

# What to Expect in Kindergarten

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday

**Bible:** *Egermeier's Bible Story Book*, *The Jesus Storybook Bible*, as well as other supplemental resources; biblical concepts integrated throughout all subjects and activities

**Bible memory:** Psalms 8 and 23, The Lord's Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13, Isaiah 9:6

**Unit studies:** Oceans, Thanksgiving, American Indians, Seasons, Fables and Folklore, St. Patrick, Presidents, Patriotism, Dinosaurs, Insects and Spiders, Christmas Around the World, and Dr. Seuss

**Literature:** A wide variety of outstanding literature is read aloud daily either by the teacher or by parents.

**Poetry:** Poetry is read and recited throughout the day, along with chanting and singing.

**English:** We focus on building the foundations of spelling and reading by learning the vowels and consonants, the sounds they make (mastery of 54 out of the 70 phonograms), and how to mark them. We learn "*Think to Spell*" words and practice penmanship skills daily. Students begin building their fluency and confidence through decodable books.

**Math:** *Math in Focus*: A focus on number sense through hands-on activities and discussion.

**LAMP classes:** Library, Art, Music, and P.E.

**Special activities:** On a weekly basis, all Kindergarten classes gather in a large group setting for a learning celebration focused around a phonogram or concept. Students also present *The Presidential Wax Museum* and an Entomology exhibit. Additionally, we incorporate a ministry project during the year.

**Parents are encouraged to participate in class activities or visit the classroom whenever they are able.**



# What to Expect in Pre-Kindergarten

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday

**Bible:** *The Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd-Jones

**Bible memory:** Selected Bible verses

**Enrichment:** The World Around Us (Oceans, Ponds and Lakes; Farms; Land Types; Seasons, Space), God's Beautiful Creation (Leaves, Pinecones, Seeds and Plants), Reasons For Celebrating (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter), Fun To Explore (Pets, Bubbles, Senses)

**Literature:** A wide variety of outstanding literature is read aloud and discussed daily either by the teacher or by parents. Selections include works from *Aesop's Fables* and various fairy tales.

**Poetry:** Nursery rhymes and other poetry are read and recited throughout the year, along with chanting and singing.

**Language arts skills:** The foundations of spelling and reading are taught using the first 26 of 70 phonograms from *Johnny Can Spell*.

**Penmanship:** Developing strength and coordination for penmanship through specific fine and gross motor activities is a weekly focus. A variety of activities are intentionally integrated into daily lessons to prepare each child for written letter formation from *Johnny Can Spell* and *Learning Without Tears*.

**Math:** *Learning Without Tears* and *Mathematics Their Way* lessons focus on patterning, classification, and number sense as children begin to discover God's order in His creation.

**LAMP classes:** Library, Art, Music, and Explore and Play Time

**Fine arts (Music):** Students chant rhythms and sing alphabet songs to understand steady beat and pitch. They listen to Bach, Haydn, and Rachmaninov as well other types of music to introduce instruments.

**Special activities:** Presentations for family and friends of the birth of Christ as well as fairy tales.

**Parents are encouraged to participate in class activities or visit the classroom whenever they are able.**



# What to Expect in the 1st Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday

**Bible:** Genesis-Exodus

**Bible memory:** Ephesians 1, Psalm 23, Philippians 4:4-8, 1 Corinthians 13, the Ten Commandments, and Galatians 5:22-23

**History:** Old Testament and Ancient Egypt

**Teacher read-aloud books:** *Mummies and Pyramids*, *The Magician's Nephew*, Frances books, *Little House in the Big Woods*, *Henry and Mudge*, *Trouble Times 10*, *Mr. Putter and Tabby*, as well as other teacher selected picture and chapter books

**Reading:** Dr. Seuss treasury, *Little Bear* treasury, *Frog and Toad* treasury, *Madeline*, *Ferdinand*, *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, *Tut's Mummy...Lost and Found*, *Keep the Lights Burning*, *Abbie*, and other selections appropriate for the first grade

**Poetry:** *Modern Rhymes About Ancient Times: Ancient Egypt*, as well as selected Christina G. Rossetti and Robert Louis Stevenson poems

**English:** Parts of speech: nouns and verbs; capitalization, punctuation

**Math:** *Math in Focus*: Before pictures and written numbers are used, concepts are introduced through hands-on experiences with manipulatives. Concepts include addition and subtraction facts to 20, word problems and the strategies used to solve word problems.

