

UNITED!



Prince of Peace Christian
Lower School



CHRISTIAN SCHOOL & EARLY LEARNING CENTER

BELONG. GROW. **BECOME.**

At Prince of Peace Christian School & Early Learning Center the comprehensive goal for every child and student is encapsulated in our school motto- **BELONG, GROW, BECOME.** Students **BELONG** to a nurturing environment where faculty and staff support, challenge and engage each student. Students **GROW** through a strong curriculum pursuing excellence in both academics and extracurricular activities. Students **BECOME** successful, both academically and spiritually, through God's word.

A Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, in its 31st year of exemplary education, Prince of Peace Christian School serves nearly 900 children ages 6 weeks through 12th grade. The school encompasses a 37 acre campus with more than 150,000 square feet, which include the Early Learning Center, Lower School, Middle School, High School, Fine Arts Center, 12 acres of athletic fields, gated playgrounds and gymnasiums.

Beyond the academic and social successes, something more fundamental exists at Prince of Peace: a connection that reaches far beyond the classroom. Lifelong relationships are developed between families, teachers and friends as students grow in God's word and become leaders of the 21st century.

4000 Midway Road
Carrollton, TX 75007
972-447-9887
www.popcs.org

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL REGARDING LOWER SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

A fundamental aspect of the Lower School at Prince of Peace is to inspire and cultivate intellectual curiosity and a lifelong love of learning. Therefore, we offer a Christ-centered, solid foundation of academic excellence rich in hands-on, inquiry-based experiences where students not only learn facts but also how to apply their knowledge. Enrichment classes in music, art, computer, Spanish, and physical education allow our students to test their abilities and discover their true potential.

For high levels of academic instruction to take place we must first ensure an orderly, safe, and caring learning environment based upon respect and kindness. The following acronym for “Respect” exemplifies our core values in the Lower School...

- R – Respect for Christ, our **R**edeemer, through our thoughts, words, and actions.
- E – Respect for the learning **E**nvironment.
- S – Respect for **S**elf by recognizing one’s worth in God’s eyes.
- P – Respect for self by presenting your **P**ersonal best.
- E – Respect for the **E**ducational process
- C– Respect for **C**lassmates by treating them in a kind and fair manner.
- T – Respect for **T**eachers and others in authority.

Student success is further enhanced by teachers and parents working together. Parents are invited to take part in classroom activities and school events. Social opportunities are provided to help families build relationships with other families. The result is a community of students, faculty, and parents who care for one another and have a true passion for learning and serving.

As you seek a school home for your family I hope you will consider Prince of Peace. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have. Please feel free to call me at (972) 447-9887, ext. 454.

Blessings in Christ,

Laura P. Cleland,
Lower School Principal



CHRISTIAN
leadership



INSPIRING
minds
EARLY



Service



CHARACTER



LOWER SCHOOL MISSION

Our mission at Prince of Peace Christian School is to provide a Christ-Centered, exemplary education equipping students as disciples and leaders for the 21st Century.

... “Christ-centered”

“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.” Colossians 2: 6,7

POPCS is committed to:

- providing a teaching staff dedicated to the Lord and His children.
- studying daily Bible lessons with all students.
- implementing a curriculum that integrates Christian beliefs and understanding in all areas.
- directing our faith in action through service, love, and kindness.
- creating an atmosphere where each student feels care and respect.
- involving students in worship in both small and large group settings.

... “exemplary education”

“But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” 2 Corinthians 8:7

POPCS is committed to:

- providing a stimulating curriculum that challenges students.
- integrating subject matter across the curriculum with practical application.
- involving progressive technology to prepare students for success in today’s world.
- leading the exploration of new concepts and ideas.
- developing critical thinking skills for learning and understanding.

... “equipping students as disciples and leaders”

“Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.” Ephesians 6:13-17

POPCS is committed to:

- helping students discover spiritual gifts and talents to be effective for God’s kingdom.
- challenging students to improve academically, spiritually, physically and emotionally.
- teaching students and families that prayer empowers believers for God’s work.
- building a firm foundation on the Gospel to strengthen the body of Christ.
- providing students and families with the resources to grow in the knowledge of being saved to serve.
- training students to live in this world according to the standards and commands of God.

Because we are a ministry dedicated to fulfilling our mission statement, it is our sincere desire that we as a school give back a portion of our student body in service to Christ in ministry. As a result, we would like to consider POPCS as a school that “tithes people”.



A SAMPLING OF LOWER SCHOOL PROGRAMS



CHAPEL AND WORSHIP services are held for Lower School students each Thursday morning. These services are led by teachers and classes, administrators, members of the pastoral staff at Prince of Peace Church, and guest speakers. During chapel the students and staff sing, pray together, and participate in Biblically-based lessons for life. School parents and visitors are always invited to attend.



