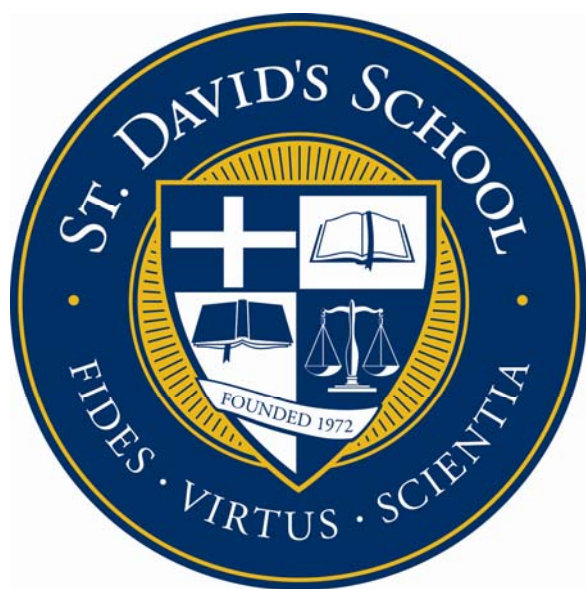


ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL



Lower School Curriculum Guide 2011-2012

Dear Parents,

There are many aspects of the Lower School that we are extremely proud of and one of those areas is our academics. In order to build a strong foundation that will carry every child throughout their educational career, we must start with the curriculum.

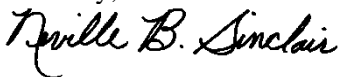
St. David's curriculum committee was meticulous about the selection of the Lower School's program of study. As you will see with this guide, our curriculum is both challenging and exciting for our students. It enables the teacher to focus on all learning styles. The student's way of learning is the focal point of knowledge, setting the student up for success. Our curriculum also allows our teachers to individualize each subject for the average and above-average student. Each lesson is not just introduced in that particular subject, it is also taught and reinforced across the curriculum.

Although the curriculum is an important part of an educational program, the most significant factor of a school's success is its faculty. St. David's teachers continually grow as educators, but are also inspired by the school's mission statement of faith, virtue and knowledge. They are committed to preparing your children for the next level of study by helping students become critical thinkers and life-long learners.

Please review the curriculum guide to familiarize yourself with the expectations we have set for your child. Also, please read the Lower School handbook for information regarding all aspects of the Lower School. Together, as partners, we will help our students reach their potential and have a successful year.

If you have any questions or concerns in any area of the Lower School, please contact me at (919) 782-3331 ext. 222.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neville B. Sinclair". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "N".

Neville B. Sinclair
K-8 Principal

General Information

Daily Schedule

Lower School Office	7:30 am – 4 pm
Kindergarten Half-Day	7:50 am – 1 pm
Kindergarten Full-Day	7:50 am – 3 pm
Grades 1 – 4	7:50 am – 3 pm
After-School Care	3 pm – 6 pm

Lower School students may arrive as early as 7:30 am and are to go directly to their classroom. No Lower School student is allowed on campus earlier than 7:30 am unless supervised by an adult.

Grading System

St. David's Lower School first through fourth grades uses a numerical grading scale. The numerical grading system can be translated into letter grade as follows:

A	100-90	
B	89-80	
C	79-75	
	74-70	Deficient
F	Below 70	Failing

Kindergarten and Enrichment:

E	Excellent
G	Good
S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement
U	Unsatisfactory

Effort and Conduct

E	Excellent
G	Good
S	Satisfactory
N	Poor
U	Unsatisfactory

Honor Roll

In the first through fourth grades, honor rolls are earned on a semester and/or yearly basis. Any student receiving an F on their report card is ineligible for any honor roll. Penmanship grades are not calculated in honor roll determinations.

Headmaster's Honor Roll:	A average with all As
High Honor Roll:	A average
Honor Roll:	B average

Enrichment Classes

Enrichment classes are attended weekly and consist of:

- Art
- Music/Drama
- Computers
- Physical Education (daily)
- Writing

Extra Help

If a student is having difficulty in a subject then a teacher may request the child to stay after school. The teacher will notify the parents.

