master art study

### Music:

Ward Method for vocal music

Bells of chromatic scale for tone matching and playing scales and small songs

Various themed songs for different units



UNFURL THE SAILS,  
AND LET GOD STEER US  
WHERE HE WILL.

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM I (GRADE K)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture

*New St. Joseph First Children's Bible*, Catholic Book Publishing Company

Catechism

*Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program

### English

Reading, Writing, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling

*American Language Series Readers*, Lighthouse

*Science of Reading Systematic Phonics*, Sarah Paul

*A Child's Book of Poems*, Memoria Press

### Penmanship

*Writing with Phonics Manuscript K5*, Abeka Language Arts Series

### Literature

*The Important Book*, Margaret Wise Brown

*A Tree Is Nice*, Janice May Udry

*How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World*, Marjorie Priceman

*Frederick*, Leo Lionni

*Follow the Dream: The Story of Christopher Columbus*, Peter Sis

*Ox-Cart Man*, Donald Hall

*Pumpkin Moonshine*, Tasha Tudor

*The Story of Ferdinand*, Munro Leaf

*Pancakes, Pancakes!*, Eric Carle

*Bread and Jam for Frances*, Russell Hoban

*This First Thanksgiving Day*, Laura Krauss Melmed

*The Little Fir Tree*, Margaret Wise Brown

*The Twelve Days of Christmas*, illustrated by Jan Brett

*Mr. Willowby's Christmas Tree*, Robert Barry

*Stellaluna*, Janell Cannon

*Owl Moon*, Jane Yolen

*Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*, illustrated by Susan Jeffers

*Gregory's Shadow*, Don Freeman

*Walter the Baker*, Eric Carle

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM I (GRADE K)

### Literature (Continued)

*Katy and the Big Snow*, Virginia Lee Burton  
*The Frogs and Toads All Sang*, Arnold Lobel  
*Roxaboxen*, Alice McLerran  
*Cactus Hotel*, Brenda Z. Guiberson  
*Hide and Seek Fog*, Alvin Tresselt  
*All Things Bright and Beautiful*, Cecil Frances Alexander  
*A Tale for Easter*, Tasha Tudor  
*What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?*, Steve Jenkins & Robin Page  
*A House for Hermit Crab*, Eric Carle  
*An Extraordinary Egg*, Leo Lionni  
*The Seven Silly Eaters*, Mary Ann Hoberman  
*Come On, Rain!*, Karen Hesse  
*Wonders of Nature*, Eloise Wilkins  
*Hubert's Hair-Raising Adventure*, Bill Peet  
*Abe's Fish*, Jen Bryant

### History and Geography

*The Story of the World: History for the Classical Child, Vol.1: Ancient Times*, Peace Hill Press

### Mathematics

*Dimensions Math*, Singapore Math  
*Simple Solutions*, Bright Ideas Press

### Science

*Little Science Thinkers*, Karen Jones  
*KinderScience*, Tara West

### Additional Subjects

1. Spanish
2. Art
3. Music
4. Physical Education
5. Library

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM II (GRADE I)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture/ Catechism

*Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

### English

Writing, Grammar

*English 1 for Young Catholics*, Seton Press

Selected poetry by Robert Louis Stevenson and Shel Silverstein

Spelling

*Traditional Spelling*, Memoria Press

Reading, Vocabulary

*Story Time Treasures*, *More Story Time Treasure*, Memoria Press

*First Start Reading*, Memoria Press

### Penmanship

*Writing with Phonics Cursive*, Abeka Language Arts Series

### Literature

*Little Bear*, Else Holmelund Minarik

*Frog and Toad are Friends*, Arnold Lobel

*Caps for Sale*, Esphyr Slobodkina

*Make Way for Ducklings*, Robert McCloskey

*Billy and Blaze*, C. W. Anderson

*Blaze and the Forest Fire*, C. W. Anderson

*The Story About Ping*, Marjorie Flack

*Keep the Lights Burning*, Abbie by Peter and Connie Roop

*Stone Soup*, Marcia Brown

*The Little House*, Virginia Lee Burton

*Miss Rumphius*, Barbara Cooney

*Winter on the Farm*, Laura Ingalls Wilder

*Christmas in the Big Woods*, Laura Ingalls Wilder

*Little House Christmas Treasury*, Laura Ingalls Wilder

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM II (GRADE 1)