**Science:** Biology – classification of animals; Chemistry – states of matter and water; Earth Science – rocks and layers of the earth, volcanoes and the water cycle; Physics – light and magnets

**LAMP classes:** Library, Art, Music, and P.E.

**Fine arts appreciation:** Music – Tchaikovsky and Saint-Saens; Art- Mary Cassatt and Edgar Degas

**Field trips and activities:** The Houston Zoo, The Houston Museum of Natural Science, Ancient Egyptian Feast Day, Passover celebration, book celebrations and a service project



# What to Expect in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday

**Bible:** Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, and Ruth

**Bible memory:** Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Ephesians 2, Psalm 51:1-13, Proverbs 3:1-12, Matthew 5:3-12, and Galatians 5:22-26

**History:** Ancient Greece and Rome, 2200 B.C.- 476 A.D.: (books include *Hour of the Olympics*, *Trojan Horse*, *The One-Eyed Giant*, *Pompeii Buried Alive*, *Ancient Rome*, and *Aesop's Fables*)

**Teacher read-aloud books:** *The Lion*, *The Witch*, and *The Wardrobe*, *The Land of the Dead*, *Treasures of the Snow*, *Detectives in Togas*, and *Velveteen Rabbit*

**Literature:** *Miss Nelson is Missing*, *The Courage of Sarah Noble*, *The Boxcar Children*, *Henry and Ribsy*, *Little House on the Prairie*, *Charlotte's Web*, and *The Hundred Dresses*

**Poetry:** *A Child's Garden of Verses*, *Poetry for Young People*, *The Random House Book of Poetry for Young Children*, *Modern Rhymes About Ancient Times: Greece and Rome*, *Just Me* by Margaret Hillert, *Primer Lesson* by Carl Sandburg, *The Wind* by Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Tree* by Joyce Kilmer, *It Couldn't be Done* by Edgar A. Guest, *All Things Bright and Beautiful* by Cecil Frances Alexander

**English:** Types of sentences, parts of speech, capitalization, punctuation, dictionary skills; 70 phonograms and "Think to Spell" words

**Math:** *Math in Focus*: Before pictures and written numbers are used, concepts are introduced through hands-on experiences with manipulatives. Concepts include numbers to 1,000, addition and subtraction to 1,000, bar models, multiplication and division, measurement, mental math, money, fractions, and time.

**Science:** Biology – life cycles of plants and animals; Chemistry - states of matter and physical and chemical changes; Earth Science – continents and oceans; Physics – heat, light, sounds and magnets

**LAMP classes:** Library, Art, Music, and P.E.

**Fine arts appreciation:** Music – Handel, Bach and Mozart; Art – Renoir, Van Gogh, and Rubens

**Field trips and activities:** Trojan War play, Birth of Christ play, George Ranch Historical Park, theater, and a service project



# What to Expect in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday

**Bible:** I and II Samuel, Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes

**Bible memory:** Ephesians 3, Romans 12:9-21, and various Psalms and Proverbs

**History:** Middle Ages, memorization of the fifty United States and capitals (books include *Knights at Dawn*, *Minstrel in the Tower*, *The Whipping Boy*, and *The Door in the Wall*)

**Teacher read-aloud books:** *Captured by the Vikings*, *Heidi*, *The Horse and His Boy*, *Beowulf*, *Adam of the Road*, *Robin Hood*, *King Arthur*, and *St. George and the Dragon*

**Literature:** *Farmer Boy*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, and more

**Poetry:** *Geography* by Eleanor Farjeon, *The Arrow and the Song* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, *Good King Wenceslas* by John Mason Neale, *The Children's Hour* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and *The Castle in the Fire* by Mary Jane Carr