Homework: First – Fourth Grade

St. David's believes that work done independently is a crucial part of the learning process. Reviewing class notes, reading assignments, and writing exercises are all essential in the mastery of concepts. Students should be prepared for challenging homework each night. Homework is a graded part of the curriculum.

Assignments are not given over Thanksgiving, Christmas, winter and Easter vacations.

Homework will be posted on our school web site at www.sdsd.org, and a homework sheet will be given in Friday papers, the weekly communication between the Lower School and parents.

Late homework - Students may be given grace on two late assignments. One point thereafter will be deducted for each late assignment from the overall grade at the end of the grading period. If a student fails to turn in a homework assignment, a "0" will be averaged in with the homework grade.

After-School Care

Students in kindergarten through fourth grade who will be on the school property after 3:15 pm will be taken to After-School Care. The only exception is for students who are in supervised activities, such as extra-help class. A brother or sister in the fifth through twelfth grade may pick up a Lower School sibling if they are immediately leaving the school property. Lower School students are not permitted to walk to other parts of the school property (Upper School, Middle School, athletic fields, library) unless accompanied by an adult.

St. David's Lower School Curriculum

Kindergarten

The goal of St. David's kindergarten is to give the children a strong foundation for future school success and to create a secure, nurturing environment where they can increase their confidence in order to explore and discover the world around them. A strong, positive Christian climate is found in our school where social and independent responsibilities are taught, modeled and nurtured.

We have a developmentally appropriate curriculum which integrates different learning styles through a variety of activities. A mentor program with a fourth grade friend gives each kindergarten student a sense of being an important part of St. David's. A rich learning environment is created through the core subjects which are taught daily, the enrichment classes offered weekly and the strong, supportive dialogue between home and school. We look forward to helping your child reach their full potential through the emphasis of faith, virtue, and knowledge at St. David's.

Language Arts

St. David's kindergarten Language Arts program is phonics based and integrated with reading, writing, and literature. Students develop skills as they learn: letter recognition, sounds, blends, long and short vowels, and simple vowel rules which enable them to become skilled readers. All skills are introduced sequentially and reinforced with hands-on activities. Progression depends on the readiness of each individual child. The children work in small groups with students who share comparable reading skills. St. David's comprehensive language arts program includes storytelling and journal writing. Students memorize songs and poems to enrich their developing language arts skills.

Resources:

- [Harcourt Trophies](#)
- Various Literature Selections
- Manipulatives and games created by numerous independent publications such as The Education Center, Scholastic Professional Books, Carson-Delosa, and Lakeshore Learning Materials

Mathematics

St. David's Kindergarten Math program is designed to develop a conceptual understanding through the use of manipulative materials and hands-on activities. This design presents conceptual math such as patterns, attributes, shapes, designs, graphing, estimation, comparisons, measurement, time, money, oral math problems, one-to-one correspondence, and ordinal numerals. Students

also learn the more traditional math skills of counting, set development and early introductions of addition and subtraction.

Resources:

- [Harcourt Math](#)
- [Math Their Way](#)
- Learning centers
- Manipulatives and games including: unifix cubes, pattern blocks, pentominoes, geoboards, bear counters, and many more

Science and Social Studies

The Science and Social Studies component of our curriculum drives the units of study on which we focus each month. The Harcourt text we use provides a broad understanding of how a community works from rules that govern our school and country to map skills and making wise choices. In Social Studies, we also study topics appropriate for each month from Community Helpers at the beginning of the year to Thanksgiving and Christmas in the middle, to Easter, Mother's Day and Father's Day at the end. We also study a different geographic area each month. We will kick off the year with a luau in Hawaii. We then explore our St. David's Anglican roots in Scotland and our own state of North Carolina. In addition, we study England, Canada, Mexico, and Alaska. Science units supplement concepts appropriate for each month. Some topics we study are our senses and bodies and how they help us learn, Earth's land, air, water, along with weather, seasons, plants, and animals.

Resources:

- [Harcourt Science](#)
- [Harcourt Horizons](#)
- Learning centers
- Globes and maps
- Science experiment materials
- Field trips and on-campus guest experiences
- Numerous literature selections both nonfiction and fiction

Physical Activity and Free Exploration

An important part of our day in Kindergarten is the learning experiences provided by teachable moments in play. We have free-time centers in the classroom where cooperative learning, sharing, and imaginative play is encouraged. Recess occurs on a developmentally appropriate playground designed to improve large motor skills.

