

Elementary Course Descriptions

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT Bible (K-6th)

Bible class is taught every day in Kindergarten. 1st – 6th has Bible class on Wednesday and Friday

- Kindergarten uses ACSI Bible Curriculum 1st-3rd grade uses Positive Action Bible Curriculum.
- 4th-6th grade will use Kay Arthur Inductive Bible Studies for Kids. Bible is either in the morning or afternoon on non-Chapel days.
- K-6th grade will have Bible memory work in the classroom.

Chapel - 1st-6th grade is every Wednesday.

- The purpose of Chapel is the corporate worship of the Lord and Godly Character teaching. Students will be taught short messages on Godly Character meant to nurture a sincere and growing love for Christ and develop godly character.
- Chapel is graded as Pass/Fail and is included in either the morning or afternoon block.

Music Enrichment (K-3)

- Lucas Christian Academy's Elementary music enrichment classes will include twenty-five minute weekly grade appropriate lessons that align with the National Standards for Music Education. Students will sing together as well as independently, learn about music history, listen and identify musical works in composers, read and notate solfege syllables/notes on the musical staff, play various non-pitched and pitched instruments as well as compose rhythms and simple melodies in different ways. Students will also enjoy Kodaly singing games to reinforce musical concepts. The elementary music enrichment program will make direct correlations to core academic subjects such as, but not limited to math, phonics and reading. We will spend a few minutes some class periods talking about self awareness, social awareness and conflict resolution from a biblical world view. This class will be graded as Pass/Fail.

Physical Education (K-6th)

- The objective of this class is to educate the students on the importance of physical activity and overall wellness, and to provide a variety of activities which will motivate the students to stay active, learn the fundamentals of the sports offered at LCA. Skills will be taught in the areas of basketball, volleyball, soccer, etc. . We will spend a few minutes some class periods talking about self awareness, social awareness, and conflict resolution form a biblical worldview. This class will be graded as Pass/Fail.

KINDERGARTEN

Language Arts, Math, History, and Bible using an integrated approach to the curriculum. The monthly Biblical character trait will be reinforced in the classroom. The day will also include lunch, recess, Bible, PE (Mondays), Music Enrichment (W & F), and learning centers either in the morning or afternoon depending on scheduling. Recess, PE, Music, and Bible are each twenty-five minute time blocks weaved into the school day.

- **Language Arts:** Students will learn and review the vowel words and words with special sounds. They will learn 100 sight words. They will also learn to read sentences and simple stories. Additionally, students will enjoy a variety of teacher-read literature. Manuscript printing will be introduced and practiced.
- **Math:** The primary focal points are number sense and adding whole numbers, telling time, money, place value, and organizing and analyzing data. Kindergartners are setting the foundation for number sense and place value by using hand-on approach to make math concrete and visual.

1st GRADE

- **Reading:** Students continue to develop phonics and reading skills and move toward becoming independent readers. By the end of first grade, children can read high frequency and sight words and have learned many of the principles of phonics. Students learn to read fluently, expressively, and with comprehension.
- **Language Arts:** Students continue to develop their oral language and communication skills and move toward becoming independent writers. They write sentences that are complete and coherent with vivid word choices and correct spelling, capitalization, and end punctuation. Manuscript printing will be practiced and spelling will be taught with weekly spelling lists.
- **History:** 1st graders will learn about the country in which they live through a study of America's important symbols, history, and places of interest. They will also make an introductory study of other countries around the world. Geography skills, including continents, oceans, the equator, and map directions, are also introduced.
- **Math:** Students will continue to build on the concepts covered in Kindergarten and will continue with addition and subtraction problems. The primary focal points are comparing and ordering whole numbers, applying addition and subtraction, and using measurement processes. U.S. customary units of measurement, as well as place value. Students begin to think critically by learning how to solve real life word problems. Focus on memorizing math facts of addition and subtraction.
- **Science:** The program includes an introduction to topics such as the senses, matter, teeth, tame and wild animals, plants, weather, and sound. Simple experiments help students understand these concepts.

