Junior Kindergarten Curricula Overview

**Religion**
Our religion program provides experiences to foster Catholic ideals, knowledge, and understandings, while building the firm foundations of faith and an earnest love of God. Students learn how to respect and interact with and care for others. They also recognize and recite prayers. In January, students begin participating in weekly Mass and monthly prayer services.

**Language Arts** Wilson Fundations Program
Students participate in whole group, small group, and individual lessons about identifying letters and letter sounds. Students also work on handwriting and participate in Language Arts and Fine Motor Stations.

Additionally, students are exposed to many different types of literature. They listen and respond to and interact with various texts to develop a love of and readiness for reading.

**Math** Everyday Math and Big Day Pre-K
Through whole group instruction, small groups, math stations, and independent practice, students are taught the following skills:

- Patterns
- Numbers 0-20
- Measurement
- Geometry
- Estimation
- Patterns and Sorting

During math, you might see students building puzzles with pattern blocks, counting with manipulatives, or excitedly playing an estimation game!

**Science**
Students will develop an understanding of God’s place and love for His creation - planet Earth. The students will learn about physical science, earth science, and life science, as well as participate in hands-on learning experiences and experiments.

The following science concepts are taught:

- Weather
- Seasons
- Characteristics of living things
- Five Senses
- Animal characteristics
- Physical properties
- Health and Nutrition
Technology
Integrated into the classroom using iPads, computers, listening station, and a Smart Board, technology is used as an instructional tool for whole group lessons in all subject areas, as well as for small group or independent student work.

Art, Music, Library, and PE
Students participate in these classes once a week.

World Language
Students take French all year.

Recess
Students have two thirty-minute recesses most days; one in the morning, the other in the afternoon.

Progress Monitoring
Teachers observe and evaluate students’ progress using a variety of tools. Some examples include:

- Daily work
- Small group work
- Teacher-made assessments
- Literacy/math stations
- Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS)

Student progress is shared with parents every 9 weeks through a report card, as well as during fall and spring conferences.

Special activities & Field trips
Throughout the year, our students and families participate in various activities including:

- Grandparents' Day
- Polar Express Day
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Valentine's tea party with Mom
- Breakfast with Dad
- Book Buddy: Meet weekly with an upper grade reading buddy
- Mass Buddy: Attend school-wide Masses & prayer services with an upper grade buddy.
- Pumpkin Patch field trip
- Children’s Museum field trip
- Richmond Metro Zoo field trip
- Virginia Museum of Fine Arts field trip