### History and Geography

*The Story of the World: History for the Classical Child,*

*Vol.1: Ancient Times*, Peace Hill Press

*Maps, Charts, and Graphs, Book A*, Modern Curriculum Press

### Mathematics

*Dimensions 1A and 1B*, Singapore Math

### Science

*Science*, Scott Foresman

### Additional Subject

1. Spanish
2. Art
3. Latin: *Song School Latin*, Classical Academic Press
4. Music
5. Physical Education (PE)



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM III (GRADE 2)

### Religious Instruction

#### Catechism

*Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

*Going to Confession*, Fr. Lawrence Lovasik

*Receiving Holy Communion*, Fr. Lawrence Lovasik

### English

#### Writing, Grammar

*English 2 for Young Catholics*, Seton Press

#### Spelling

*Traditional Spelling*, Memoria Press

#### Reading, Vocabulary

Works of literature from Memoria Press:

*Prairie School*, Avi

*Animal Folk Tales of America*, adapted by Tony Palazzo

*The Courage of Sarah Noble*, Alice Dalgliesh

*Little House in the Big Woods*, Laura Ingalls Wilder

*The Tales of Peter Rabbit, Benjamin Bunny, Tom Kitten, Johnny Town Mouse*, Beatrix

*A Child's Book of Poems*, Sterling Children's Books

### Penmanship

*Writing Our Catholic Faith*, Universal Publishing

### Literature

*Johnny Appleseed*, Reeve Lindbergh

*The Monkey and the Crocodile*, Paul Galdone

*One Morning in Maine*, Robert McCloskey

*Amos and Boris*, William Steig

*Cinderella*, Marcia Brown

*The Five Chinese Brothers*, Claire Hutchit Bishop & Kurt Wiese

*Wee Gillis*, Munro Leaf

*The Thanksgiving Story*, Alice Dalgliesh

*Lucy's Christmas*, Donald Hall

*The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey*, Susan Wojciechowski

*The Velveteen Rabbit*, Margery Williams

*The Big Snow*, Berta and Elmer Hader

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM III (GRADE 2)

### Literature (continued)

*The Emperor's New Clothes*, Hans Christian Andersen  
*The Gardener*, Sarah Stewart  
*Saint Valentine*, Robert Sabuda  
*Emily*, Michael Bedard  
*Island Boy*, Barbara Cooney  
*The Easter Egg*, Jan Brett  
*Paul Revere's Ride*, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow  
*Verdi*, Janell Cannon  
*The Gift of the Tree*, Alvin Tresselt  
*Maybelle the Cable Car*, Virginia Lee Burton  
*A Visit to William Blake's Inn*, Nancy Willard  
*The Fourth of July Story*, Alice Dalgliesh  
*Lucy's Summer*, Donald Hall

### History and Geography

*The Story of the World: History for the Classical Child*  
Vol. 2: *The Middle Ages*, Peace Hill Press

### Mathematics

*Dimensions Math*, Singapore Math  
*Simple Solutions*, Bright Ideas Press, LLC

### Science

*Science*, Scott Foresman

### Additional Subjects

1. Spanish
2. Art
3. Latin
4. Music
5. Physical Education (PE)

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM IV (GRADE 3)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture/ Catechism

*Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

### English

Writing, Grammar

*English for Young Catholics*, Seton Press

Spelling

*Traditional Spelling III: A Phonetic Approach.*, Memoria Press

Reading, Vocabulary

*D'Aulaires Greek Myths*, Ingri and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire

*A Bear Called Paddington*, Michael Bond

*Charlotte's Web*, E. B. White

*Farmer Boy*, Laura Ingalls Wilder

*Mr. Popper's Penguins*, Richard and Florence Atwater

### Penmanship

*Writing Our Catholic Faith*, Universal Publishing

### Reasoning/Problem Solving

*Building Thinking Skills Level 1*, The Critical Thinking Company

### Literature

*Winnie the Pooh*, A.A. Milne

*Mary Poppins*, P.L. Travers

*D'Aulaires' Book of Norse Myths*, Ingri and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire

*American Tall Tales*, Mary Pope Osborne

*The Saturdays*, Elizabeth Enright

*James Herriot's Treasury for Children*, James Herriot, ill. by Ruth Brown & Peter Barrett

*A Day on Skates*, Hilda van Stockum

*The Magician's Nephew*, C. S. Lewis

*The Borrowers*, Mary Norton

*The Secret Garden*, Frances Hodgson Burnett

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM IV (GRADE 3)

### History

*The Story of the World: History for the Classical Child,*

*Vol. 3: Early Modern Times, Peace Hill Press*

### Mathematics

*Dimensions Math, Singapore Math*

*Simple Solutions, Bright Ideas Press*

### Science

*Science, Scott Foresman*

### Additional Subjects

1. Spanish
2. Art
3. Latin
4. Music
5. Physical Education (PE)

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM V (GRADE 4)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture

*The Holy Bible*

Catechism

*Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

### English

Reading, Writing, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling

*Well Ordered Language*

*Writing and Rhetoric*

*Wordly Wise*, School Specialty, Inc.

*Traditional Spelling*, Memoria Press

### Penmanship

*Writing Our Catholic Faith*, Universal Publishing

### Literature

Works of literature to be chosen from the following list:

*The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, C.S. Lewis

*Snow Treasure*, Marie McSwigan

*Where the Red Fern Grows*, Wilson

*Number the Stars*, Lois Lowry

*Sign of the Beaver*, Elizabeth George Speare

*A Door in the Wall*, Marguerite de Angeli

*The Little Flower*, Mary Fabyan Wyndeatt

*The Great Black Robe*, Jean Madderne Pitrone

### History

*The Story of the World: History for the Classical Child*,

*Vol. 4: The Modern Age*, Peace Hill Press

*Missouri: Then and Now*

### Mathematics

*Dimensions Math*, Singapore Math

*Simple Solutions*, Bright Ideas Press, LLC

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM V (GRADE 4)

### Science

*Science Grade 4, Scott Forsman*

### Additional Subjects

1. Spanish
2. Art
3. Latin
4. Music
5. Physical Education (PE)



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VI (GRADE 5)

### Theology

*Shorter Christian Prayer*

Sacred Scripture

*The Holy Bible* (RSV)

Catechism

*The Catechism of the Catholic Church*

*Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

Sacred Art Appreciation

*Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

*The Last Battle*, C.S. Lewis

### Logic

*The Fallacy Detective*

*Thirty-Eight Lessons on How to Recognize Bad Reasoning*, Bluedorn

### English

Grammar

*Well-Ordered Language, Level 2*, Classical Academic Press

Vocabulary

*Memoria Press Literature Guides*

Writing

*Writing and Rhetoric*, Classical Academic Press

*Book 4: Cheria and Proverb*

Penmanship

*Writing Our Catholic Faith*, Universal Publishing

### History and Geography

*Our Catholic Legacy: World History for Young Catholics*, Seton Press

*The Curious Historian*, Classical Academic Press

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VI (GRADE 5)

### Literature

*How to Teach Your Children Shakespeare*, Ken Ludwig

Works of literature to be chosen from the following list:

*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, E. L. Konigsburg

*The Little Prince*, Antoine de Saint-Exupery

*Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Mark Twain

*The Wind and the Willows*, Kenneth Grahame

*My Side of the Mountain*, Jean Craighead George

*The Hobbit*, J.R.R. Tolkien

*The Magician's Nephew*, C.S. Lewis

*Esperanza Rising*, Pamela Munoz Ryan

*The Captain's Dog*, Roland Smith

*Selections of Poetry, Greek and Roman Mythology*

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, William Shakespeare

*Heidi*, Johanna Spyri

### Latin

*Latin for Roman Catholics*, Thomas Capps

### Mathematics

*Dimensions*, Singapore Math

*Simple Solutions*, Bright Ideas Press

### Science

*Earth Science*, Glencoe

### Additional Subjects

1. Spanish
2. Art
3. Music
4. Physical Education (PE)
5. Drama (Optional)

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VII (GRADE 6)