2nd GRADE

- **Reading:** Students learn to read independently with greater fluency, expression, and comprehension. 2nd graders continue to study phonics as an aid to improving reading skills.
- **Language Arts:** Students begin to write independently and improve in their writing of complete sentences with correct spelling, capitalization, and end punctuation. Multiple sentences tied to a central idea (paragraph) will also be taught. Manuscript printing is practiced and cursive handwriting introduced. Spelling is taught with weekly spelling lists, and students begin using reference books to build word meanings, confirm pronunciation, and spelling.
- **History:** Students continue to acquire knowledge of important customs, symbols, and celebrations that represent American beliefs and principles. They also examine the impact of significant individuals and events in the history of the community, as well as on the state and

nation. Geography includes instruction on the continents, major bodies of water, fifty states, and major U.S. landmarks.

- **Math:** The primary focal points are multiplying and dividing whole numbers, connecting fraction symbols to fractional quantities, and standardizing language and procedures in geometry and measurement. Students will be given the opportunity to master new concepts such as simple geometry. Working real life problems using critical thinking is an area we focus on in grades 1-6th. Math fact memory is incorporated in the curriculum with testing.
- **Science:** This course includes planning and conducting simple science experiments to teach students the scientific method and the skills necessary to use basic science tools and make accurate measurements. Some topics of study include habitats, fossils, light, natural resources, and the human body and its systems.

3rd GRADE

- **Reading:** Students continue to develop reading fluency, expression, and comprehension during independent and class reading. Novel reading helps students to increase their vocabulary and students begin to evaluate the literature read against the truth of the Bible.
- **Language Arts:** Students increase the amount of time spent on independent writing and instruction is given on the development of a well-written paragraph and the joining of three well-developed paragraphs on a given topic. Students will learn about the writing of letters, poetry, narrative writing, expressive writing, and informative writing. Cursive writing and spelling become the sole responsibility of the parent/co-teacher in 3rd grade. Cursive writing will be practiced at home with finished work turned in to the LCA teacher for grading. Students will be required to write in cursive during the spring semester. Spelling also will be taught at home using a school-issued spelling list consisting of high frequency sight words, as well as a teacher generated word list. Spelling tests will be administered at home.
- **History:** In this literature-based course covering the time period of creation through the ancient civilization of Greece, students will study various historical events and people through the use of a history song (detailing thirty-two events/people of this time period) and various novels. The novels will give a glimpse into the daily living experience and world view of the time period and/or historical persons being studied. Information learned will be further reinforced and enhanced through classroom activities such as games, mapping, geography songs, and poetry. An increased emphasis is placed on reading and writing at this grade level.
- **Math:** Concepts such as addition, place value, and other skills are reviewed, while new concepts of fractions and decimals are introduced. Multiplication, division, story problems with critical thinking, working with triple-digits, and solving algebraic equations, along with math fact reinforcement. **Science:** Through simple observations and experiments, students continue to develop the skills of collecting information, making inferences, communicating conclusions, and making informed decisions. Topics of study include the ecosystems, forces of motion, soil, rocks and minerals, cells, tissues, and organs.

4th - 6th GRADE (UPPER ELEMENTARY)

In order to prepare our students for the secondary years, our fourth through sixth graders will have the opportunity to rotate between the two grade level teachers. One teacher will teach the English/History

block while the other teacher teaches the Math/Science block. This will serve to encourage organizational skills and equip our students as they adjust to more than one classroom teacher.