CHESS meets weekly after school. The goal of the program is to develop abstract thought, learn to think with one's mind and not just using one's hands, react rationally to challenging situations, enhance problem solving ability, build self confidence, learn sportsmanship, build cognitive short and long term memory functions, and to have fun!



DESTINATION IMAGINATION is an after school educational program in which student teams solve open-ended challenges and present their solutions at tournaments. Teams are tested to think on their feet, work together and devise original solutions that satisfy the requirements of the challenges. Participants gain more than just basic knowledge and skills—they learn to unleash their imaginations and take unique approaches to problem solving.



DRAMA CLUB helps Lower School students build self confidence through developing performing arts skills in music and drama. The club meets after school one day per week and two productions are presented to the school community each year.



EAGLES' NEST provides small group assistance in Reading and Math skills to students who need specialized instruction due to learning differences. Students enrolled in Eagles' Nest Reading focus on Phonology, Reading Comprehension, Reading Fluency, Vocabulary Skills, Spelling, Handwriting, and Written Expression while the Eagles' Nest Math students focus on Math Operations and Math Fluency through guided practice and the use of hands-on math manipulatives.

EAGLES' WINGS CHOIR is comprised of 4th and 5th graders who want to learn and share the very best choral music our elementary fine arts program has to offer. The choir has many opportunities during the year to perform Christian repertoire as well as fun "Broadway" style music.

FAMILY VISITS provide an initial opportunity for teachers to build positive, personal, co-operative relationships with students and their families before the school year begins so that effective communication can take place throughout the school year. This strong relationship is essential for a child to receive the best education possible and for the faculty to minister to the child and whole family. During the visit, the teacher will share information about the upcoming school year and become better acquainted with the student and family.

FIELD TRIPS are offered twice yearly for all Lower School grades. The purpose of field trips is to provide students with unique educational experiences that expand classroom learning and enrich students' social skills through active involvement in the areas of group cooperation, friendship-building, following directions, following a schedule, travel etiquette, and self-responsibility. The students visit points of interest which support classroom studies. Examples are visits to the theater, museums, library, and outdoor educational venues. The Lower School field trip program culminates with the fifth grade trip to NASA in Houston.

GYMNASTICS is offered at a small additional cost during the regular school day and is designed to develop every child's strength, flexibility, coordination, and cardiovascular endurance. Gymnastics provides a fun, challenging learning experience with the benefit of increased self-esteem, self-confidence, and a stronger, healthier body!

KARATE classes meet once per week right after school. Instruction focuses on discipline, structure and self-control which includes basic martial arts techniques and practical self-defense skills all taught with varied learning styles.

LIBRARY opportunities are offered to all Lower School students. The Lower School Library is staffed by a professional librarian and is fully automated. Students visit the library weekly to provide time for book selection, review of library skills, and "story time".

PEP SQUAD is a wonderful way for Lower School girls to show school spirit! The group meets once per week right after school. They perform at every Pep Rally, the Homecoming parade, and home football games.

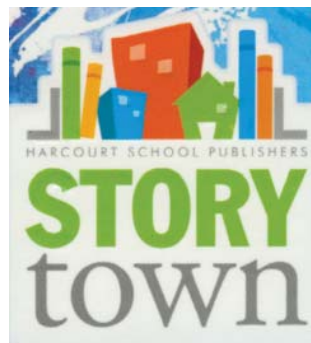
POP'N UP is an opportunity for each Lower School student to get a taste of what they have to look forward to during their next year at POP! Each spring all Lower School students "pop-up" to the next grade level for a fun instructional activity. This experience also helps the students with their yearly transition.

PSIA stands for Private School Interscholastic Association. PSIA offers the most comprehensive academic extra-curricular program in the nation. With thirteen categories covering a wide range of disciplines, PSIA provides an exciting opportunity for our Lower School students to engage in academic competition with their private school peers throughout Texas. WINGS is designed for Lower School students who exhibit high performance capability in an intellectual or creative area, demonstrate an unusual capacity for leadership, and/or excel in a specific academic field. This program is crafted to address and challenge the specific gifts, talents and needs of individual students while providing a balance of cognitive and affective development thus challenging students to achieve educational excellence.



LOWER SCHOOL CURRICULA

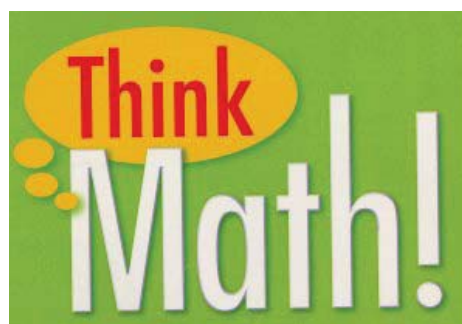
LANGUAGE ARTS



Harcourt School Publishers
www.harcourtschool.com/storytown

STORYtown is a balanced literacy program which incorporates a data-driven plan of instruction. Consistent lesson design provides a solid foundation for the development of skills and strategies in phonics, reading, writing, spelling, and grammar. Through robust vocabulary instruction students demonstrate knowledge of word meaning, extend meanings of words in context, and use word relationships to determine meaning.