First Grade

In first grade at St. David's School, we provide a positive, nurturing environment that will bring out the best in each child. We challenge the creative and curious nature of children and create an environment that will foster a love of learning.

Along with our academics, students will develop confidence, a positive self-image, respect for others, honesty, self-discipline, compassion, trustworthiness, integrity and perseverance. Emphasis is also placed on developing skills of independence and learning to make wise choices.

In first grade, we begin to prepare young children for further education and success by providing challenging opportunities to excel in the vital areas of faith, virtue, and knowledge.

Language Arts

The first grade Language Arts curriculum combines explicit, systematic phonics, fluency in reading and vocabulary instruction. In phonics, students learn the skill of decoding. This is the process of translating written words into speech. Phonics instruction gives students the knowledge of letter-sound correspondences and strategies they need to make the translations and to be successful readers. The reading program develops skills in decoding words, recognizing words, comprehending, making predictions, sequencing, forming conclusions, using context clues, and stimulating creative writing. Vocabulary acquisition is a key component in student's reading comprehension. Students are taught strategies to help them determine the meaning of words they will encounter. The program also takes into consideration the various levels of each emergent reader, providing opportunities at the appropriate level for each child.

Writing skills are also developed. Students are given the opportunity to write about many different topics and interests throughout the year. We begin by teaching spelling, sentence building and expressing thoughts in an orderly way. Introduction to cursive handwriting, as well as continued practice in printing is consistently taught. We emphasize letter formation and spacing and encourage good penmanship.

Resources:

- [Harcourt Trophies](#)
- Computer Software
- Various Literature Selections
- Manipulatives
- A Beka Phonics

Mathematics

St. David's employs a consistent method of instruction for developing mathematical proficiency. Teachers introduce the topic by assessing prior knowledge, reviewing prerequisite skills, and setting a purpose for learning.

Experiences provide opportunities to teach students concepts which promote reasoning and provide for conceptual development. Problem-solving strategies and computational procedures are taught step-by step with direct instruction. The first grade mathematics program uses a hands-on approach by using manipulatives to understand the concepts, for problem solving and computation. The objectives of the First Grade math curriculum are:

- Identifying and using whole numbers 0-100
- Addition and Subtraction concepts
- Problem solving
- Measuring (time, money, calendar, standard and non-standard units)
- Classifying, patterning, and sequencing numbers
- Graphing and estimating
- Algebra and Geometry
- Fractions, solid figures, and plane shapes

Resources:

- [Harcourt Math](#)
- Math manipulatives
- Computer Software

Science

St. David's Science program provides many opportunities for students to develop and maintain the essential skills that form the basis for lifelong learning. These skills are important inquiry tools and are essential for investigating the natural world around them. Students learn to observe, compare, classify, gather and interpret data, measure, predict/infer, hypothesize and experiment, which is all reinforced with hands-on-activities. Teachers integrate science content and experiences with all areas of the Lower School curriculum. Students are provided with many opportunities to develop reading, writing, and math skills through meaningful activities and strategies. The following are the First Grade objectives:

Life Science:

- Plants and Animals
- Living Together
- Living and Non-Living Things

Earth Science:

- Land (fossils, rocks, and minerals)
- Our Natural Resources
- Weather
- Sky and Seasons

Physical Science:

- Matter and Energy
- Forces
- Sounds
- Magnets

Resources:

- Harcourt Science
- Field Trips
- Harcourt Materials and Activities Kit

Social Studies

St. David's Social Studies curriculum gives students an awareness of community, cultural differences, and the role of responsible citizens. Students are exposed to our world utilizing a historical, economical, governmental, and geographical perspective. They develop map and globe skills along with an understanding of charting and graphing. These skills are reinforced within the math and science curriculums.

Resources:

- Harcourt Horizons
- Globes and Maps
- Computer Software

Second Grade

A major emphasis of St. David's second grade curriculum is the development of solid communication skills. As such, reading, writing, and speaking are woven throughout daily activities in the core subjects of Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. A variety of learning styles (e.g., visual, auditory, etc.) are incorporated into daily instruction to give all learners the chance to learn and demonstrate the knowledge of key concepts. Homework assignments reinforce and extend lessons learned in the classroom.

