



Kindergarten Overview

Covenant Christian School

In Kindergarten we strive to provide young boys and girls with a foundation of academic readiness, built on a combination of skills and concepts, preparing them for lifelong learning. Every child should leave Kindergarten with a greater love for learning, a deeper understanding of who they are in Christ, and a better knowledge of how to love the world and people around them. We seek to provide a nurturing environment where each child is understood as being created in the image of God with unique gifts, interests and relationships.

During the Kindergarten year we intentionally utilize integral, experiential, developmentally appropriate academic activities while also engaging children through creative and meaningful play.

Kindergarten is a full day program, with a half-day option.

Bible

The Bible, like other subjects, should be taught independently, but also should be taught throughout the curriculum in an integral manner.

Reflecting biblical teaching (Deuteronomy 6:4-9), Bible stories, beginning in Genesis and continuing through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are covered in Kindergarten. We interact with the Bible through role play, creative activities, songs and Scripture memorization to help our students hide these stories deep in their hearts. Kindergarten also sets aside time every day to pray for specific needs and to thank the Lord for teaching us through His word.

Language Arts

Kindergarten provides a strong language arts foundation for students. This is accomplished daily through the reading of literature, handwriting practice, journaling, writing, sentence formation skills, phonemic awareness and phonics instruction.

Covenant utilizes the 6+1 Traits of Writing, helping students develop as writers through an understanding of ideas, organization, sentence fluency, word choice, voice, conventions, and presentation. These different areas of writing are modeled and shared in interactive and independent environments. Reading skills in particular are learned through class work, small groups, partner activities, and one-to-one interactions. Since children all learn to read and write at different ages, we provide children the tools they need to grow based on their individual learning styles and needs.

Phonics are introduced and practiced through Foundations, produced by Wilson Language Training, which highlights letter sounds, words, blends, and word families. In addition, we also cover commonly used sight words and encourage children to use these in both reading and writing.

Mathematics

In grades Kindergarten through sixth we use Saxon Math. Kindergarten students use Saxon 1 as Covenant has moved the curriculum down so that our Kindergarten students are tackling what has traditionally been first grade math. This has been effective for the school in meeting the academic needs of our students.

Math is experienced daily through a lesson, use of manipulatives, and a written understanding of the concepts taught in the curriculum. We cover number concepts 1-100, shapes and basic geometry, time, patterning, graphing, money, measurement, beginning addition and subtraction, and problem solving. Children are also able to display their mathematical understanding during “calendar time”, which incorporates specific math skills and understanding. Mathematical instruction and development is highlighted through an integral approach with other subjects, such as science, literature, and social studies.

Science

Full-day students focus on a broad mix of concepts within the life, physical, earth and space sciences. Areas of study include trees, plants, the human body, sunshine and shadows, seasons, and vertebrates and invertebrates. Our curricular materials come from Foss and Delta as well as teacher created activities and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

We have been blessed at Covenant Christian School with a beautiful property and a standalone science building for exploring God’s creation around us. Students keep year-long science journals to record their many observations to better understand the material they are studying.

Social Studies

In Kindergarten, students have the opportunity to learn about the great world that God has created. Our studies provide an opportunity to reflect on our role within society as we live, work and interact with others to glorify Him. In social studies students learn about many famous people throughout history, focusing on their impact on our world. In addition, Kindergartners study continents, including their location in the world and the various vertebrates found on the different continents.

Thinking integrally, literature presents an engaging way for students to explore how other children across the globe live. It is important for them to begin to have an understanding of their specific culture and beliefs, while at the same time, look for ways to care for others who in many ways are different than us, but yet are connected to us through faith in Christ.

Enrichment

All students have the opportunity each week to participate in Morning Gathering (Chapel), Music and Library. Art, Science and Physical Education are a part of the full-day curriculum. These enrichment opportunities provide students with time outside of the homeroom to explore these subjects and to enhance homeroom work.