**English:** Types of sentences, parts of speech (including nouns, verbs, pronouns, prepositions, adjectives, and adverbs), capitalization, punctuation, progymnasmata writing exercises, letter writing, transition to cursive handwriting, 70 phonograms and "Think to Spell" method

**Math:** *Math in Focus*: Before pictures and written numbers are used, concepts are introduced through hands-on experiences with manipulatives. Concepts include multiplication up to two digit by one digit, long division up to three digits divided by one digit, and fractions

**Science:** Earth Science – weather; Physics - simple machines; Biology - animal classification

**LAMP Classes:** Latin, Library, Art, Music, and P.E.

**Latin:** Memorization of vocabulary, conjugations and declensions

**Fine arts appreciation:** Music - Gregorian chants and medieval music; Art - Raphael, Monet, Seurat

**Field trips and activities:** One Room Schoolhouse (League City), Houston Grand Opera Student Matinee, Saint Martin's Episcopal Church to study Gothic architecture, Viking play, Wonka Day, Medieval Feast and a service project for Home Place of Texas (mentally challenged adults)



# What to Expect in the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday

**Bible:** 1 and 2 Kings, Ezra, Nehemiah, Ester, Isaiah, Micah, Hosea, Amos, Jonah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi

**Bible memory:** Ephesians 4, Jeremiah 29:11, 1 Timothy 4:12, Romans 8:28-38, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 116:1-9

**History:** Texas History, Renaissance, Age of Exploration, Reformation, Elizabethan Age, (books include *The Story of Texas*, *Michelangelo*, *Leonardo da Vinci*, *Bard of Avon*, *The Globe*, *Dangerous Journey*, and *Around the World in One Hundred Years*)

**Teacher read-aloud books:** *Prince Caspian*, *Robinson Crusoe*, *King of the Wind*, *Journey to a New World*, *Poetry for Young People-Edgar Allan Poe*, and excerpts from *The Tales of Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, and *Macbeth*

**Literature:** *Stuart Little*, *Homer Price*, *The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, *The Family Under the Bridge*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *The Cricket in Times Square*, *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, and *Ella Enchanted*

**Poetry and recitation:** *My Shadow* by Robert Louis Stevenson, *One Inch Tall* by Shel Silverstein, *The Bells* by Edgar Allan Poe, *Sonnet 18* by William Shakespeare, *Skyscrapers* by Rachel Fields, *Cupid Swallowed* by Leigh Hunt, *The Travis Letter* from the Alamo, and scenes from a Shakespearean play

**English:** Recognition and use of all 70 phonograms, application of spelling rules to new words and in writing, recognition and use of all eight parts of speech, parsing and diagramming of sentences, four types of sentences, paragraph dictation, imitation of fairy tales, expository writing, three point paragraphs, book report; *Vocabulary from Classical Roots*

**Math:** *Math in Focus*: Before pictures and written numbers are used, concepts are introduced through hands-on experiences with manipulatives. Concepts include: estimation, place value to 100,000, multiplication and division of whole numbers, fractions and mixed numbers, decimals, adding and subtracting decimals, geometry, area and perimeter; multiplication facts through 12 are expected to be memorized and understood.

**Science:** Scientific method; Biology – Botany; Chemistry – physical and chemical changes, periodic table; Earth Science – planets, stars, and moon; Physics – electricity and magnetism

**LAMP classes:** Latin, Library, Art, Music, and P.E.

**Latin:** Memorization of vocabulary and chants, identification of parts of speech, simple sentence translation

**Fine arts appreciation:** Music – Handel's *Messiah*; Art – Leonardo Da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael

**Field trips and activities:** Include various book celebrations, theater, service projects, Houston Baptist University Bible Museum, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park, performance of scenes from a Shakespearean play, Mercer Arboretum



