

# THE SAINT AUSTIN SCHOOL



TO PREACH THE  
UNSEARCHABLE  
RICHES OF

*Christ*

EPHESIANS 3:8

SAINTAUSTINSCHOOL.ORG





THE ST. AUSTIN SCHOOL  
PROSPECTUS  
2018-2019

THAT IN  
ALL  
THINGS  
GOD  
MAY BE  
GLORIFIED

RULE OF ST. BENEDICT

# 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 establish the 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 worshipping 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).

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

## HEADMISTRESS

Mrs. Geralyn Dolan

## ASSISTANT HEADMISTRESS

Mrs. Jane McCabe

## CHAPLAINCY

The Rev. Dominic Lenk, OSB

## ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR

Mrs. Danielle Morgenthaler

## BUSINESS MANAGER

Mr. Jim Spellmeyer

## ASSISTANT TREASURER

Mrs. Mary Ann Mueth

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

Mrs. Theresa Leland

Mrs. Amanda Wegrzyn

## SCHOOL SECRETARY

Ms. Pat Nieberding

## SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Mrs. Marilyn Lonigro, President

Mr. Jim Spellmeyer, Treasurer

Mr. Paul Hunker

Fr. Dominic Lenk, OSB

Mrs. Danielle Morgenthaler

Mr. Ron Brewer

Mrs. Gerry Dolan

Mrs. Mary Beth Rowles\*

# SCHOOL STAFF

## FORM TEACHERS

PreK:	Mrs. Katie Cupps, BS Education
	Miss Lauren Prize, Asst. Montessori Primary & Elem. Diplomas
Form I (Grade K):	Miss Sarah O'Daniel, BA Psychology
Form II (Grade 1):	Miss Alexis Sallwasser, BSE Elementary Education
Form III (Grade 2):	Mrs. Mary Agnew, MA Education
Form IV (Grade 3):	Miss Catherine Gilmore, BA Interdisciplinary Studies (Elementary Education), MA Teaching
Form V (Grade 4):	Mrs. Jane McCabe, BA Geography
Form VI (Grades 5 & 6):	Mr. Mark Bowles, BA Education
Form VII (Grades 7 & 8):	Mr. Philip Councilor, BA History

# SCHOOL STAFF

## SUBJECT TEACHERS

Religious Instruction, Latin, History:	Mr. Thomas Capps, BA Near Eastern Languages And Civilizations
Catechesis of the Good Shephard:	Mrs. Jane Frank, BA English Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Certified, Levels 1 and 2
Spanish:	Mrs. Rosario Gasquet, BS Business
Art:	Mrs. Carrie Blase, BA Graphic Arts
Music:	Mrs. Elisabeth Kenney, BA Sacred Music
Physical Education:	Mr. Philip Councilor, BA History
Library:	Mrs. Jackie Spellmeyer, BS Health Science
Handwriting (Form II):	Mrs. GERALYN Dolan, MA Educational Leadership

SEEKING  
TRUTH  
GOODNESS  
*and*  
*Beauty*

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# ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

The St. Austin School is an Independent Private Catholic School, situated in West County St. Louis. The St. Austin School Association of the Faithful is responsible for the Catholicity of the school as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

**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 8. 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: Grades 5 and 6

Form VII: Grades 7 and 8

# ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

## ADMISSION OF PUPILS TO THE SCHOOL

The school is committed to small class sizes – an average class size of approximately 15. Admission of a student in a situation where it would result in more than 15 in a form will only be done upon the specific approval of the Board of Governors.

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.

In the year prior to formal entrance into school (PreK), class meets three times a week in order to provide a gentle and smooth transition to full weeks at 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 Headmistress and other staff. Please contact the school secretary to make arrangements for a visit.

## 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 Headmistress.

# SCHOOL CURRICULUM

At The St. Austin School, each child is encouraged to develop socially, intellectually, and spiritually at his optimum pace, 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 is the foundation of our culture. Since it is essential for the fullest participation in the liturgical life of the Church as well as providing excellent mental training and assisting the understanding of English, 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 the shapes, money, number patterns, graphs, tables, and number calculations. The later 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**

The music program will include music appreciation as well as introduction to technique and performance. Singing and liturgical music will have pride of place. In addition, music plays an important part in the life of the school at Holy Mass and special celebrations, especially at Christmas and Easter.