In second grade, another focus is on the development of good citizenship. To teach cooperation skills, many opportunities are provided for students to interact in both small and large group settings. The students also learn how to be effective and efficient independent workers. The essential value of virtue is reinforced not only during Social Studies, but throughout the school day. A major unit in Social Studies allows children to learn about the geography, the history, and the government of the United States.

During Second Grade, students look forward to motivating events such as curriculum-related field trips, author teas, and presentations from guest speakers. Every week, students attend enrichment classes in the areas of art, computer, library, music, and physical education. In addition, students learn and improve cursive handwriting skills.

Language Arts

The Language Arts curriculum incorporates the areas of grammar, listening, phonics, reading, spelling, vocabulary, and writing. Because these areas are the building blocks for all aspects of education, they are also reinforced throughout the school day in other subjects. Students are given multiple opportunities to practice and apply focus skills and strategies, such as finding the main idea of a passage, to other areas of the curriculum.

In grammar and writing, students learn how to construct sound sentences. Emphasis is placed on the student's ability to independently demonstrate good spelling, correct syntax, and appropriate punctuation. Students learn how to plan and edit rough drafts in order to produce a piece of writing that clearly communicates a main idea. Various writing styles, such as informational and creative writing, are introduced.

Reading instruction focuses on improving the reader's expression and fluency, ability to decode words, and comprehension of text. Students improve their phonological awareness as they are provided with direct instruction and practice in various phonemic awareness tasks, such as blending syllables in sequence. Novels and poetry are a few examples of the wide variety of literature introduced in order to increase the students' awareness of and interest in reading different genres. Intense studies on illustrators and writers provide a chance for in-depth analysis of specific illustrative and writing styles.

Spelling and vocabulary lessons help to develop the students' understanding and use of words. In spelling, students learn to use patterns to spell and read novel words. They begin to analyze words to determine if they

sound correct. They also study word relationships, such as antonyms and synonyms, and word parts, such as prefixes and suffixes, to improve their ability to read, write, and comprehend vocabulary.

Resources:

- Harcourt Trophies
- Computer Software
- Supplementary Books and Materials
- Novels, such as, Mr. Popper's Penguins, Henry Huggins, Charlotte's Web, and The Boxcar Children

Mathematics

The mathematics curriculum provides an intensive overview of six major math strands. Students become more confident with math facts while improving their understanding of the concepts underlying many mathematical operations. The primary teaching resource is the "Harcourt Math: North Carolina Edition" series. This series "is based on scientific research that focuses on effective learning processes and instructional strategies that are essential for success in a wide range of learners." Manipulative materials are frequently used to provide hands-on experiences that allow students to draw connections between their math lessons and the real world. Literature with mathematical themes is also studied.

The major math strands investigated are:

1. Numbers and Operations
2. Two Digit Addition and Subtraction
3. Money, Time, and Data
4. Geometry and Patterns
5. Measurement and Fractions
6. Exploring Greater Numbers and Operations

Resources:

- Harcourt Math, North Carolina Edition
- Computer Software
- Manipulative materials
- Stories, such as, Even Steven and Odd Todd, 100 Hungry Ants, The Greedy Triangle
- Supplementary Teaching Books and Materials

Science

The science curriculum covers three major areas of science: life science, Earth science, and physical science. Through individual and cooperative learning assignments, students develop and maintain essential scientific skills that will serve as building blocks for lifelong scientific learning. Frequent experiments provide students with the opportunity to use scientific

tools and to practice steps in the scientific method. Through use of the Internet, students are able to visualize and therefore more thoroughly understand many of the topics discussed in class.

Resources:

- Harcourt Science
- Field Trips
- Internet Resources
- Literature
- Scientific Materials

Social Studies

The emphasis in the Social Studies curriculum is on the development of knowledgeable citizens. Students study local, state, and national government. They learn about important leaders, places, and events in our nation's history. They become familiar with national symbols. An important focus is also on helping students to read and gain information from charts and maps. Additionally, students study basic economics in conjunction with a math unit on money.

