

Assumption Catholic Schools

2016-2017

Course Description Booklet

Grades K-5



Mission

To inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition

Vision

A Community of academic excellence, Catholic in spirit and culture, nurturing integrity and respect

ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PHILOSOPHY

While reflecting Gospel teachings, Assumption Catholic Schools offer a unique education committed to excellence. We operate through the direction of the Diocese of La Crosse as part of the Roman Catholic Church. Along with the local parishes, Assumption Catholic Schools represent:

- a belief in Catholic morality, doctrine, and values; the enhancement of self-esteem and respect for others; and a Christian lifestyle;
- a belief in Catholic education which focuses on the spiritual, intellectual, and physical growth and development of the whole person;
- a belief in Catholic faith which is fostered through prayer, liturgy, service, and community experiences;
- a belief in stewardship reflected in personal commitment, responsibility, and accountability in support of the Catholic educational mission.

MISSION: To inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition.

VISION: A Community of Academic Excellence, Catholic in Spirit and Culture, Nurturing Integrity and Respect.

STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE AND GROWTH

- Demonstrates a strong faith and love of God through prayer.
- Supports the mission of the Catholic Church.
- Possesses principles of integrity including honesty, patience, fortitude, generosity, and self-control.
- Recognizes and fulfills responsibility to community, society, and the world.
- Affirms principles of loyalty, commitment, sacrifice, and trust.
- Recognizes and respects the dignity and achievement of others.
- Models Christian standards of ethical behavior in the workplace including charity toward others, respect for authority, pride in achievement, and the ability to be an effective team member.
- Demonstrates a critical appreciation of the arts and all cultures and their achievements.
- Exhibits leadership skills.
- Formulates and effectively pursues worthwhile goals founded on the discernment of personal vocation.
- Displays practical life skills, math competency, writing skills, reading comprehension, scientific reasoning, research skills, and proficiency in information technology.
- Develops habits of lifelong learning and employs critical and creative thinking as well as organizational skills.

GRADE POINT SYSTEM: The K-5 courses utilize the following point system. While numerical scales are arbitrary and defined by each teacher, letter grades should correspond to degrees of proficiency of the subject.

95-100 =A
 93-94 =A-
 91-92 =B+
 87-90 =B
 85-86 =B-
 83-84 =C+

79-82 =C
 77-78 =C-
 75-76 =D+
 72-74 =D
 70-71 =D-
 Below 70=U

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- Winter Sports
 - Basketball (Boys/Girls) grades 3-5
- Extra Curriculars
 - Student Ambassador Program
 - Battle of the Books
 - Forensics
 - Retreats
 - Student Council
 - Student Affairs
 - Little Flowers
 - Cub Scouts
 - Boy Scouts
 - Brownies
 - Girl Scouts
 - Safety Patrol
 - Serving Mass
- Events and Activities
 - 100 Mile Club
 - 5th Grade Graduation
 - Advent Prayer Services
 - Ambassador Service Opportunities
 - Auction Royale
 - Birthday Lunch
 - Bowling Tournament
 - Catholic School's Week
 - Centralia Center Mother's Day Mini-Concert
 - Charitable Food Drives
 - Charitable Fund Drives
 - Christmas Concert
 - Christmas Cards for Veterans
 - Class and Grade Level Competitions
 - End-of-Day Prayer Services
 - Forensics
 - Grade Level Retreats
 - Homecoming Week Activities
 - Hoops for Heart
 - Jump Rope for Heart
 - K-5 Family Literacy Night
 - Kindergarten Graduation
 - Make a Difference Day
 - Marching Band
 - Math Facts-alinni's
 - Math Masters
 - May Baskets
 - Monthly Socials
 - Movie Night
 - Neighborhood Walk
 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
 - Reading Passport Challenge
 - Royal Birthday Club
 - Royal Event
 - Saint Breakfast
 - Scholastic Book Fair
 - Service Activities
 - Spring Concert
 - State Fair
 - State Tournament Support
 - Stations of the Cross
 - Talent Show
 - Track and Field Day
 - Variety Show
 - Volunteer Breakfast
 - Wax Museum

- Field Trips
 - All-ACS Mass
 - Central Wisconsin Environmental Station
 - Dairy State Cheese
 - Eau Claire Children's Theater
 - Elm Lake Cranberry
 - Heritage Hill
 - Historic Pointe Basse
 - IGA
 - KASH Park, Stevens Point
 - McMillan Library
 - Mead Wildlife Station
 - Post Office
 - Riverview Hospital
 - Rudolph Fire Station
 - Skate City
 - State Capitol Building, Madison
 - Stevens Point Children's Museum
 - Stevens Point Sculpture Park
 - Timbavati Wildlife Park
 - UWSP Planetarium
 - Wisconsin Dells Safety Patrol Trip
 - Wisconsin State Historical Museum
 - Wood Trust Bank
 - Worzella Publishing