- **4th GRADE English:** Students will spend significant blocks of time engaged in reading and writing independently. Students will be able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform or entertain and will edit their compositions using their increasing knowledge of grammar. Instruction will be given on the writing of a three paragraph essay with clear, step by step instructions at the beginning of the year and increased independent student completion in the second semester. Students will also learn to write letters and reports. Spelling will be taught at home by the parent using a school-issued spelling list of commonly misspelled words and misused homophones. Students will be held accountable for the correct spelling of these words on all completed work, and spelling tests will be administered at home. After a grace period of six weeks, students will be expected to write in cursive handwriting. Study from works of literature will teach students to examine what they read, Christian or secular, classic or contemporary, and value the truth it contains as measured against the Bible.
- **History:** In this literature-based course covering the time period of Rome, the Middle Ages, Renaissance, and the Reformation, students will study various historical events and people through the use of a history song (detailing thirty-two events/people of this time period) and various novels. The novels will give a glimpse into the daily living experience and world view of the time period and/or historical persons being studied. Information learned will be further reinforced and enhanced through classroom activities such as games, mapping, geography songs, and poetry. A heavy emphasis is placed on reading and writing.
- **Math:** The primary focal points are manipulating fractions, decimals and percents, comparing and contrasting lengths, area, and volume of geometric shapes and solids, representing and interpreting data in graphs, charts, and tables, and applying whole number operations in a variety of contexts. In addition, students will learn to calculate percentages, square roots, and simple probability.
- **Science:** Students will continue to use the scientific method as they explore God's creation. They will learn about the moon, its properties, its movements, and various beliefs about the moon. A study of the human body will focus on the digestive and skeletal systems. Other topics of study included electricity and magnetism, insects and arthropods, and weathering and erosion.

5th GRADE English: Students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. 5th grade students will be able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. They will edit their writing based on their knowledge of grammar and usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language with parental/co-teacher assistance. Students produce final, error-free pieces of written composition on a regular basis. They will also learn to make outlines, use a dictionary and thesaurus, write book reports, and compose a library research paper. Spelling is the sole responsibility of the parent using a school-issued spelling list of commonly misspelled words and misused homophones. Students will be held accountable for the correct spelling of these words on all completed work, and spelling tests will be administered at home. Study from works of literature will

teach students to examine what they read, Christian or secular, classic or contemporary, and value the truth it contains as measured against the

History: In this American history course covering the time period of the explorers to present time, students will study various historical events and people using USA Studies Weekly and historical fiction novels. An emphasis will be placed on annotating and note taking during reading to increase comprehension of the text. The students will engage in skills such as targeting causes and effects, inferencing, summarizing events and ideas, identifying main ideas and themes, comparing and contrasting, drawing conclusions, creating timelines, analyzing maps and charts, and identifying challenges, opportunities and contributions of people throughout the history of the USA. The Biblical principles of the Founding Fathers and Patriot heroes will be tied into discussions, writing, and other activities.

Math: Students review previously learned concepts and continue to develop their abilities to use problem-solving strategies and manipulate fractions, decimals, percents, and algebraic equations. Other topics covered are solving algebraic equations, solving measurement problems, data analysis and probability, and geometry.

Science: Students in this course will study units that include rocks and fossils, weather and biomes, and the ecosystems of the world. Students will also learn about sound, light, heat, and thermal and atomic energy. As they continue to study God's creation, they will also identify and learn about the functions of the human respiratory and circulatory systems.

6th GRADE English: Students will demonstrate mastery of the previously learned skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Students will take notes during oral presentations and organize and summarize spoken messages. They will also be able to select and use different forms of writing such as compare/contrast, poetry, outlines, narration, and journal writing. Students will learn to vary sentence structure and use more complex punctuation such as hyphens, semicolons, and possessives. 6th grade students will edit their writing based on their knowledge of grammar and usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language, and will be required to write a research paper in the spring semester. Spelling is the sole responsibility of the parent using a school-issued spelling list of commonly misspelled words and misused homophones. Students will be held accountable for the correct spelling of these words on all completed work, and spelling tests will be administered at home. Study from works of literature will teach students to examine what they read, Christian or secular, classic or contemporary, and value the truth it contains as measured against the Bible.

History: In this literature-based course covering the time period of creation through the ancient civilization of Greece, students will study various historical events and various novels. The novels will provide a glimpse into the daily living experiences and worldview of the time period and/or historical person studied. Students will develop map skills as they navigate through Old World History and Geography. A heavy emphasis is placed on reading and writing.