# What to Expect in the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday

**Bible:** The Gospels and Acts

**Bible memory:** Ephesians 5, Philippians 2:1-11, passages from John

**History:** Early American History, 1585-1823: The 13 Colonies, American Revolution, and the Presidents

**Teacher read-aloud books:** *The Sign of the Beaver* and *Where the Red Fern Grows*

**Literature:** *A Wrinkle in Time*, *The Silver Chair*, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, *Johnny Tremain*, and *Amos Fortune*

**Recitations, Poetry, and Songs:** *Preamble to the Constitution*, excerpts from *The Declaration of Independence*, Presidents of the United States, *Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, *My Country 'Tis of Thee*, and *The Star-Spangled Banner*

**English:** Types of sentences, parts of speech, sentence diagramming, progymnasmata writing exercises and research paper; *Vocabulary for Classical Roots*

**Math:** *Math in Focus 5*: concepts include place value; estimation; add, subtract, multiply and divide whole numbers, fractions and decimals; percentages; number sense through word problems; geometric principals and ratios.

**Science:** Scientific method; Biology - the human body, cells, skeletal system, muscular system, circulatory system, the heart, and respiratory system; Chemistry - mixtures and solutions, and the periodic table

**LAMP classes:** Latin, Library, Art, Music, and P.E.

**Latin:** Memorization of new and application of previous vocabulary and chants, detailed labeling of words and sentences, more complex sentence translation, simple reading

**Fine arts appreciation:** Music – Bach, Mozart, Beethoven; Art – Stuart, Winslow, Wyeth

**Field trips and activities:** Musical productions or plays by local theatre groups (such as Tom Sawyer), Colonial Days, science labs (cells and the human body), and the Boston Tea Party play



# What to Expect in the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday

**Bible:** Overview of the Bible, Acts, New Testament Epistles

**Bible memory:** Ephesians 6 and Hebrews 11

**History:** Modernity, 1823 - Present: Monroe Doctrine to Modern America

**Literature:** *The Magician's Nephew, The Last Battle, I Am David, Rifles for Watie, A Christmas Carol, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, and The Hiding Place*

**Recitation:** Songs of the European Countries, *The Gettysburg Address, The New Colossus, and If*

**English:** *A Beka Grammar and Composition I and Vocabulary from Classical Roots*

**Writing assignments:** Progymnasmata exercises, including narratives and tall tales, writing concise summaries, imitating the style of Rudyard Kipling, writing a research paper with sources, letter writing, and science lab reports

**Math:** *Math in Focus Course 1:* Order of operations, factors, integers, squares, square roots, multiply/divide fractions and decimals, ratio, rate, algebraic expressions, equations, inequalities, and circumference/area of a circle

**Science:** Scientific method; Biology – cells, taxonomy, animal classification, plants, microorganisms; Chemistry – periodic table; Physics – Newton's Laws and rockets; Earth Science – landforms and countries in Europe

**LAMP classes:** Latin, Library, Art, Music, and P.E.

**Latin:** Memorization of new and application of previous vocabulary and chants, labeling and translation of complex sentences, and advanced reading

**Fine arts:** Music – an overview of Western musical history; Art – a study of artistic techniques

**Field trips and activities:** NASA, Museum of American G.I., WWII Living History Day, Western Expansion Day, and Alley Theatre



# What to Expect in the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday, alternating between whole-school, Upper School, and House Chapels.

**Hermeneutics:** Students learn steps to wisely and carefully interpret scripture: understand the text in its original cultural context, consider differences between that context and our own, discern timeless truths in light of this comparison, and apply these truths to our own lives and actions. This course builds a foundation for students' future Bible courses and for personal study.

**Ancient History:** Students study ancient civilizations, including the Mesopotamians, Egyptians, Jews, Greeks, and Romans, evaluating these cultures and their various practices and belief systems from a biblical worldview. Students read original source materials, complete research projects, and participate in debates to help them build and apply their evaluative skills.