MATHEMATICS



Harcourt School Publishers
www.harcourtschool.com/thinkmath/

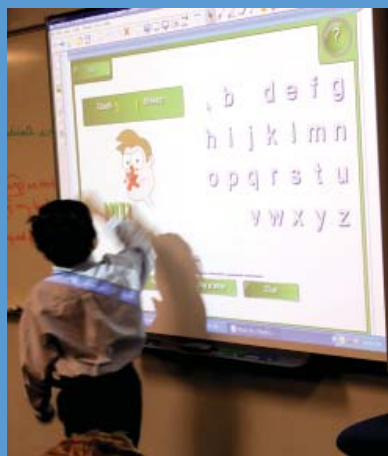
HSP/Think Math was developed in conjunction with the National Science Foundation to build deep conceptual understanding by focusing on the following:

Problem Solving – students work out ideas and relationships through high-interest sequences of concept-building puzzles and problems using concrete materials, pictures, drawings, graphs, and symbols.

Reasoning and Proof – students build new mathematical ideas based upon those already learned and they learn to show reasons for new procedures and results.

Communication – students learn to speak, read, and write ideas using math vocabulary and symbols.

Connections – students expect to find links between old and new learning. Related operations grow from the same roots and algorithms arise from earlier ideas.



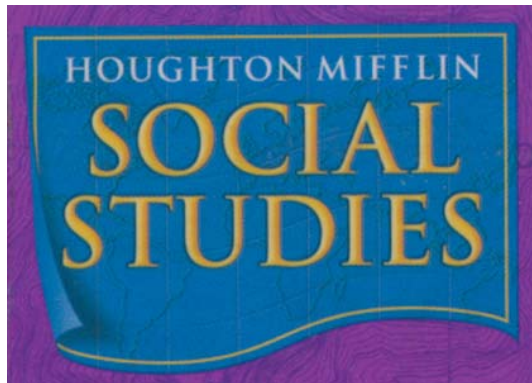
SCIENCE



Houghton Mifflin Publishers
<http://www.eduplace.com/science/dw/>

DiscoveryWorks is based upon National Science Foundation Standards and uses an active approach to help students gain practical experience with critical thinking skills, equipment use, and scientific methods of investigation. Hands-on opportunities emphasizing inquiry and investigation result in mastery and a concrete understanding of challenging abstract concepts.

SOCIAL STUDIES



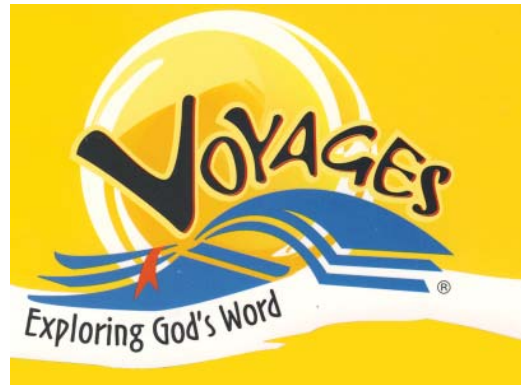
Houghton Mifflin Publishers
www.eduplace.com/ss/hmss/

Houghton Mifflin Social Studies motivates students to become active and informed citizens through extended lessons that dig deeper into important core concepts using multiple strategies. Readers' Theater activities in every book make Social Studies come alive for the students while a partnership with Weekly Reader® keeps content current.





BIBLE



Concordia Publishing House
www.cph.org/voyages

Voyages lessons are grounded in the Word of God. The stories and units share a common theme and are presented in chronological order to survey God's story of love and salvation for His people as found in the Old and New Testaments. The key Christian concepts of Law, Gospel, confession, repentance, forgiveness, and grace are taught while focusing specifically on the attributes and work of our triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