Math: Problem solving, language and communication, connections within and outside mathematics, and formal and informal reasoning underlie all content areas in mathematics. The primary focal points are solving one and two-step algebraic equations, positive and negative exponents, solving algebraic equations data analysis and probability, solving measurement problems, and describing properties and

relationships of lines, angles, polygons and coordinate geometry. Solving real life word problems using critical thinking.

Science: Students will study units that include motion and machines, electricity and magnetism, natural resources, stars, and the solar system. They will also learn about the classification and reproduction of plants and animals as well as the nervous and immune systems of the human body. 6th graders will also be introduced to the study of heredity and genetics.

6th GRADE big d.o.G. PROGRAM

- 6th graders participate in a parent-led program called “big d.o.G.s,” which stands for big disciples of God. This is a leadership program based on biblical truth and is designed to train students to exemplify Christian leadership principles. As the oldest students on the LCA elementary campus, they are called to be examples to the younger students who will look to them as leaders. This program aims to help encourage and equip the students in this new role and to prepare them as they transition to Secondary.

ELECTIVES (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday - 2:25-3:25)

KINDERGARTEN ENRICHMENT CLASS

This class is open to kindergarten students. Students will participate in learning centers, outdoor play, science exploration, games, music, short plays, reading, and much more as they explore the many ways to enrich their day! This class will be graded as Pass/Fail.

1st and 2nd GRADE STEAM CLASS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math)

This class will be a real-life exploration of God’s world. Students will answer questions like “Why do frogs say ‘ribbit’”, “Why is there sand at the beach”, and “Can you really fry an egg on a hot sidewalk?” This class will give the opportunity for hands-on daily science experiments that help nurture curiosity for the world around us, think critically, and problem solve. Students will be guided in engaging science experiments in order to understand that science is not just found in a textbook, but it is everywhere we look!

1st GRADE ART and 2nd GRADE ART (two separate classes)

The elementary art courses will introduce students to art through various mediums, introduction of artists through books, study of artists and their works, and discovery of each child’s God-given talents through a variety of art activities. This class will be graded as Pass/Fail.

3rd- 6th GRADE ART

This upper elementary art course will introduce students to the essential concepts, mediums, and techniques of visual art. A focus on drawing in perspective will enable the students to draw what they see with more confidence, using pencil, charcoal, and scratchboard. An introduction to color theory will be followed by a painting or pastel project. Three dimensional studies will also be introduced using either papier-mâché or clay. Periodic artist spotlights will introduce students to the work of the masters and give opportunities for class discussion. Positive class critiques will follow each project in order to encourage students, give them practice using their “visual vocabulary,” and review essential concepts. This class will be graded as Pass/Fail.

3rd-5th GRADE THEATRE PRODUCTION

Elementary theatre is a fun forum for students to work as a team to produce a play for a semester end performance. Emphasis will be placed on using one's God-given creative talents to inspire, encourage, and instruct in truth and beauty. Students will learn acting skills through comedy characterization, dictation, breath control, volume control, and play analysis. Students will also assist with scenery, props, costumes, and backstage crew responsibilities. Homework will consist of script memorization, costume, theatre log, and prop gathering. This course is designed to prepare students for the secondary theatre class. This class will be graded as Pass/Fail.

1st-6th GRADE STUDY HALL

Students will be allowed to enroll in the 2:25 study hall. Because young children do not have the maturity to work independently for long periods of time, Kindergarten students will not be allowed to enroll in a study hall, however the Kindergarten Enrichment Class is available at 2:30 (see "Course Description"). Study hall should be treated like any other class in regard to all school policies (e.g., electronic devices, tardy/absence, conduct, etc.).