### Theology

*Shorter Christian Prayer*

Sacred Scripture

*The Holy Bible* (RSV)

Catechism

*The Catechism of the Catholic Church*

*Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

Sacred Art Appreciation

*The Man Born to Be King*, Dorothy Sayers

### Logic

*The Art of Argument: An Introduction to the Informal Fallacies*, Classical Academic Press

### English

Grammar

*Well-Ordered Language, Level 3*, Classical Academic Press

Vocabulary

*Memoria Press literature guides*

Writing

*Writing and Rhetoric Book 6: Commonplace*, Classical Academic Press

Penmanship

*Writing Our Catholic Faith*, Universal Publishing

### History and Geography

*Our Catholic Legacy: World History for Young Catholics*, Seton Press

*The Curious Historian*, Classical Academic Press

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VII (GRADE 6)

### Literature

Works of literature to be chosen from the following list:

*How to Teach Your Children Shakespeare*, Ken Ludwig

*Anne of Green Gables*, L.M. Montgomery

*The Adventures of Robin Hood*, Lancelyn Green

*The Little Prince*, Antoine de Saint-Exupery

*The Shakespeare Stealer*, Gary Blackwood

*A Wrinkle in Time*, Madeleine L'Engle

*Watership Down*, Richard Adams

*The Miracle Worker*, William Gibson

*White Fang*, Jack London

*The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, J.R.R. Tolkien

*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain

*Treasure Island*, Robert Louis Stevenson

*Selections of Poetry, Greek and Roman Mythology*

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, William Shakespeare

Students are required to independently read 75 pages each week. Independent reading is self-selected by

the student with the approval of that student's parents.

### Latin

*Latin for Roman Catholics*, Thomas Capps

### Mathematics

*Mathematics Course 1*, Holt-McDougal

### Science

*Earth Science*, Glencoe

### Additional Subjects

1. Spanish
2. Art
3. Music
4. Physical Education (PE)
5. Drama (Optional)



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VIII (GRADES 7 AND 8)

### Theology

*Shorter Christian Prayer*

Sacred Scripture (RSV)

*The Holy Bible*

Catechism:

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Grade 7: *Faith and Life – Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

Grade 8: *Faith and Life – Spirit of Truth*, Sophia Institute Press

### Logic

*Everyday Debate and Discussion*, Classical Academic Press

### English

Grammar and Writing

*Well-Ordered Language Level 4*, Classical Academic Press

*Writing and Rhetoric Book 10: Thesis*, Classical Academic Press

Penmanship

*Writing Our Catholic Faith*, Universal Publishing

### History and Geography

Grade 7: *Creating America I*, McDougal Littell

Grade 8: *Creating America II*, McDougal Littell

*A Patriot's History of the United States*, Sentinel

### Latin

*Latin for Roman Catholics*, Thomas Capps

Students are required to independently read 75 pages each week. Independent reading is self-selected by the student with approval of the student's parents.

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VIII (GRADES 7 AND 8)

### Literature

Works of literature to be chosen from the following list:

*Julius Caesar*, William Shakespeare  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, William Shakespeare  
*Merchant of Venice*, William Shakespeare  
*Macbeth*, William Shakespeare  
*Much Ado About Nothing*, William Shakespeare  
*Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare  
*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain  
*Cyrano de Bergerac*, Edmund Rostand  
*The Old Man and the Sea*, Earnest Hemingway  
*Favorite Father Brown Stories*, G.K. Chesterton  
*The Screwtape Letters*, C.S. Lewis  
*The Diary of Anne Frank*, Anne Frank  
*Friedrich*, Hans Peter Richter  
*Animal Farm*, George Orwell  
*Joan of Arc*, Mark Twain  
American Short Stories, Poetry

