

# TRADITIONAL ELEMENTARY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



## **Kindergarten**

The objective of the full-day kindergarten program is to build a solid foundation upon which students grow academically, physically, spiritually, emotionally, and socially. This is a critical year for the children as they transition from home or pre-kindergarten into the elementary setting. Thus, the program is designed to be academically challenging, as well as developmentally appropriate. Kindergarten classrooms at LCCS are organized and structured to support all areas of development, and a wide variety of materials are used to stimulate students' curiosity, initiative, and inquiry.

## **Bible**

In Kindergarten, students are introduced to the major components of the story of God: creation, the fall, redemption, and restoration. Students learn the big picture of how God has been working in His creation through the study of key stories. Learning the big picture provides a solid foundation for the development of Biblical theology and a Biblical worldview and the integration of God's love and truth into daily life.

Textbook: *The Jesus Storybook Bible*

## **Language Arts**

A balanced approach to literacy, including oral and written language is progressively taught. Phonological awareness and alphabetic knowledge are emphasized and mastered. Writing is used to help the students put their letter knowledge and letter writing into practice, along with correct letter formation. During Show and Tell, students practice public speaking skills including speaking in complete sentences, proper volume and eye contact.

Textbook: *Sounds and Letters Workbook-SRA/ McGraw-Hill Open Court Reading; Kidwriting; Zaner Bloser Handwriting*

## **Math**

The student is introduced to a wide variety of math concepts and skills, such as sorting, position, counting to 100, recognizing numbers to thirty-one, place value of tens and ones, time to the hour, value of coins, reading bar and pictographs, beginning measurement, patterning, geometric figures, and beginning addition and subtraction.

Textbook: *Singapore Math*

## **Science**

The students learn facts about many different animals as they relate to a letter being learned. Dental health is discussed and experiments are observed. The student will understand how life cycles work as related to apple trees, butterflies, and frogs. Butterfly larvae are part of the classroom experience. The water cycle is also introduced to the students. A trip to Cherry Hill Orchard and That Fish Place complements student learning. Changes of the seasons, fire safety, and plant growth/needs are also introduced and discussed.

Resource: *Scholastic-Let's Find Out newspapers*

Field Trips: Cherry Hill Orchard, That Fish Place

## **Social Studies**

Students learn about most holidays that are celebrated and the important people associated with them, such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., George Washington, and Abraham Lincoln. They also celebrate by

learning the customs of China through a Chinese New Year celebration and the customs of Mexico through a Cinco de Mayo celebration. The students learn appropriate social skills and conflict resolution skills. At the end of the year, students honor their mothers and fathers with a special program.

Resource: *Scholastic-Let's Find Out newspapers*

Field Trip: Leola Post Office

### **Art**

The class will be introduced to the basics related to color, line, and shape. Students will complete short projects as they learn how these concepts relate to the artwork they create. The students will be able to visually identify major artists and their art work. Clean-up procedures will be regimented so students begin to understand their role during part of class.

### **Music**

This class is designed to prepare the kindergarten student for music reading and performance. Through singing, reading, moving, playing, echoing and activities presented within the course, the students will obtain the skills necessary to provide a foundation for music literacy.

### **Physical Education**

Students rehearse locomotor and stability skills, learn manipulative skills and creative movement skills, and develop fitness awareness. Students participate in the President's Fitness test and the Kraus and Webber test for strength and flexibility.

### **S.M.A.R.T.**

Kindergarten students participate in a morning program called Stimulating Maturity through Accelerated Readiness Training (S.M.A.R.T.). S.M.A.R.T. is a ten minute class which uses a multi-sensory approach to learning. The program develops and enhances the physiological and neurological readiness skills that students need to do well in school. The activities are designed to develop and improve the students' large and fine motor skills, visual perception, and eye-hand coordination. The activities used for the program are fun and yet challenging for the students.

### **Library**

Students are introduced to the library and learn about the different aspects of a school library. Students will learn about library rules, procedures, and how to care for books. Students will learn about the roles of authors and illustrators. Students will begin to differentiate between fiction and non-fiction. Alphabetizing skills will also be taught. Each class will consist of a themed story time with a corresponding activity page. Students will then have the opportunity for quiet reading and book check out.

