

PAIDEIA

CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Paideia exists to assist parents in providing a vigorous and joyful education for the glory of God and the love of the Church. Our K-6th grades (the “grammar stage” of the Classical model) use singing, story, memorization, and hands-on projects to develop wonder about God and His world. Classes meet Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 12:15pm, with studies to complete at home in the afternoon.



It is impossible to convey the full breadth and depth of our school in a printed pamphlet without the sounds of our music class, the sights of our art show, and the laughter at our Friday Assembly, but despite the limitations of the medium, here are some highlights of our elementary program at Paideia. To Him be the glory for our every endeavor!

—LISA POINDEXTER, Elementary Principal
DAVID SPEARS, Head of School

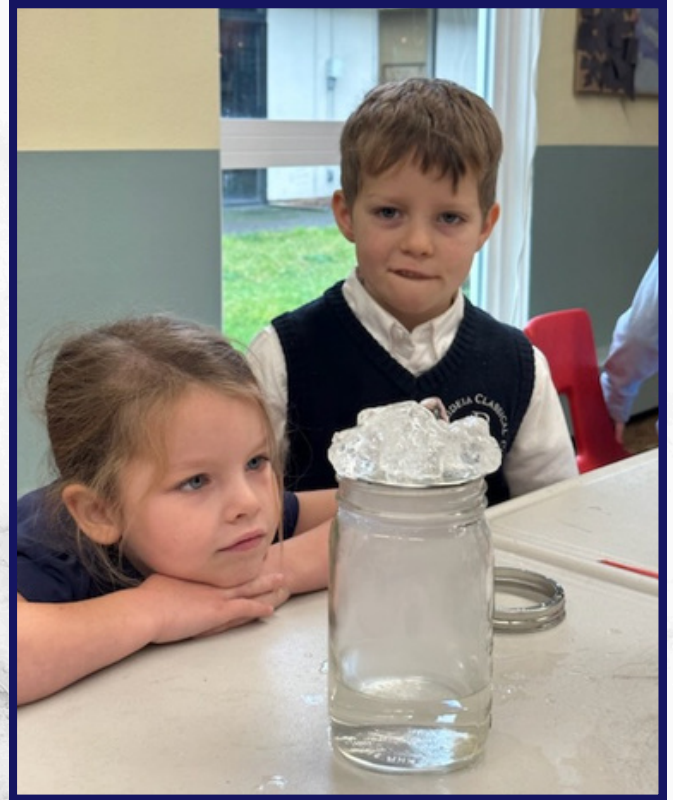


Kindergarten

- *Right Start Math, Level A*
- *All About Reading/Spelling*
- Weather, Human Body, Continents, Oceans, Italic Handwriting

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for... *paideia* in righteousness... (2 Tim. 3:16)

Kindergarten at Paideia is all about learning how to be a student in our community of faith and learning. Whether it's lining up for weekly Assembly or learning the rules of nine-square at recess, kindergarteners begin practicing manners that allow friends to work and play together. Kindergarteners love to listen to classic children's books, memorize the Bible timeline, and move their bodies in gymnastics class. Phonograms, penmanship, and basic addition lay an early foundation for solid reading and math skills later. Field trips to the fire station, police station, and a local apple orchard plant seeds of appreciation for community helpers.



First Grade

- *Math-U-See Alpha*
- *Spell to Write and Read*
- *Quality Children's Literature*
- *Ocean Life, Biomes, Explorers, Pilgrims*

It is inexcusable to live in a world so full of the marvels of plant and animal life and to care for none of these things. (Mason)



First graders at Paideia learn the art of narrating back details from Bible lessons and literature read alouds. In history class, students trace the journey of Leif the Lucky and Columbus and conclude their study of the Pilgrims with a joyful feast. Exploring the intricacy of God's swimming creatures is made rich with a hands-on squid dissection. A highlight for first grade is the creation of colorful biome books, a project that integrates neat penmanship and spelling with growing knowledge about the diverse biomes in God's wonderful creation. To explore a local biome, first graders enjoy an annual field trip to beautiful Tryon Creek. Participating in reading circles encourages emerging readers in developing literacy and introduces them to the joy of sharing stories together.