### Mathematics

Grade 7: *Pre-Algebra*, McDougal Littell

Grade 8: *Algebra I*, McDougal Littell

*Algebra 2*, McDougal Littell

### Science

*Life Science*, Prentice Hall

### Additional Subjects

1. Spanish
2. Art
3. Music
4. Physical Education (PE)
5. Drama (Optional)



# SCHOOL POLICY

## SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION (SRE) AND SOCIAL/HEALTH EDUCATION

Throughout the time the children are in school, our teaching aims to instill an attitude of wonder and respect towards all men and other creatures. However, we believe that sensitive issues regarding Relationship, Social, and Health Education are among the primary responsibilities of parents. Therefore, The St. Austin School does not cover these issues within our curriculum. We encourage parents to address these issues within the context of their family life. Among the issues we consider beneficial are:

- That children understand their feelings and emotions so that each child will feel capable of articulating his/her needs in acceptable ways.
- That the children make considered choices and decisions related to their health and behavior, by increasing their knowledge and clarifying the beliefs and values that their families hold, which are part of Catholic belief and practice.
- That the children realize how their behavior may affect others.
- That the children appreciate the normality of the similarities and differences that exist between boys and girls and develop a sense of respect and reverence for each other.
- That the children develop a sense of personal responsibility and involvement in their own emotional and physical well-being, which will contribute to their feeling of self-worth and Christian dignity.

# SCHOOL POLICY

## HOMEWORK

It is the policy of the school to set reasonable quantities of homework during the week for all children at the discretion of the teacher. Each student has an assignment notebook where tasks to be completed are listed. The type and variety of homework is designed to support class learning and link school learning to home learning, as well as begin to prepare children for the increased demands that they will face in secondary school.

Reading is a very high priority for all children at The St. Austin School, and we expect children to bring home a reading book and to read regularly with support from their parents. Spellings and timetables are checked regularly, and these should also be learned and developed at home. Depending on the age of the child, exercises in Math, English, and Science may also be set, but the development of a positive reading habit is a high priority at all times. For more detailed information on the homework policy see the Parent Student Handbook.

# SCHOOL POLICY

## DISCIPLINE

Discipline at The St. Austin School is intended to be firm and loving. We hold with St. John Bosco that love and prevention are better motives to good behavior than fear and punishment. At all times, we strive to provide an ordered, safe, and happy environment where children develop and accept responsibility for their own behavior. Discipline is based on respect, consideration, and care for each other.

The class teacher will deal with small infractions. If a child persistently misbehaves, the class teacher will work closely with the Assistant Head of School and other staff to look for ways of successfully supporting and redirecting the child. Parents will be involved quickly because experience has shown that this is the best way to tackle any issues, which can quickly become more serious. Our aim is to work very closely together to rectify any disruptive situation as quickly as possible. As a last resort, in severe cases, the Head of School has the authority to suspend a child if he/she is hampering learning for other children. However, should a problem prove intractable, the school reserves the right to dismiss a child after due consultation with the Board of Governors and the child's parents.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Children must wear a uniform in school. Wearing a uniform gives a child a sense of belonging, strengthens classroom discipline, and fosters a serious approach to studies. The school colors are blue, green, and gold.

Parents are responsible for seeing that their child is dressed correctly for school. Refer to the Parent Student Handbook for additional uniform details.

# SCHOOL POLICY

## STUDENT PROGRESS AND EVALUATION

The school keeps parents fully informed about their child's progress. We provide a variety of ways in which this can be achieved.

**Form Teachers** We believe that close liaison between parents and teachers is absolutely essential. The form teachers are also generally available in their classrooms after school until 3:45 PM to discuss any aspect of your child's work or behavior that requires immediate attention. If there is any matter you wish to discuss at length with the teacher, please contact the school office for an appointment, and a time will be arranged which is convenient.

**Parent Consultation Evening** We hold a required parent consultation evening at the end of the fall term when each child's progress is reviewed. A second optional parent consultation is held at the end of the winter term preparatory to the child moving into the next grade in the fall.

**Assessment** The children's progress and development are monitored by the form teacher who is responsible for guiding them through all aspects of their school life. Assessment is a continual process where the teacher, using his or her professional judgment, assesses standards and judges capabilities through observation, appraisal, and recording of each child's work and progress. Parents are encouraged to check grades using MySchoolWorx. Grades will be issued at the end of each trimester.