## **Bible Grades 1-6**

### **Early Elementary Bible (Grades 1–2)**

In early elementary, students are introduced to the major components of the story of God: creation, the fall, and redemption. Students learn the big picture of how God has been working in His creation through the study of key stories. Learning the big picture provides a solid foundation for the development of biblical theology and a biblical worldview and the integration of God's love and truth into daily life.

Textbook: *The Jesus Storybook Bible, Summit Ministries: Building on the Rock*

### **Upper Elementary Bible (Grades 3-6)**

In upper elementary, students learn the many parts of the story of God written in the Old and New Testaments. Students expand their knowledge of biblical stories and their meaning in the context of the larger biblical narrative. This foundation of biblical theology is paired with an introduction to major systematic doctrines about God, the world, and redemption; this combination increases understanding of salvation and its integration into daily life.

Textbook: *Summit Ministries: Building on the Rock*

## **First Grade**

First graders at Lancaster County Christian School learn the joy of reading books independently, develop an awe of God's world around them, and learn how to be good friends. This is an exciting year for these eager, high-energy children with sensitive hearts that are open to hearing God's Word.

### **Language Arts**

Students will master phonetic sounds and spellings while reading a combination of short phonetic stories and a variety of literary genres including plays, poems, fables, and folktales. Students will write stories and poems while learning sentence structure. Students will practice handwriting. Spelling and decoding are done through blending and dictation exercises. The LA textbook covers 10 chapters of Science and Social Studies units through fiction and nonfiction pieces.

Field Trip: Lititz Library

Textbook: *SRA Open Court Reading; Reading A-Z; Leveled Readers/Trade Books*

Spelling: *Word Journeys; Open Court*

Handwriting: *Zaner Bloser*

Writing: *Six +1 Traits of Writing*

### **Math**

Students learn to read, write, and count numbers up to 100, including skip counting. They read, create, tally, and graph pictographs and bar graphs. Students learn addition and subtraction for numbers zero through ninety nine with no regrouping. Students will identify simple solids, shapes, fractions, recognize and count coins to one dollar, and tell time to half an hour and one hour.

Textbook: *Singapore Math's Primary Mathematics*

### **Science**

Students will study animals, weather, food pyramid, dental health, and an introduction to space and the planets. These are covered in the science curriculum through experiments and related activities and covered in LA through nonfiction and fiction stories. Field trips to Zoo America and North Museum reinforce the curriculum.

Field Trip: Zoo America (animal families) and North Museum & Planetarium (Space)

Textbook: *ACSI Purposeful Design*

### **Social Studies**

Students will study Native Americans and their contribution to our country. Students will learn map skills such as reading a compass rose, keys, and using maps. They will make maps of their own and read stories about map making. Students will learn about life in early America. Both fiction and nonfiction related stories will be covered in connection with the LA curriculum. A field trip to Hershey Gardens for Eastern Woodlands Indians activities and Landis Valley Museum for early America activities reinforce the curriculum.

Field Trip: Hershey Gardens (Eastern Woodland Indians)

Textbook: *SRA Open Court Reading; Houghton Mifflin/Harcourt Social Studies*

### **Art**

Students will be introduced to a variety of art materials and how to apply them. Through in class projects, students will learn to be able to identify and create Portraiture, Still-lives, and Landscapes. The class will begin to develop a basic art vocabulary. Students will learn about the proper care and maintenance of the art supplies they will be using to complete projects throughout the school year.

### **Music**

Music 1 is designed to provide students in the first grade with experiences to prepare them for reading music. Through singing, playing simple instruments, moving, writing, and a variety of other activities

presented within the course the students will demonstrate their growth in music literacy. The text and other materials provide the student with songs and activities to build singing and coordination skills as well as to introduce new concepts in reading music. As the student learns to match pitch and use expression, he or she is reminded to use the skills and talents to glorify our Heavenly Father.

### **Physical Education**

Students rehearse locomotor and stability skills, learn manipulative skills, creative movement skills, and develop fitness awareness. Students participate in the President's Fitness test and the Kraus and Webber test for strength and flexibility.