The major units in the curriculum are as follows:

Unit 1: Living in a Community

Unit 2: Our Government

Unit 3: Looking at the Earth

Unit 4: Learn About People

Unit 5: Past and Present

Unit 6: People at Work

Resources:

- Harcourt Horizons: About My Community
- Biographies
- Field Trips
- Internet Resources
- Maps – City, State, US, World
- “Weekly Reader”
- Videos

Third Grade

As the final year of early childhood, third grade is a transition year socially and academically. Students learn to demonstrate positive attitudes toward self as a unique and worthy person. After gaining self-esteem, students then develop the ability to share and work cooperatively on group tasks. Developing effective interpersonal relationships makes the Third Grade experience a happy one. There are many new academic beginnings for third graders. We begin multiplication and division in math. Reading emphasis shifts from learning to read to reading to learn. Organizational and study skills are emphasized in third grade.

Language Arts

The third grade reading program is literature based, using the Harcourt basal as the primary source of instruction. In addition, instruction is supplemented through the use of trade books, chapter books and other forms of literature. Students become acquainted with a variety of literary genres. They also conduct research for assigned and self-selected projects, using a variety of sources. Connections are made through the use of oral and written language, media and technology. Comprehension, fluency, phonemic awareness and word analysis skills are taught by using the Harcourt basal in a systematic approach.

Resources:

- Harcourt Trophies
- The Learning Site (www.harcourtschool.com)
- Wordly Wise
- Media Collection
- Media Literacy and Communication Skills (videotapes to reinforce listening, viewing, and presentation skills)

Writing instruction in third grade incorporates explicit modeling and practice in the conventions of written English. Students continue to transfer their reading skills to writing conventions by using their knowledge of word structure and phonics to spell new words. The fundamentals of grammar, mechanics, and sentence structure are taught. Students are guided through the writing process—prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading and publishing. Instruction in presentation skills, such as handwriting and speaking, guide the publishing stage.

Spelling is a sequential set of lessons built around words with common structural characteristics. Lessons are integrated with vocabulary from content area courses.

Resources:

- Wordly Wise
- The Learning Site (www.harcourtschool.com)

- Writer's Express
 - Writing Express (CD ROM—interactive games and activities that provide reinforcement of writing skills)
-

Mathematics

The goal of the mathematics program is to help students build success and become independent thinkers. Students explore, investigate, and discover as they construct their own mathematical understanding. Our program is rich in problem solving that requires critical thinking and logical reasoning to solve everyday problems. Manipulatives, games, and children's literature are incorporated into this multi-media course. Students use technology to develop both their conceptual understanding and skill proficiency.

The content emphasizes the skills and concepts of numeration, operations and computations, data, probability and patterns, geometry, measurement and spatial sense. Algebraic thinking, decimals, and fractions are also included.

Resources:

- Harcourt Math
 - The Learning Site (www.harcourtschool.com)
 - Harcourt Assessment Systems
 - Harcourt Mega Math (CD ROM)
 - Cross-curricular connections
 - Math Superstars
 - Math Journals
 - Professional Library
-

Science

The third grade science program allows every child to experience success in science by developing age-appropriate knowledge and understanding of units involving plants, animals, geology, space, matter and energy. Students work cooperatively as they investigate the natural world and explore the history and nature of science.

Our program develops knowledge of and the ability to use the tools and processes of scientific inquiry. Our science study also links science to mathematics, writing, social studies, technology and all other aspects of our curriculum. We strive to nurture in each child a lifelong fascination with the wonders of nature.

Resources:

- Harcourt Science
- The Learning Site (www.harcourtschool.com)
- Harcourt Explorations (CD ROM)
- Harcourt Materials and Activities Kit

- Harcourt Investigative Science and Newsroom Activity videos
 - Cross-curricular integration
 - Student Activity Books
 - Videotapes, media center books, and various science websites
-

Social Studies

The third grade curriculum includes a strong emphasis on geography and map skills coupled with history, current events and people. We explore hands-on activities using maps, globes, atlases, gazetteers, charts and graphs. Students focus on natural as well as cultural features of our world, continent, country, state and community.