**Standardized Testing** In the spring, the students in grades Kindergarten through second grade will be given the Stanford Achievement Test Series. Classical Learning Test will be administered to third grade through eighth grade.

**Assessment Reports** End of trimester reports can be viewed online through FACTS, the school's online grading system. We recommend that you monitor your child's progress through FACTS.

**Grade Scale** Each subject, as well as behavior, receives a grade according to the following scale:

A+ 97-100	A 93-96	A- 90-92
B+ 87-89	B 83-86	B- 80-82
C+ 77-79	C 73-76	C- 70-72
D+ 67-69	D 63-66	D- 60-62
F 59 and below		

Grades of Excellent (E), Very Good (VG), Satisfactory (S), Needs Improvement (N), and Unsatisfactory (U) will be reported on the grade report. These grades (E, VG, S, N, U) will also be assigned in Spanish, Latin, Music, Art, and P.E. for grades K-3.

# SCHOOL POLICY

## ABSENCES AND ATTENDANCE

The St. Austin School requires regular, consistent attendance in order to support good learning and academic progress, as well as to assist in developing habits of responsibility, good citizenship, and good manners. Our Attendance Policy details the school's expectations for attendance. For further details, please see the Parent Student Handbook or visit The St. Austin School website at: [www. SaintAustinSchool.org](http://www.SaintAustinSchool.org).

## THE PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION (PFA)

The Parents and Friends Association is an active St. Austin School association charged with organizing a variety of social and faith enriching events for the benefit of St. Austin students and their families.

Upon admittance to the school, all parents of a St. Austin student become members of the Parents and Friends Association.

In partnership with school administration, the Parents and Friends Association is dedicated to supporting events and activities that enhance the St. Austin School experience for parents, students, faculty, and staff while advancing the mission of the St. Austin School. The intention of the PFA is to encourage ever-stronger links between home and school.

## PARENT VOLUNTEERS IN SCHOOL

We actively encourage parents to come into school and work alongside teachers, outside the classroom, on a voluntary basis. Many parents have expertise in a wide array of areas where their contribution is essential to our school. Parents who wish to help in school are required to meet with the teacher or Head of School prior to the first visit, and rigorously comply with the school's policy regarding **Security and Child Protection** (see below).

# SCHOOL POLICY

## SCHOOL SECURITY/CHILD PROTECTION

The safety of each individual child and adult at The St. Austin School is of paramount importance. The Head of School and Governors have taken certain measures to make the school site as safe as possible. To that end, the following measures will be taken:

- The only access to the school is through the Main Entrance adjacent to the School Office.
- Visitors must check in with the School Secretary, sign the visitors' book and visibly wear a badge at all times.
- Anyone contracted to do work at the school is carefully vetted. All staff and volunteers must undergo rigorous background checks, have completed the national sexual-abuse prevention program *Protecting God's Children*, and comply in all particulars with the relevant Archdiocesan Safe Environment Program.
- The Head of School and the Governors annually review the school's Security and Child Protection Policy, which can be found in the Parent Student Handbook.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school encourages a number of after-school activities run by outside organizations and parents. Activities depend on the enthusiasm and organization of the parents and are therefore subject to change. The school is always happy to receive suggestions or proposals for other activities.

# Scholar's Pledge

I pledge to seek the truth  
and to love all that is good and beautiful.

I will strive to achieve clarity of thought,  
nobility of character and purity of heart.

I will pursue my education with diligence,  
humility and sincerity, embracing excellence  
and renouncing mediocrity.

I will treat my teachers and peers  
with the utmost dignity and respect.

I will honor myself and my family  
by giving my best effort daily.

I will honor God by developing the gifts  
He has given me to the best of my ability.

Above all I will aspire to the wisdom  
of a life lived in faith, hope, and charity,  
fulfilling my destiny as a child of God.





Although The St. Austin School has made every effort to ensure that the information contained in this prospectus is accurate at the time of publication, we know that variations in the curriculum and school policies naturally will occur in practice. Full curriculum and policies, moreover, are subject to change without notice. If you have questions about any aspect of this prospectus or about the school, do not hesitate to contact the Head of School or any member of the Board of Governors.