### **S.M.A.R.T.**

Students participate in a morning program called Stimulating Maturity through Accelerated Readiness Training (S.M.A.R.T.). S.M.A.R.T. is a ten minute class which uses a multi-sensory approach to learning. The program develops and enhances the physiological and neurological readiness skills that students need to do well in school. The activities are designed to develop and improve the students' large and fine motor skills, visual perception, and eye-hand coordination. The activities used for the program are fun and yet challenging for the students.

### **Library**

We will review library procedures, book care, and alphabetizing skills. Students will learn the parts of a book and the meaning of call numbers. Students will continue differentiating between fiction and nonfiction as well as learning how to arrange fiction books in alphabetical order by the author's last name. Each class will consist of either a themed story time or library skill introduction and practice. Students will have time each class period for book selection and independent reading.

### **Computer**

Students will begin the process of learning where each letter is on the keyboard. They will be able to login and logout of the schools network. They will also work on hand eye coordination using mouse skills as a foundation.

## **Second Grade**

### **Language Arts**

Students will learn phonemic awareness, decoding, and comprehension skills through reading various thematic stories in different genres. Students write stories and poetry while applying the rules of grammar and mechanics. Students learn cursive writing and continue to develop manuscript handwriting formation.

Textbook: *SRA Open Court Reading; Reading A-Z; Leveled Readers/Trade Books*

Spelling: *Word Journeys*

Handwriting: Zaner Bloser

Writing: Six +1 Traits of Writing

### **Math**

Students in second grade use various materials and manipulatives to learn place value up to the thousands place. They use place value knowledge for addition and subtraction with regrouping. Students learn how to tell exact time, identify two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes, and are introduced to fraction, measurement, multiplication, and division concepts. Students learn the value of money and how to count coins. Students apply these concepts and learn many different problem-solving strategies.

Textbook: Singapore Math's Primary Mathematics

### **Science**

Students learn about God's creation through identifying the characteristics of plants and animal habitats. Field trips to Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area and a local farm help the students learn about some animals native to Pennsylvania and the woodland habitat. Students learn about body systems, energy, oceans, and space. Students conduct many different science experiments using various manipulatives to reinforce these units of study.

Field Trips: Black Rock Retreat, Camden Aquarium

Textbook: *ACSI Purposeful Design*

### **Social Studies**

Students learn about government and communities, maps and world regions, natural resources, American heritage and heroes, and world cultures.

Field Trips: Lancaster County Courthouse, Hans Herr House

Textbook: *Houghton Mifflin/Harcourt Social Studies*

### **Art**

Students will be introduced to a variety of new art materials and how to apply them. The class will continue to build upon the prior year's art vocabulary while creating artwork that shows discernment. Students will be able to identify the elements of art and use them in their art work. Maintenance and regimented clean-up will continue to develop each student's stewardship.

### **Music**

Music 2 is sixty-four lessons which challenge second grade students in music reading skills, expression, pitch matching, and knowledge of form and tone color. Through a variety of activities presented within the course, the students will demonstrate their growth in these areas of skill and knowledge. The text and other materials provide the students with songs and activities to build singing and coordination skills as well as to introduce new concepts in music reading. As the students learn to match pitch and use expression, they are reminded to use the skills and talents to glorify our Heavenly Father.

**Physical Education**

Students rehearse locomotor and stability skills, learn manipulative skills, creative movement skills, and develop fitness awareness. Students participate in the President's Fitness test and the Kraus and Webber test for strength and flexibility.

**Library**

Students will review skills learned in previous grades. They will be introduced to additional parts of a book. Students will read several Newbery and Caldecott award books. They will continue to practice alphabetizing and putting books back correctly on the shelves. Each class will consist of a themed story time or will focus on developing a library skill. Students will have time for book selection and independent reading.

**Computer**

Students will learn to increase their knowledge of proper typing techniques. They will be able to identify each row and be able to identify each key on the keyboard. They will learn to login to the schools network and save projects to a collective hard drive.