A central focus of our social studies curriculum is the study of communities. We investigate history, changes, and economic factors affecting community life. Citizenship and government are explored as students design their own model communities and evaluate the necessity and function of a system of laws to govern the citizens therein. We study a business unit learning how businesses are set up and operate. Lastly, we have added several areas of challenge to our curriculum:

- learning all the states and capitals and where they are located on a map
- learning all the US presidents in order
- studying Wake County through the use of a year-long notebook project and field trips

Resources:

- Harcourt Horizons
- Harcourt Learning Site—virtual tours
- Time for Kids Readers - Weekly Reader
- Student activity Books

Fourth Grade

Fourth grade completes the transition from early childhood to adolescence, so the curriculum at St. David's School reflects the changing nature of the students' learning styles.

Language Arts

The fourth grade curriculum focuses on the following four areas: reading, grammar, vocabulary-building, and writing skills.

Reading:

The reading program emphasizes the continued development and proficiency in decoding, comprehension, literary genres and analysis, listening skills and critical thinking. These skills are taught through the use of basal readers, oral reading and supplemental materials.

- Resources:
- [Harcourt Trophies](#)
 - [Reader's Handbook](#)
 - Novels
 - <http://www.harcourtschool.com>
 - Computer lab and library research tools

Grammar:

The student focuses on grammar, writing, and speaking, with particular stress on organizational skills and vocabulary-building necessary for improvements in the writing process. The course begins with a study of language grammar, mechanics and usage and moves to writing, listening and speaking skills-building. The course concludes with the students writing a formal research paper.

- Resources:
- [Houghton-Mifflin English](#) and student workbooks
 - <http://www.eduplace.com/kids/>
 - <http://www.rinkworks.com/crazylibs/>
 - Scattergories

Vocabulary:

A large and flexible vocabulary is the hallmark of an educated person. The more words students acquire the better chance they will have for success in reading, writing, and spelling. Each week, the students are presented with a new list of 15 vocabulary words, which they learn using synonyms, antonyms, definitions and parts of speech. The students then apply what they've learned by incorporating the new words into reading and writing analyses.

- Resources: [Wordly Wise, level 2 \(fifth grade\)](#)

Mathematics

St. David's fourth grade math stresses problem solving, classification and analysis of mathematical data, as well as memorization and manipulation of the four basic operations. Major topics covered in this class include number theory, graphing, geometry, fractions, decimals and probability.

The social studies text is integrated with the mathematics curriculum so that North Carolina history, artifacts and resources are reinforced in both subjects.

Resources:

- Harcourt Math-North Carolina Edition: text, problem-solving and practice workbooks
- <http://www.harcourtschool.com>
- Manipulatives

Science

Our science program focuses on science labs and hands-on learning in order to create excitement and understanding of the following six strands of science:

- The World of Living Things
- Ecosystems
- The Earth's Surface
- Astronomy/Meteorology
- Matter and Energy
- Forces and Motion

Classification, critical thinking, teamwork, and assimilation of materials and concepts form the basis of the fourth grade science curriculum. Students experience science lab on average twice a week in fourth grade. Several field trips round out the hands-on study of the science course.

Resources:

- Harcourt Science text, workbook, lab book and lab materials
- <http://www.harcourtschool.com>
- Smithsonian/The National Academies National Science Resource Center lab materials and lab books
- Technology and library research for topical projects

Social Studies

Our social studies program focuses on North Carolina's past, present and future. Particular emphasis is placed on geography, economics, and cultural events which have shaped the state's history. The use of primary sources, map skills, technology and integration with the science and mathematics curriculum appeal to the students' growing awareness of the world

around them—both past and present. Field trips within the state round out the hands-on approach to learning North Carolina history.

The mathematics text is integrated with the social studies curriculum so that North Carolina history, artifacts and resources are reinforced in both subjects.

Resources:

- Harcourt Horizons
- Computer Software
- Globes and maps
- Field trips
- Curriculum Integration

Enrichment Classes

Library

The goals of the St. David's Library program are to provide access to resources in various forms, promote the love of reading, and encourage the members of our school community to become lifelong independent learners. We facilitate inquiry, discovery, evaluation, and application of knowledge and truth in order that the lives and spirits of those in our community may be enriched, to the end that God is honored and Christ's Truth revealed. In the Lower School Library, students enjoy reading enrichment activities, learn library skills, and have an opportunity to check out and return library material. Students learn to find, evaluate, and use information and are encouraged to pursue personal interests in research and pleasure reading. The library staff makes every effort to select a collection that supports the curriculum and is consistent with the values of St. David's School.