1st-6th GRADE ARTS IN MINISTRY (AIM)

As a Christian school, one of the objectives for our students is to strengthen their relationship with Christ. This class will allow the students to learn praise songs with motions/movements to worship our Lord in a dynamic way. Students will learn what praise and worship is and can be when fully engaged. These students will then be able to help lead our worship time in Chapel. The students will also be performing Character/Biblical skits that teach a lesson. This class will be graded as Pass/Fail.

1st-6th GRADE SPANISH

Students are introduced to the basics of a foreign language. Vocabulary and grammar for effective communication are largely taught using games, songs, and visuals. Student will also learn various social and cultural aspects of Spanish speaking people. Students memorize Bible verses in Spanish and learn about different missionaries in Spanish speaking countries.

3rd-6th GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The objective of this class is to educate the students on the importance of physical activity and overall wellness, and to provide a variety of activities which will motivate the students to stay active, learn the fundamentals of sports offered at LCA, and increase participation. Class size will be 12-30 students. This class will be graded as Pass/Fail.

4th-6th GRADE ELEMENTARY KEYBOARDING

Students are introduced to basic keying techniques through proper finger placement, timed exercises/repetition drills, use of alphabetic/numeric skill building, and periodic assessments. This course provides instruction in skills necessary to complete typed assignments on satellite days. This is a one-semester class only for 4th-6th grade students. A summer class is also available for rising 5th and 6th grade students. During this class, skills acquired will help prepare students for the placement testing required to enroll in Computer Programming beginning in 8th grade. This class will be graded as Pass/Fail.

Lucas Christian Academy – (SEL) Foundation/Character Building

LCA intentionally educates students in the area of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) with God's Word of grace and truth as the foundation. This will be taught periodically in Music Enrichment and PE when appropriate.

What are the components of Lucas Christian Academy (SEL)

The five components of social-emotional learning are:

- self-awareness, recognizing thoughts and feelings (& being able to lift these feelings in prayer to God), and how their feelings relate to behavior ---also identifying their own strengths and limits-recognizing their uniqueness as God's child and other's uniqueness in the body of Christ
- self-management, helps children lift their emotions to God, control their emotions thoughts and behaviors with the power of the Holy Spirit
- social awareness, this helps children understand and relate to other people's feelings, and learn what behaviors are OK/God pleasing and not OK/God pleasing in different situations
- relationship skills, these include communication, cooperation and conflict-resolution skills, in the light of God's word
- responsible decision-making, these help children find positive godly solutions to problems and make healthy, safe choices with integrity

Spiritual Foundations of (SEL)/Character Building

Proverbs 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Just as our hearts are important so are the hearts of our children. As we venture in what is termed "social and emotional learning" we look to God's Word to guard and guide us.

The following are foundations on which we build our SEL

Self-Awareness/Self-Management

We are incredible human beings:

- We are wonderfully made, Psalm 139, Psalm 119:87
- We are made in God's likeness/image, Genesis 1:26a

We are deeply and lavishly loved:

- With an incredible love, He embraced us, Ephesians 2:3-6
- We were still sinners, Christ died for us, Romans 5:8
- God covers us with His wings, Psalm 91:4
- Out of love God gives us His only Son, Jesus, John 3:16
- We are called the children of God, I John 3:1

We are broken:

- in sin I was conceived, Psalm 51:5
- All have sinned, Romans 3:23

We are restored in Jesus:

- Whoever believes in Him (Jesus) should not die but have eternal life, John 3:16
- In Christ we are a new creation. The old has passed; the new has come, 2 Cor. 5:17

We have gifts/resource for self-management:

- But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, Galatians 5:22-23

Social Awareness/Relationship Skills

Cultivating a heart for others:

- Love one another. As I have loved you, John 13:34
- (encourage, accept, forgive...) Build each other up
- Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Philippians 2:4

Relationship Skills:

- Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, James 1:19
- be at peace with each other, Mark 9:50

Responsible Decision Making Skills:

- Trust God from the bottom of your heart;
- Don't try to figure out everything on your own.
- Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go;
- He's the one who will keep you on track.
- Don't assume that you know it all.
- Run to God!
- Run from evil!