**Spanish**

Students will learn the whole alphabet, taking time to focus on the pronunciation of each letter. They will learn simple commands through games and songs.

## **Third Grade**

### **Math**

Third grade students use a variety of hands on tools to order and estimate numbers through the hundred thousands before moving on to review regrouping to add and subtract numbers to the thousands place. They also learn the concepts of multiplication and division, with a strong focus on memorizing these facts. Students are also introduced to fractions and basic units of measurement.

Textbook: Singapore Math's Primary Mathematics

### **Language Arts**

Students will meet in small groups to read theme-based stories in various literary forms such as picture books, informational articles, and poetry. Phonics rules are reviewed in order to strengthen fluency and a strong emphasis is placed on using reading strategies to build comprehension. Students learn the writing process, and in their own writing they will incorporate grammar and spelling rules and continue to develop their cursive writing skills.

Textbook: *Open Court Reading; Reading A-Z; Leveled Readers/Trade Books*

Spelling: *Word Journeys*

Handwriting: Zaner Bloser

Writing: Six +1 Traits of Writing

### **Science**

Through a variety of hands-on activities, students strengthen their observation skills and study the complexities of God's creation as they learn about the life cycles and habitats of a variety of animals. Students also learn more about God's nature being expressed in the physical world as they experiment with magnets, motion and force, and electricity.

Field Trip: Lancaster Science Factory

Textbook: *ACSI Purposeful Design*

### **Social Studies**

Students discover that we were created to have relationship with God and each other as they study what it means to be part of a community. They learn about the growth and changes that occur in any community before moving on to study the specific developments in our country's community. Students also learn the rights and responsibilities associated with being a citizen, whether they are members of a small community such as a classroom or church, or of a larger community such as their town, state, or country.

Field Trips: Philadelphia Historical District (Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, Constitution Center), Historical Walking Tour of Lancaster

Textbook: *Houghton Mifflin/Harcourt Social Studies*

### **Art**

Students will be introduced to new art materials and how they relate to the materials used in the previous grades. They will continue to apply these lessons to the elements of art while slowly beginning to understand the principles of design. Their art vocabulary will be expanded through in class discussions related to artwork created by the masters. The class will be introduced to several jobs within the art community and create projects related to their discoveries. Students will learn their role in the maintenance of art supplies and the art room.

### **General Music/Recorder Class**

Class time is devoted to exploring and composing, listening and analyzing, singing and performing, reading and interpreting a musical score as it pertains to the treble clef. Specific components of 3rd grade music include aural recognition and performance of meter in 2 and 3, expressive interpretation

(soft, loud, crescendo/decrescendo), learning to sing basic harmonic structures (i.e. 2 part rounds and 2 partner songs and rhythmic/melodic ostinatos), and vocal/instrumental timbre from a wide variety of musical styles and genres. The study of recorder is an integral part of the 3rd grade general music curriculum which includes learning the names of the treble clef lines/spaces, basic rhythm, reading a musical score, correct fingering/finger placement, caring for a musical instrument and playing together in an ensemble.

### **Physical Education**

Students build muscular and respiratory endurance, learn the art of interpretive dance, participate in low ropes activities and the President's Challenge, and take the Kraus and Webber test. They learn the basics of the following sports: football, softball, soccer, field hockey, street hockey, handball, indoor soccer, gymnastics, lacrosse, volleyball, frisbee, and track and field.

### **Library**

Review of previously taught library skills are an integral part of this course. Emphasis on parts of a book in this grade include the table of contents, the glossary and index. Students are introduced to the Dewey Decimal System and will learn how to shelve non-fiction books. Class will consist of either a themed story, a chapter book read aloud or a library skill. Students will have time for book selection and independent reading.

### **Computer**

Students will be able to identify each key on the keyboard without looking. They will experiment with new programs and create projects based on in class demonstration. Each class will take the time to learn how and why file management matters electronically.

### **Spanish**

Through the use of songs and various interactive games, students will review the alphabet and learn words beginning with each letter. They will learn simple vocabulary such as the colors and numbers. Special emphasis is placed on correct pronunciation and Spanish accent.