**Composition & Literature:** Students read and study literature and poetry aligned with their history time period as well as books that help them continue their study of literary styles and techniques. They also continue an advanced study of grammar, focusing on phrases and clauses, and apply this to composition as they write different types of essays and practice various *progymnasmata* forms. To prepare them for future research, students learn proper Chicago bibliography formatting in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Math:** Students take either 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math or Pre-Algebra. The **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math** course helps students to solidify their understanding of arithmetic concepts and processes, particularly manipulating fractions, decimals, and integers. The **Pre-Algebra** course introduces simple equations, exponents, and other algebraic concepts as students move into more abstract mathematical operations.

**Earth Science:** Students learn about the interrelatedness of the Earth's systems—the geosphere, the hydrosphere, the atmosphere, and the biosphere, as well as our planet's relationship to celestial bodies—in their study of God's world as a planet uniquely designed for human life. Students hone their skills of observation through research projects, modeling, and demonstrations.

**Latin I:** Students build on the foundation of Latin knowledge gained over the course of their Grammar School years, beginning with a full but quick review of basic Latin grammar and vocabulary before continuing on to more advanced grammatical structures. The course includes study of Roman culture, geography, and history as well as translation of Latin texts, and students participate in the National Latin Exam competition in the spring.

**Electives:** Available electives include Art, Upper School Choir, Science Olympiad, Yearbook, and PE.

**Field trips:** Students go to the Houston Museum of Natural Science to view their Ancient Egypt exhibit and take other field trips connected to their science and Latin studies.



# What to Expect in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday, alternating between whole-school, Upper School, and House Chapels.

**Truth and Logic:** Students hone their critical thinking skills as they learn to apply biblical discernment and the rules of informal logic to analyze arguments and detect fallacies. This Bible course prepares students to engage the various texts and ideas they will encounter as they progress through Upper School and their personal lives. Students also complete a persuasive research paper integrated with their Comp & Lit class.

**Medieval European History:** Students study the development of medieval Europe, when Christianity and the Church grew in influence and spread across the continent, from the reign of Constantine through the beginnings of the Scientific Revolution. They read original source materials, complete research projects, and participate in debates to help them evaluate the historical events they study from a biblical worldview.

**Composition & Literature:** Students read and study literature and poetry aligned with their history time period as well as literature that helps them continue their study of literary styles and techniques. They also continue an advanced study of grammar and apply this to composition as they write different types of essays and practice various *progymnasmata* forms. Students begin to be required to type papers in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and receive instruction in Word formatting to help them with this requirement.

**Math:** Students take either Pre-Algebra or Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The **Pre-Algebra** course introduces simple equations, exponents, and other algebraic concepts as students move into more abstract mathematical operations. The **Algebra I** course is a thorough study of algebraic concepts, including solving single-variable and systems of equations, graphing, evaluating exponents, and factoring quadratics.

**Physical Science:** Students study the basic conceptual and practical aspects of physics and chemistry with an emphasis on matter, energy, motion, and electricity. This course includes much hands-on application with demonstrations, modeling, and experimentation as students explore the forces at work in God's world.

**Latin II:** Students study complex grammatical structures as they continue to build their Latin vocabulary and ability to read and translate Latin texts. The course includes study of Roman culture, geography, and history, and students participate in the National Latin Exam competition in the spring.

**Electives:** Available electives include Art, Advanced Art, Upper School Choir, Science Olympiad, Yearbook, and PE.

**Field trips:** Field trips are coordinated with multiple courses across the curriculum.



# What to Expect in the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday, alternating between whole-school, Upper School, and House Chapels.

**Old Testament Survey:** Students apply their understanding of hermeneutics and their knowledge of ancient history to a study of the Old Testament to help them view the Bible as an historically contextualized account of God's redemptive action. This includes study of the characteristics of different textual genres in the Old Testament.

**Modern Europe:** Students study the development of modern Europe from the Enlightenment era through 1914, considering the causes and results of the philosophical and cultural shifts that define this period. They read original source materials, complete research projects, and participate in debates to help them evaluate the historical events they study from a biblical worldview.

**Composition & Literature:** Students read and study literature and poetry aligned with their history time period, honing their skills of literary interpretation. They also complete an advanced study of grammar and apply this to composition as they write essays, poems, and narratives and practice various *progymnasmata* forms. Students learn to include parenthetical citations in expository writing this year.