Computer Education

Lower School students at St. David's School will cover the following topics according to appropriate skill levels for each grade: network competencies, keyboarding competencies, word processing competencies, creativity tool competencies, communication and information access competencies aiming toward a safe and healthy use of technology. Our computer program meets the specific goals and objectives that are based on the Computer/Technology Skills Curriculum, which is part of the North Carolina standard course of study.

Network Competencies include the following:

- Identifies basic hardware
- Login/out
- Familiar with Windows Desktop
- Care of equipment
- Save, open, and print files to student home directory

Keyboard Competencies:

- Familiar with keyboard
- Proper hand position
- Key/Finger accuracy

Word Processing Competencies:

- Start new documents, save and open saved documents
- Fonts – styles and attributes
- Entering text
- Word Art
- Editing text – revising
- Insert clipart

Creativity Tool Competencies:

- Create reports/stories/express ideas
- Use graphics capabilities
- Create graphics
- Use audio capabilities
- Create simple multimedia presentations of ideas

Communication and Information Access Competencies:

- Awareness of information technologies as tools to communicate ideas
- Develop search strategies
- Choose on-line appropriate resources
- Respect others' electronic privacy
- Honor copyright/ownership of material

Resources:

- Ultimate Writing & Creativity Center
- Kid Pix Deluxe 3
- Type to Learn Jr.
- Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing Version 15
- Reader Rabbit Personalized Math
- Reader Rabbit's Reading
- Clue Finders Mystery of the Monkey Kingdom
- Microsoft Office Word
- Microsoft Office PowerPoint
- Microsoft Office Excel
- Microsoft Office Outlook
- Internet Explorer

Physical Education

The Lower School Physical Education program at St. David's School contributes to the broad goals of education through the development of the following personal living skills:

- Cardiovascular fitness
- Musculoskeletal fitness
- Cooperation
- Risk taking
- Safety
- Initiative
- Leadership and following others
- Trust
- Respect

We encourage children to engage in physical activity in the hopes of developing a desire in the child to maintain physical fitness throughout life. Students also experience winning and losing in a healthy, fun environment where we encourage positive responses to both experiences.

Fine Arts

Visual Arts:

The Lower School visual arts curriculum has been designed to promote continuity from kindergarten through the twelfth grade. Lower School students are introduced to age appropriate skills, media, tools and concepts that will be developed and expanded each successive year. The purpose of the visual arts program is to foster an appreciation of fine art, understanding of elements and principles of art, skill in the use of a variety of media, and the joy of the creative process.

Resources:

- [Adventures in Art](#)
- [Discover Art](#)
- [Art Connections](#)
- [Drawing with Children](#)
- [Learning to Look and Create](#)
- [A History of Art](#)
- Collection of fine art slides
- Collection of fine art prints
- Internet resources

Music:

The Lower School music department engages the children in learning the basic fundamentals of music. The early years begin with listening and imitating high and low sounds then moving into rhythm and rhythm values. The students will learn many music vocabulary words, how to read notes on the staff, how to sing properly and how to follow along in their music. The students participate by singing in Chapel, at the Christmas and spring musicals and for the Picnic and Pops program. Singing, musical games, listening, worksheets and musical instruments are all part of the curriculum to help your child enjoy music.

Writing Enrichment

The purpose of the Lower School Writing Enrichment Program is to enhance the classroom writing program while promoting continuity between grade levels. Beginning students are introduced to the writing process and the forms of writing which are developed and expanded each successive year. Students are given age-appropriate, engaging assignments designed to ignite within them a joy and enthusiasm for writing. Projects include the Lower School newspaper, class books, brochures, stories, poetry, and reports.

Accreditations/Affiliations

St. David's School is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools for grades kindergarten to twelve.

St. David's School memberships and affiliations:

National Association of Independent Schools
National Association of Episcopal Schools
Southern Association of Independent Schools
North Carolina Association of Independent Schools
Educational Records Bureau
The College Board

ST. DAVID'S SCHOOL
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