## **Fourth Grade**

### **Language Arts**

Students will read a combination of short stories and trade books, while implementing reading strategies and analyzing literature elements. The students will incorporate grammar rules as they practice writing fiction and nonfiction pieces. A focus on spelling structure will also be emphasized.

Textbook: *Reading Street Language Arts curriculum; Reading A-Z; Leveled Readers/Trade Books, 6 +1 Traits of Writing*

Spelling: *Word Journeys*

Handwriting: *Zaner Bloser*

### **Mathematics**

Students order, compare, and estimate whole numbers through the millions place. They add, subtract, multiply, and divide numbers through the thousands place. Special attention is given to working on mastering math facts in all four operations. The focus is on refining multi-digit multiplication skills and learning how to tackle long division. They explore geometry and identify shapes (2-D & 3-D), triangles, quadrilaterals, angles, perimeter, and area. They review both systems of measurement, also. They learn how to manipulate fractions and decimals by comparing them. Math strategies, manipulatives, and word problems are heavily emphasized.

Textbook: *Macmillan McGraw-Hill Math Connects*

### **Science**

Fourth grade science explores selected topics in life science, physical science, earth science, and the human body. Life science focuses on stability – the design, order, diversity, and systems of life. In physical science, themes that are explored include energy and heat, light and sound, motion and force, and matter and its uses. In earth science the focus is on the balance of the lithosphere (the earth's solid surface), the hydrosphere (the earth's water and water cycle), the atmosphere, and the universe. The human body section highlights the cardiovascular, digestive, respiratory, and urinary systems, as well as health and wellness. Emphasis is placed on God's purposeful design in His creation of these four facets of science. Science is studied by a variety of methods in these units.

Textbook: *ACSI Purposeful Design*

### **Social Studies**

In fourth grade social studies, students will focus on Pennsylvania history and geography and United States regions and geography. Students learn about Pennsylvania's land features, its history, its participation in historical events, and its important people in government. United States geography is studied in the five regions that make this nation so diverse. The land and people of each region is studied with facts that make each region distinct. Student also memorize the 50 states and capitals in this unit.

Textbook: *Scott Foresman (Pennsylvania) & Scott Foresman (Regions)*

### **Art**

Students will continue to learn about new and exciting ways to create art. Expanding on the knowledge gained from the lower elementary art classes, students will continue to increase perspective on the principles of design. The students' art vocabulary will be expanded to include jobs and cultural references. Class projects will explore various jobs in art and cultures from around the world. Students will have individual and group clean-up assignments that will challenge them to become more responsible.

**Music**

Class time is devoted to building upon 3rd grade music with a more in depth exploration, analysis and performance of the following musical elements: identification of syncopation and complex rhythms, performance and conducting of meter in 2,3, and 4; harmony performance (3 part rounds, 3+partner songs, descants, and more complex melodic and harmonic ostinatos), instrumental timbre as it relates to the small instrumental ensembles within a wide variety of musical styles and genres.

**Physical Education**

Students build muscular and respiratory endurance, learn the art of interpretive dance, participate in low ropes activities and the President's Challenge, and take the Kraus and Webber test. They also learn the basics of the following sports: football, softball, soccer, field hockey, street hockey, handball, indoor soccer, gymnastics, lacrosse, volleyball, frisbee, and track and field.

**Library**

Students will explore the Dewey Decimal System more in depth. Students will learn to use the online catalog to search for books. Students will look at the following genres: fairy tales, folktales, tall tales, and fables. Class time is spent hearing a themed story, listening to a chapter book read aloud or learning a library skill. There will be time for book selection and independent reading.

**Computer**

Students will continue to learn keyboarding skills. They will strive for an improvement in their overall speed and accuracy. Students will use a multitude of programs to accomplish short lessons and exercises.

**Spanish**

Students will be introduced to additional vocabulary such as colors, fruits and animals. They will learn simple commands through games and songs.

## **Fifth Grade**

### **Language Arts**

Students will learn phonetic-based spelling words, learn and apply vocabulary terms, practice grammar rules, and master the parts of speech. Also, they will improve their cursive handwriting. Students will write at least three original works per quarter. Student reading covers a number of different genres and themes.