**Geometry:** Students develop their mathematical understanding of geometric principles to achieve proficiency in real-world problem-solving, applying the skills they learned in Algebra I to interpret geometric relationships. They also build on the logic skills they learned in 8<sup>th</sup> grade as they use logical reasoning and geometric theorems to explain relationships between lines, angles, and shapes.

**Physics I:** Students continue their study of the forces at work in God's world as they master the basic conceptual and practical aspects of mechanics, thermodynamics, waves, and electricity through demonstration, experimentation, and problem-solving.

**Latin III:** Students complete their study of Latin grammar and progress to reading and translating original Latin texts, including passages of the Vulgate and works by Julius Caesar, Cicero, and Vergil. They also write their own simple compositions in Latin and continue their study of Roman culture, geography, and history, participating in the National Latin Exam competition in the spring.

**Electives:** Available electives include Art, Advanced Art, Upper School Choir, Science Olympiad, Yearbook, Mock Trial, and Speech and Debate.

**Field trips:** Students travel to Rice University to view original manuscripts from the Enlightenment period as part of their history studies. They also visit the Houston Museum of Natural Science to view their energy exhibit as part of their Physics I course and may take other field trips connected to their Latin or Bible studies.



# What to Expect in the 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday, alternating between whole-school, Upper School, and House Chapels.

**New Testament Survey:** Students apply hermeneutic principles to a study of the New Testament to help them understand and articulate the truth and relevance of God's whole, unified story and the message of the gospel. This course begins with a study of the intertestamental period so that students better understand the cultural context in which Jesus lived and conducted His ministry.

**US History:** Students study the history of the United States from early colonization through 1914, reading and discussing original source materials and giving presentations to help them understand and evaluate the ideas and events that shaped our nation. This course will draw on students' prior knowledge of European history during this same time period to help students place United States history in its global context.

**Composition & Literature:** Students read and study literature and poetry aligned with their history time period, honing their skills of literary interpretation. They write literary essays of varying lengths, original poems and narratives, and *progymnasmata* forms to hone their skills of expression and argumentation in writing. Students learn to include footnotes in expository writing this year.

**Math:** Students take either Intermediate Algebra or Algebra II. **Intermediate Algebra** expands on algebra concepts learned in Algebra I, helping students to gain confidence and practical application experience with algebraic concepts. **Algebra II** focuses on advanced algebra concepts involving linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, and rational functions. This course is a prerequisite for Pre-Calculus.

**Biology:** Students study all forms of life—cells, plants, microorganisms, animals, and the human body—as they learn about the intricate way God has woven creation together. They collect and study samples from our campus pond and complete dissections as they study different classifications within the animal kingdom. They complete a research paper integrated with their studies in Comp & Lit and US history in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester.

**Languages:** In 10<sup>th</sup> grade, students may choose whether to continue in Latin or begin studying a modern foreign language, either Spanish or French. The **Latin IV** class is an advanced study of Latin literature that involves translation and discussion of the text content. **Spanish I** and **French I** are introductory courses that use an immersion approach to help students learn to communicate orally and in writing at a basic level in these languages. Students are able to quickly master grammar and vocabulary because of their Latin foundation. Students also study Spanish and Francophone culture.

**Electives:** Available electives include Art, Advanced Art, Upper School Choir, Science Olympiad, Yearbook, Mock Trial, and Speech and Debate.

**Field trips:** Field trips are coordinated with multiple courses across the curriculum.



# What to Expect in the 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday, alternating between whole-school, Upper School, and House Chapels.

**Ethics:** Students learn to apply biblical principles to the ethical issues facing them and our culture as a whole. Through regular class discussion, they apply their logic and hermeneutical skills to consider how scripture should guide their decisions and actions on a daily basis.

**History of Philosophy:** Students study the philosophies that have shaped Western culture from ancient civilizations through the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, using their knowledge of the history of these time periods to guide their study. Students read and discuss original source materials, giving presentations and writing papers to synthesize and express what they are learning.