### **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, 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

## THE PREP SET (PRE-KINDERGARTEN)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Catechism

*Who Am I*, Ignatius Press

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program

### Story Time

*The Children's Book of Virtue*, William Bennett

*Book of Nursery and Mother Goose Rhymes*, Marguerite de Angeli

*Winnie the Pooh Series*, A.A. Milne

*A Child's Garden of Verses*, Robert Louis Stevenson

*The Velveteen Rabbit*, Margery Williams

*The Story of Ferdinand*, Munro Leaf

*The Frog and Toad Treasury*, Arnold Lobel

*The Complete Collection of Beatrix Potter*

*Rumpelstiltskin and Hansel and Gretel*,

and assorted fairy tales, Paul O. Zelinsky

### Penmanship

*Writing for Catholic Faith*, Universal Publishing

### Literacy and Numeracy activities

*Little Treasures*, McMillan-McGraw Hill

*Every Day in PreK*, Houghton-Mifflin Harcourt

Activity based introduction in Science, History, Music, and Arts & Crafts.



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

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM I (GRADE K)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture

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

Catechism

*Who Am I?*, Ignatius Press

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program

### English

Reading, Writing, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling

*Treasures Series*, McMillan-McGraw Hill

*Phonics*, Modern Curriculum Press

Penmanship

*Getty-Dubay Italic Series*, Continuing Education Press

### Reasoning/Problem Solving

*Can you Find Me?*, The Critical Thinking Company

### Literature

Works of literature will be chosen from the following list:

Selections from *The Complete Tales of Beatrix Potter*

Selections from *Aesop's Fables*

*The Princess and the Pea*, Hans Christian Anderson

*Beauty and the Beast*, Mme. Leprince de Beaumont

*Cinderella*, Christian Perrault

*Flat Stanley*, Jeff Brown

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

*The Trumpet and the Swan*, E.B. White

*Amelia Bedelia Series*, Peggy Parish

*The Story of Babar, the Little Elephant*, Jean and Laurent de Brunhoff

### History and Geography

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

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

### Mathematics

*Math in Focus*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

*Simple Solutions*, Bright Ideas Press, LLC

### Science

*Science*, Scott Foresman

### Additional Subjects

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

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM II (GRADE I)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture

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

Catechism

*Faith and Life – Our Heavenly Father*, Ignatius Press

### English

Reading, Writing, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling

*Spelling Power*, Adams-Gordons

*Treasures Series*, McMillan-McGraw Hill

*Phonics*, Modern Curriculum Press

Penmanship

*Getty-Dubay Italic Series*, Continuing Education Press

### Reasoning/Problem Solving

*Building Thinking Skills: Primary*, Sandra Parks and Howard Block

### Literature

Works of literature will be chosen from the following list:

Selections from *Aesop's Fables*

*The Giving Tree*, Shel Silverstein

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

*Junie B. Jones Series*, Barbra Park

*The Berenstain Bears Series*, Stan and Jan Berenstain

*The Story of Babar, the Little Elephant*, Jean and Laurent de Brunhoff

### 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

*Math in Focus*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

### Science

*Science*, Scott Foresman

- Additional Subjects**
1. Art
  2. Music
  3. Physical Education (PE)
  4. Spanish
  5. Latin

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM III (GRADE 2)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture

*The Catholic Children's Bible*, Saint Mary's Press

Catechism

*Faith and Life – Jesus Our Life*, Ignatius Press

### English

Reading, Writing, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling

*Treasures Series*, McMillan-McGraw Hill

*Phonics*, Level B Pearson

*Spelling Power*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition Castlemoyle Books

Penmanship

*Getty-Dubay Italic Series*, Continuing Education Press

### Reasoning/Problem Solving

*Building Thinking Skills*, The Critical Thinking Company

### Literature

Works of literature will be chosen from the following list:

*The Wind in the Willows*, Kenneth Grahame

*St. Benedict: Hero of the Hills*, Mary Fabyan Windeatt

*St. Catherine Laboure*, Alma Power-Waters

*St. Pius: The Farm Boy Who Became Pope*, Walter Diethelm

*Bernadette: Our Lady's Little Servant*, Hertha Pauli

*Little House Series*, Laura Ingalls Wilder

Selections from *The Chronicles of Narnia*, C.S. Lewis

### History and Geography

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

Vol. 2: *The Middle Ages*, Peace Hill Press

*Famous Men of the Middle Ages*, Greenleaf Press

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

### Mathematics

*Math in Focus*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

*Simple Solutions*, Bright Ideas Press, LLC

### Science

*Science*, Scott Foresman

### Additional Subjects

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

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM IV (GRADE 3)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture

*The Holy Bible* (RSV)

Catechism

*Faith and Life – Our Life with Jesus*, Ignatius Press

### English

Reading, Writing, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling

*Treasures Series*, McMillan-McGraw Hill

*Wordly Wise 3000*, Educators Publishing Company

*English from the Roots Up*, Joegil Lundquist

*English for Young Catholics*, Seton Press

*Spelling Power*, Castlemoyle Books

Penmanship

*Getty-Dubay Italic Series*, Continuing Education Press

### Reasoning/Problem Solving

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

### Literature

Works of literature to be chosen from the following list:

*The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess,*

*Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread*, Kate DiCamillo

*Black Beauty*, Anna Sewell

*James and the Giant Peach*, Roald Dahl

*Pippi Longstocking*, Astrid Lindgren

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

*Little Men*, Louisa May Alcott

### History

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

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

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

### Mathematics

*Math in Focus*, Houghton-Mifflin Harcourt

*Simple Solutions*, Bright Ideas Press

### Science

*Science*, Scott Foresman

- ### Additional Subjects
1. Art
  2. Music
  3. Physical Education (PE)
  4. Spanish
  5. Latin

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM V (GRADE 4)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture

*The Holy Bible* (RSV)

*New Catholic Picture Bible*, Catholic Book Publishing Co.

Catechism

*Faith and Life – Our Life with Jesus*, Ignatius Press

### English

Reading, Writing, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling

*God's Gift of Language A*, A Beka

*Institute for Excellence in Writing*, Andrew Pudewa

*Wordly Wise*, School Specialty, Inc.

*Spelling Power*, Castlemoyle Books

Penmanship

*Getty-Dubay Italic Series*, Continuing Education Press

### Reasoning/Problem Solving

*Building Thinking Skills*, The Critical Thinking Company

### Literature

Works of literature to be chosen from the following list:

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

*Sarah Plain and Tall*, Patricia MacLachlin

*Snow Treasure*, Marie McSwigan

*Where the Red Fern Grows*, Wilson Rawles

*The Indian in the Cupboard*, Lynn Reid Banks

*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 Maddern Pitrone

### History

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

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

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

*Missouri Then and Now*, University of MO Press

### Mathematics

*Math in Focus*, Houghton-Mifflin Harcourt

*Simple Solutions*, Bright Ideas Press, LLC

### Science

*Science*, Scott Foresman

### Additional Subjects

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

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VI (GRADES 5 AND 6)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture

*The Holy Bible* (RSV)

Catechism

Grade 5: *Faith and Life – Credo: I Believe*, Ignatius Press

Grade 6: *Faith and Life – Following Christ*, Ignatius Press

Biblical Hebrew

*Introducing Biblical Hebrew*, Baker Academic

### English

Grammar

*English for Young Catholics*, Seton Press

*Grammar and Composition I*, A Beka

Vocabulary

*Vocabulary Workshop A*, Sadlier

*Vocabulary in Action, Level F*, Loyola Press

Spelling

*Spelling Power*, Castlemoyle Books

Penmanship

*Getty-Dubay Italic*, Continuing Education Press

### Logic

*The Art of Argument*, Classical Academic Press

### Literature

Works of literature to be chosen from the following list:

*The Outlaws of Ravenhurst*, M. Imelda Wallace

*The Iliad and the Odyssey for Boys and Girls*, Alfred Church

*The Bronze Bow*, Elizabeth George Speare

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Mark Twain

*Augustine Came to Kent*, Barbara Willard

*A Light in the Forest*, Conrad Richter

*Indian Captive: The Story of Mary Jemison*, Lois Lensk

*The Captain's Dog: My Journey with the Lewis and Clark Tribe*,  
Roland Smith

*The Shakespeare Stealer*, Gary Blackwood

*The Good Master*, Kate Seredy

Greek and Roman Myths, Poetry

Students are required to independently read 100 pages each week. Independent reading is self-selected by the student with the approval of that student's parents.

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VI (GRADES 5 AND 6)

### History and Geography

*All Ye Lands: Origins of World Cultures*, Ignatius Press

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

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

Vol. 2: *Middle Ages*, Peace Hill Press

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

### Latin

*Latin for Roman Catholics*, Thomas Capps

### Mathematics

Grade 5: *Math in Focus*, Houghton-Mifflin Harcourt

Grade 6: *Mathematics Course 1*, Holt-McDougal

### Science

*Earth Science*, Glencoe

### Additional Subjects

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



# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VII (GRADES 7 AND 8)

### Religious Instruction (RI)

Sacred Scripture (RSV)

*The Holy Bible*

Catechism:

Grade 7: *Faith and Life – The Life of Grace*, Ignatius Press

Grade 8: *Faith and Life – Our Life in the Church*, Ignatius Press

Biblical Hebrew

*Introducing Biblical Hebrew*, Baker Academic

### English

Grammar

*Grammar and Composition I*, A Beka

*English for Young Catholics*, Seton Press

Vocabulary

*Vocabulary Workshop C*, Sadlier

*Vocabulary in Action, Level H*, Loyola Press

Spelling

*Spelling Power*, Castlemoyle Books

Penmanship

*Getty-Dubay Italic*, Continuing Education Press

### Logic

*The Art of Argument*, Classical Academic Press

### Literature

Works of literature to be chosen from the following list:

*Julius Caesar*, William Shakespeare

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, William Shakespeare

*Macbeth*, William Shakespeare

*Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare

*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain

*Cyrano de Bergerac*, Edmund Rostand

*White Fang*, Jack London

*The Old Man and the Sea*, Earnest Hemingway

*Favorite Father Brown Stories*, G.K. Chesterton

*Behind the Blue and the Grey*, Delia Ray

*The Boys' War*, Jim Murphy

*The Screwtape Letters*, C.S. Lewis

*Joan of Arc*, Mark Twain

American Short Stories, Poetry

Students are required to independently read 100 pages each week. Independent reading is self-selected by the student with approval of the student's parents.

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## FORM VII (GRADES 7 AND 8)

### 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

### Mathematics

Grade 7: *Pre-Algebra*, McDougal Littell  
Grade 8: *Algebra I*, McDougal Littell

### Science

*Physical Science*, McDougal Littell  
*Life Science*, Prentice Hall

### Additional Subjects

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



St. Benedict  
PRAY FOR US

# 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 tables 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 Headmistress 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 Headmistress 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 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 frequently using Engrade. Grades will be issued at the end of each trimester.

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

**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		

Kindergarten 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 1-3.

*Salve Regina* ✠ *Pray for Us*



WHILE SHE HOLDS YOUR HAND,  
YOU CANNOT FAIL.

ST. BERNARD CLAIRVAUX

# 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).

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Children must wear a uniform in school. We feel that 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.

## 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.

# SCHOOL POLICY

## 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 Headmistress prior to the first visit, and rigorously comply with the school's policy regarding **Security and Child Protection** (see below).

## SCHOOL SECURITY/CHILD PROTECTION

The safety of each individual child and adult at The St. Austin School is of paramount importance. The Headmistress 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.

## 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.



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, it knows 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 Headmistress or any member of the Board of Governors.