Textbook: *Houghton Mifflin Reading and English*

Spelling: *Word Journeys*

Writing: *Six +1 Traits of Writing*

### **Math**

Students work with adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing whole numbers, as well as showing place value. They will study fractions, multiples, and factors. Students add and subtract decimals and fractions. They do hands-on algebra and solve algebraic expressions. Students display and interpret data and solve equations and function tables. Customary and metric measures are studied; in addition, geometric figures and perimeter, area, and volume problems are solved.

Textbook: *Macmillan McGraw-Hill Math Connects*

### **Science**

Students study God's design for Life - the world of plants and cells. Our second unit focuses on force and work. Unit 3 has a focus on the sun, earth, and moon. Our final unit is a health unit that covers the endocrine system, skin, growth, and teeth. We will also take a look at pathogens, infectious and noninfectious diseases, and the immune system.

Field Trips: Philadelphia Franklin Institute, Longwood Gardens

Textbook: *ACSI Purposeful Design*

### **Social Studies**

After reviewing the five components of our nation's geography, fifth graders learn about the early Native Americans in the United States. Next, they study the effects of the early explorers and trace their journeys on a map. Students also study the 13 colonies, the American Revolution, and the birth of our nation. Each quarter they are required to complete a project to showcase their understanding of the unit.

Field Trip: Mt Vernon, VA

Textbook: *Harcourt Social Studies*

### **Art**

Students will create artwork that expresses their point of view as a young Christian artist. They will learn how to manipulate new and interesting art material. The class will learn the role artists have on society and create projects that emulates this work. Elementary vocabulary will reach its highest point and students will be expected to communicate with the teacher using the language they have learned. Students will have individual and group clean-up assignments that will challenge them to become more responsible.

### **Music**

Class time is devoted to refining and strengthening musical components as a capstone for the elementary music curriculum and also as a foundation for Middle School music. Class time is devoted to advanced exploration, analysis, and performance of the following musical elements: compound, asymmetrical and changing meters, review of harmonic elements (3 part rounds, 3 partner songs, descants, ostinatos) and the introduction of countermelodies and intervals of 3rd and 6ths, instrumental

timbre as it relates to the entire concert band and symphonic orchestra within a wide variety of musical styles and genres.

### **Physical Education**

Students build muscular and respiratory endurance, learn the art of interpretive dance, participate in low ropes activities and the President's Challenge, and take the Kraus and Webber test. They also learn the basics of the following sports: football, softball, soccer, field hockey, street hockey, handball, indoor soccer, gymnastics, lacrosse, volleyball, frisbee, and track and field.

### **Library**

Students will review all library skills learned up to this point. Students will continue practicing locating books and re-shelving books by using the call number. Students will be exposed to a variety of genres, books and Reader's Theatre. Class time may also consist of a chapter book read aloud or a themed lesson. Students will have time for book selection and independent reading.

### **Computer**

Students will continue to improve their scores with weekly typing exercises and tests. They will learn about programs that they will use in middle school. The class will create projects that enhance their educational experience.

### **Spanish**

Students will review content previously taught in second, third, and fourth grades. They will review the alphabet. They will learn vocabulary such as days of the week, months of the year, parts of the body, colors and simple commands through games and songs.

## **Sixth Grade**

### **Language Arts**

Students will receive instruction in the eight parts of speech and in the writing process. They will also learn punctuation and capitalization rules. Students will read and analyze short stories and novels and will spell 20 new words each week. They will complete various writing assignments in several genres.

Textbooks include: *Houghton Mifflin Language Arts, 6 +1 Traits of Writing, Word Journeys, supplemental literature from various sources*

### **Mathematics**

Students will review whole number and decimal concepts. Students will be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide fractions. Students will study geometry and explore reflections, rotations, and translations. Students will be able to use the metric and customary system to convert units. Using graphs to compare data sets will also be a focus. Students will work with ratio, proportion, percent, and probability. Students will be able to calculate a variety of measurements. Students will be introduced to the coordinate plane and integers.