**Rhetoric I and Government:** Students build on their knowledge of United States history with a focused study of our government and its functions as well as the rhetoric that has played such a key role in shaping our government from its founding to present day. They study and practice the principles and canons of rhetoric as they read and analyze original source materials and write and deliver their own speeches. The course concludes with a research paper that sets the stage for the senior thesis project the following year. Students may choose to take the English Language and Composition AP exam this year.

**Math:** Students take either Applied Math or Pre-Calculus. **Applied Math** focuses on real-world application of mathematical skills and processes with a particular emphasis on modeling. **Pre-Calculus** includes the study of functions, trigonometry, complex numbers, polynomials, and sequences and series. This course is a prerequisite for Calculus.

**Chemistry or Advanced Chemistry:** Students learn to describe the properties and interactions of matter and energy at the atomic and molecular level through demonstration, calculation and experimentation. The Advanced Chemistry course covers the same material but in more depth and is intended to be taken in conjunction with the Pre-Calculus mathematics course such that students can apply the mathematical concepts they are learning to their study of chemical concepts and properties.

**Languages:** Students continue to study the language they selected in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. **Latin V** progresses with the advanced study of Latin literature involving translation and discussion of the text content as well as original composition in Latin. **Spanish II** and **French II** continue with an immersion instructional format to help students progress to intermediate proficiency in their written and oral communication. Students also study Spanish and Francophone culture and history and improve their reading skills.

**Electives:** Available electives include Art, Advanced Art, Upper School Choir, Science Olympiad, Yearbook, Mock Trial, Speech and Debate, and Economics.

**Field trips:** Field trips are coordinated with multiple courses across the curriculum.



# What to Expect in the 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Chapel:** Every Wednesday, alternating between whole-school, Upper School, and House Chapels.

**Apologetics:** Students learn to defend their faith in the face of great opposition from the culture at large and their own fallen natures. Through regular class discussion, they apply their logic and hermeneutical skills to consider the truth of biblical Christianity and evaluate arguments and worldview positions in opposition to that truth.

**Contemporary World History:** Students study the history of the world from World War I through the present day, using their knowledge of history to help them accurately interpret and evaluate current events as they read and discuss original source materials, give presentations and speeches, and engage in debates.

**Rhetoric II:** Students complete their study of rhetoric, culminating in the researching, writing, condensing, memorizing, presenting, and defending of a senior thesis. Students may choose to take the English Literature and Composition AP exam this year.

**Math:** Students are not required but may choose to take a mathematics course their senior year, either Pre-Calculus or Calculus. **Pre-Calculus** includes the study of functions, trigonometry, complex numbers, polynomials, and sequences and series. **Calculus** is a college-level course that includes the study of limits, derivatives, and integrals. Students may take the Calculus AB AP exam at the end of this course.

**Science:** Students are not required but may choose to take a science course their senior year, either Anatomy & Physiology or Physics II. **Anatomy & Physiology** is the study of the human body and all of its systems. **Physics II** challenges students to construct and appraise mathematical models of God's created order.

**Languages:** Students are not required but may choose to continue their study of the language they selected in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. **Latin VI** continues the advanced study of Latin literature. Students may take the Latin AP exam at the conclusion of this course. **Spanish III** and **French III** are advanced courses in which students learn more complex grammatical structures and develop written and oral proficiency through immersion.

**Electives:** Available electives include Art, Advanced Art, Upper School Choir, Science Olympiad, Yearbook, Speech and Debate, and Economics.

**Field trips:** Students visit the Houston Holocaust Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston as part of the Contemporary History course. The Physics II class experiences the forces of physics at work at iFLY, and the Anatomy & Physiology class often visits special exhibits at the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

**Italy Trip:** Students have the opportunity to travel to Italy for an 11-day tour with their teachers and classmates after graduation that serves as a culmination of their PCS education, visiting the Colosseum, the Forum, the Pantheon, the Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo's David, Galileo's house, and other artistic and historical sites.