Second Grade

- *Math-U-See Beta*
- *Spell to Write and Read*
- Quality Children's Chapter Books
- Geology, Astronomy, Revolutionary War

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows His handiwork. (Psalm 19:1)

All eyes in second grade look to the earth to ponder God's creation of our rocky planetary home. How can we tell whether a rock is igneous or metamorphic? Second graders examine specimens from the classroom rock collection and then look skyward, singing the names and order of the planets. A special tradition is staging an American Revolution play with students costumed as prominent figures like Patrick Henry and George Washington. Memorizing excerpts from Longfellow's "Paul Revere's Ride" and placing all fifty states on a map cap off their studies in history and geography. Chanting the basic parts of a sentence lays a foundation for composing original sentences about given topics and literature selections.



Third Grade

- *Math-U-See Gamma*
- *IEW Dress-ups, Fables, Paragraphs*
- *Birds, Insects, Lewis & Clark, Oregon Trail, States and Capitals*

The Poll-parrot stage is the one in which learning by heart is easy and, on the whole, pleasurable... (Sayers)



Students arrive at our third grade classroom each fall ready to learn how to compose a paragraph and then a three-paragraph essay. It's a perfect opportunity to integrate composition with history as they write about Merriweather Lewis and William Clark and their intrepid band of explorers and then the dangers of traversing the Oregon Trail in a covered wagon. A trip to the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center provides hands-on practice grinding corn, candle making, blacksmithing, and other skills the pioneers had to master.



In science class, flying creatures of all shapes and sizes take center stage. Students enjoy dissecting owl pellets to observe the realities of the food chain up close. Bird study wouldn't be complete without making nests and examining feather samples. Third grade is also an exciting time when reading for content, rather than decoding, takes off. Favorite books of the month include *Helen Keller*, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, and *Mr. Popper's Penguins*.



Fourth Grade

- *Math-U-See Delta*
- *IEW Openers, Fix-It Grammar!*
- *Mystery of History 1: Ancient*
- *Land Animals, Countries of Africa*

The question is not how much does the youth know when he has finished his education, but how much does he care? (Mason)

Students begin their upper elementary journey in fourth grade. Latin classes take place three times a week, and students enjoy a lively pace of learning vocabulary words and jumping into basic translation. Bible class covers the prophets and kings of Israel and dovetails neatly into history where students are whisked back in time to ancient Assyria, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Students track the development of these civilizations as they memorize key dates from the creation of the world to Jesus' time.

In science, the world of taxonomy reveals itself in the form of land animals that God created on the sixth day. Studying keystone species such as beavers provides an opportunity to appreciate the intricate connection between species. Visits to Guide Dogs for the Blind and Triskelee Farm are field trip favorites. To further their writing skills, fourth graders learn to write key word outlines as they prepare animal research papers on an animal of their choice.

Fourth graders and above have the opportunity to audition for our upper elementary play, with practices in the afternoon.



Fifth Grade

- *Math-U-See Epsilon*
- *Mystery of History 2: Middle Ages*
- Botany, Countries of Europe
- Finish *Spell to Write and Read* list!

Since it is so likely that they will meet cruel enemies, let them at least have heard of brave knights & heroic courage. (Lewis)

In addition to continuing Latin, fifth graders advance along the history timeline to the Middle Ages where they learn about key events in early church history including the rise of Christianity in the Roman Empire, the fall of Jerusalem, and the Norman Conquest. They celebrate the culmination of their study of the Middle Ages with an outdoor Medieval Festival each spring complete with costumes and jousting. Botany takes center stage in science. Students especially enjoy labs in class where the miniature marvel of germination is explored in real time with magnifying glasses. Springtime finds fifth grade outside tending radishes in their raised bed garden. Studying the geography of Europe offers plenty of variety for practicing composition skills as students write their first independent research essay on a country of their choice.



Sixth Grade

- *Math-U-See Zeta*
- *Mystery of History 3: Renaissance*
- Beginning Chemistry & Physics
- Finish *Italic Handwriting* w/calligraphy!

Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men. (Prov. 22:29)



Sixth grade is the capstone year for Paideia elementary students. In preparation for the transition to secondary, the Latin curriculum *Lingua Latina* shifts to a narrative format that students find challenging and engaging. "Wednesdays With William," a weekly time to read and discuss adaptations of Shakespeare plays while drinking tea, is a class favorite.

Each spring the class is invited to spend a day at the secondary campus, touring classrooms, meeting teachers, and getting a sense of what they have to look forward to in seventh grade.

Sixth grade science delves into beginning physics and chemistry with frequent labs and a science fair each spring where students display their understanding of the scientific method with independent projects. Polishing their grammar and classical writing skills helps set the sixth graders up for success in the upper grades.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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