STUDENT SERVICES

- **Literacy Lab/Discovery Den**-The purpose of the Literacy Lab/Discovery Den is to work as a liaison between students, teachers, and parents to help struggling students accomplish academic success. The literacy staff will communicate closely with the guidance office, teachers, administrators, students, and parents to determine who will be assigned to the literacy opportunity. Students are welcome throughout day at OLQH and SV.
- **Academic Success Center**-The SV Academic Success Center is an after school opportunity to complete homework under the guidance of a licensed teacher from 3:40 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.
- **Student Mentor Program**-Spirit Point Mentor program works to advocate for the children in a mixed grade fashion so that each child is ensured another trusted adult in their school life. Activities include 40 Developmental Assets, 7 Habits for Happy Kids, Speak Your Peace, Are You a Royal
- **Library and Media Services**-The primary and intermediate libraries are an integral part of the school community. Their purpose is to provide services and resources in support of the school's educational program, and to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information.
- **Student Ambassador Program**-St. Vincent de Paul and Our Lady Queen of Heaven Schools offer a unique opportunity for students to give back to school, parish, and community. Our mission states, we believe that in order to help our students *aspire for excellence* and to *grow personally*, volunteering is key. Giving of their time, talent, and smiles to organizations throughout the school, church and community, will help bring them closer to God as well as accomplishing the school's mission. Every student has the opportunity to be an ambassador.

They simply fill out a form and participate. Service opportunities will be offered throughout the school year. Events and hours will be submitted by each student and recorded by the coordinator.

- **Title I Services**-Through WRPS, K-5 students within Title I school boundaries can be serviced under the parameters of the public school district.
- **School Counseling Program**-The Comprehensive Schools Counseling Program is an integral part of the educational mission of the system. This program supports, facilitates, and encourages classroom instruction and student achievement.

Our school counseling program is proactive and preventative in its focus. It assists students in acquiring and using life-long learning skills. More specifically, our school counseling program employs strategies to enhance academics, encourage self-awareness, foster interpersonal communication skills, and impart life skills for students. The guidance counselor assists students and families with individual counseling, crisis counseling, individual service plans, and parent/teacher meetings for individual students are provided as needed.

- **Speech and Language Therapy**-Through WRPS, K-5 students can be serviced under the parameters of the public school district.

COURSES FOR GRADES K-5

- **ELA/Reading**-English-Language Arts and Reading foundational skills are taught in K-5th grade. Each grade spirals it's curriculum to progress from introductory to applying skills in life situations. Grammar, usage, mechanics, writing, spelling, vocabulary, phonics, handwriting, and reading comprehension are taught and revisited in all grades at appropriate levels.

Programs utilized to increase language/reading success include STAR Assessments, Accelerated Reading, Spelling and Vocabulary City, NoRedInk, Nessy, and other specific technology tools as needed/discovered. Textbook series includes McMillan McGraw Hill.

- **Math**-Students are provided the necessary mathematics tools to use as they progress to the next level of academia. These foundational tools include mastery of math facts, applied problem solving, inductive reasoning, real-life application, and an integration of modern technology. We also help students see mathematics as worthwhile, interesting, and relevant.

Programs utilized to increase math success include STAR Assessments, Accelerated Math and Math Facts in a Flash. Textbooks include Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and Saxon Math.

- **Religion**-The religion curriculum seeks to help students grow both spiritually and academically. Centered on the person of Jesus, the religion curriculum begins with age-appropriate truths of the Catholic Faith. Students deepen their religion curriculum through seasonal celebrations and activities, prayer services, weekly and Holy Day of Obligation mass, and grade level retreats. Special interest is given throughout the day on behaving according to the will of Jesus. What Would Jesus Do?
- **Science**- Provides opportunity for students to learn by hands-on activities to grow in knowledge of physical, earth, and life science.
- **Social Studies**-The following themes include many hands on activities to strengthen the foundational understanding of our past, current status, and future at grade appropriate levels: Ourselves, Our Family, Our Neighborhood, Our Community, Regions of the United States, and Wisconsin History, Our Country.

- **Phy-ed**-Physical education develops desirable physical, mental, and emotional traits that aid other learning activities and the development of a well-rounded child. The goal of physical education is to develop healthy habits, skill acquisition of games and sports, sportsmanship, and developing teamwork.
- **Art**-Art class provides students the opportunity to develop awareness of the elements and principles of art and design. Students are exposed to the beauty in creation, and to learn the skills of artistic expression from a Christian perspective. The primary objective is to nurture expression through visual media.
- **Music (General/Instrumental)** Participation in general music provides for the deepening of musical knowledge while enjoying the art of music. Through vocal, rhythm instruments, recorders, keyboards, dancing, and research, students learn and perform at their level.
- **Computer Applications**- Students will become fluent in keyboarding throughout grades 2-5 by utilizing the Keywords program through Renaissance Learning. In computer applications word processing, and presentation venues of Power Point and Publisher are explored.