Textbook: *Mathematics Course 1-Pearson/Prentice Hall*

### **Science**

Students will explore various areas science from a deeper perspective. They are introduced to basic biological studies that include classification of the kingdoms and phyla, cells and cell functions, and heredity and genetics. Chemistry is introduced with a study of the periodic table, matter, fluids, and motion. Environmental science is studied through a hands-on inquiry based unit.

Textbook: *Choices: ACSI Purposeful Design*

### **Social Studies**

Students begin their world geography study learning core concepts: map skills, climates, and ecosystems, economics, and geography. Students study the culture, geography, government, and history of Canada, Central America, South America, Europe and Russia, Africa, and Asia.

Textbooks: *Pearson My World Geography*

### **Art (Elements of Design)**

Students will create artwork that expresses their point of view as a young Christian artist. They will learn how to manipulate new and interesting art material. The class will learn the role that artists have on society and create projects that emulate this work. Elementary vocabulary will reach its highest point and students will be expected to communicate with the teacher using the language they have learned. The class revolves around learning the basic use and application of the elements of design. Students will have individual and group clean up assignments that will challenge them to be more responsible.

### **Music (Bell Choir)**

Students will learn to recognize, define, and interpret basic music elements, such as treble/bass clef note names, note/rest durations, time signature, and expressive markings. They will be expected to identify and accurately interpret basic bell techniques and symbols. Students will learn how to read a musical score and play as an ensemble. The culmination of this course is the participation in two annual elementary school concerts.

### **Physical Education**

Students will learn to appreciate and care for their bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit. Each student is created in the image of God and possesses a variety of gifts and abilities which students must discover and strengthen. Students will be taught the importance of lifelong fitness and will be given opportunity to perform a variety of activities. Students will participate in the President's Challenge annually as well

as other skills tests. Students will be introduced to a variety of sports and will learn proper technique, vocabulary, strategy and be given opportunities to compete.

### **Health**

Students will develop a healthy understanding of who they are in Christ. Each student will learn to be good stewards of their bodies and resources by presenting themselves as living sacrifices. Students will better understand how their bodies work and will be given tools to effectively care for their temple.

### **Library**

Students will refine all of the library skills they have learned up to this point. Students will continue to explore a variety of genres and books. Students will be exposed to the research process and MLA format in preparation for Middle School. Class time may also consist of a chapter book read aloud or a themed lesson. Students will have time for book selection and independent reading.

### **Spanish**

Students are given oral and written class work that includes singing, games, and basic conversation. Students get an introduction to the basic language skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking on which an emphasis is placed. Students will also learn Bible verses and conversational Spanish. Topics covered will include the alphabet, numbers, calendar, and time.

### **Computer**

Students will learn to identify the internal components of a computer and understand their use in the computer's operation. Typing skills will continue to be an important aspect of their computer class experience. Evaluation of their typing speed and accuracy will be part of their overall grade. Students will compare and contrast Microsoft Office with that of Google Apps. Projects related to both software packages will stress the need for students to have a diverse understanding of programs and how they relate.

## **Music Electives**

### **Elementary Choir**

The Elementary Choir is comprised of all 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students in preparation for their Christmas and Spring Concerts. Class time is devoted to learning to sing various forms of harmony, practicing good singing habits, correct posture, clear diction, and vocal exploration of a wide variety of musical styles and genres as they relate to developmental benchmarks for students in grades 3-5. When possible, 5 students from each school may audition to represent LCCS at the PMEA District 7 Elementary Songfest.

### **Elementary Band**

Students in fourth and fifth grades are given the opportunity to start developing skills on various instruments from the woodwind, brass, and percussion families. Small group lessons are held and students are then matriculated into ensembles as their skills develop. Ensemble repertoire includes many styles including folk songs, sacred, classical, and popular tunes. Students are required to practice at home in between lessons.

### **Elementary String**

As part of the instrumental music curriculum, students may start beginning string lessons to include violin, viola, and cello in fourth grade. Instruction will begin by learning how to hold the bow, the instrument, and then learning to play simple "fun songs" on the violin. Students will then work through levels 1 and 2 of their lesson books as they begin to develop good practice habits at home. Depending on their progress students will begin performing for school concerts.