ART



ARTS ATTACK

Art Education Programs for Students K-8

Arts Attack Publications
<http://www.artsattack.com/visual-art-curriculum>

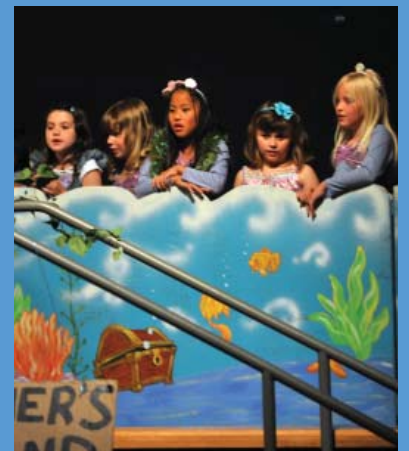
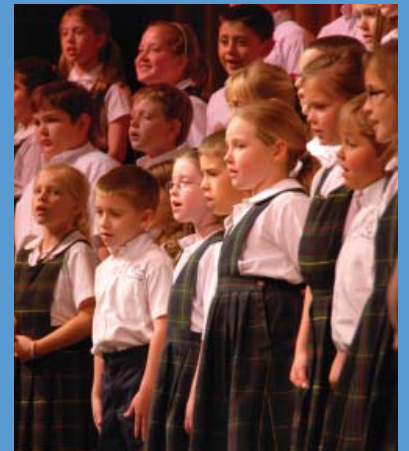
Arts Attack is a totally innovative program that brings an entire art curriculum to the K-5 classroom on DVD so students learn visually rather than through textbooks or workbooks. Arts Attack uses a process-oriented teaching approach with a strong emphasis on right-brain learning and development. Its goal is to develop not only art skills and techniques, but also to develop student creativity and visual problem-solving and communication abilities.

MUSIC



McGraw-Hill Companies
<http://www.mhschool.com/music/>

Share the Music features familiar songs that children love to sing and unit themes that connect music to real-life experiences. Appealing selections that celebrate American heritage and reflect cultural diversity occur throughout the program in songbooks, CDs, DVDs, and other resources. Designed by teachers and researchers to build music concepts the way children learn, Share the Music provides curriculum integrated across all content areas and offers a wealth of songs, listening selections, movement, instrumental parts, and other activities to facilitate creative musical experiences.



IOWA TEST OF BASIC SKILLS SCORES

Iowa Test of Basic Skill - 2011 Results

Grade Level	Reading Total Percentile	Language Total Percentile	Mathematics Total Percentile	Source of Information Total Percentile
Grade 1	99	98	96	99
Grade 2	98	99	97	99
Grade 3	98	98	95	98
Grade 4	98	99	97	99
Grade 5	99	99	96	99



Iowa Test of Basic Skill - 2010 Results

Grade Level	Reading Total Percentile	Language Total Percentile	Mathematics Total Percentile	Source of Information Total Percentile
Grade 1	99	98	97	99
Grade 2	98	97	97	99
Grade 3	98	97	97	97
Grade 4	97	98	91	99
Grade 5	98	99	97	99



Iowa Test of Basic Skill - 2009 Results

Grade Level	Reading Total Percentile	Language Total Percentile	Mathematics Total Percentile	Source of Information Total Percentile
Grade 1	99	99	96	98
Grade 2	98	99	98	99
Grade 3	97	97	95	96
Grade 4	98	99	96	99
Grade 5	98	99	95	97



Iowa Test of Basic Skill - 2008 Results

Grade Level	Reading Total Percentile	Language Total Percentile	Mathematics Total Percentile	Source of Information Total Percentile
Grade 1	98	98	97	99
Grade 2	98	98	96	99
Grade 3	98	99	97	99
Grade 4	97	99	96	99
Grade 5	98	99	94	97



TOP TEN REASONS TO ATTEND PRINCE OF PEACE!



1. **21st Century Skills:** Lessons are designed to foster Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, Inquiry, Analysis, Communication, Collaboration, Adaptability, Initiative, Entrepreneurialism, Curiosity & Imagination!

2. **30+ Years of Educational Excellence:** Prince of Peace has been serving the North Dallas area since 1981 and has earned a reputation for a high quality academic program in a caring and nurturing environment.

3. **National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence:** Prince of Peace Christian School was named a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the United States Department of Education. This honor is given to less than one-half of 1% of all the non-public schools in the nation.

4. **Christ-Centered Character Education:** Biblical truths are incorporated into all areas of study emphasizing Christian Character Traits such as Self-Control, Respect, Kindness, and Honesty.

5. **Partnering with Parents:** Individualized classroom visits before the school year begins help both children and families feel at home. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in the classrooms and social events for students and parents alike are scheduled throughout the school year.

6. **Secure Campus:** We use state-of-the-art campus security technologies to ensure that all students are safe.

7. **Student/Teacher Ratio:** Our classes are limited in number and all Lower School classes have a teacher aide resulting in an average 9-1 student/teacher ratio.

8. **Outstanding Educators:** All Prince of Peace teachers are highly experienced with 40% having earned a Master's Degree. In addition, on-going Professional Development initiatives are required to assure that current best practices are used consistently.

9. **Technology Integration:** Through the use of interactive white boards, computer classes, and mobile classroom laptops teachers integrate technology into daily instruction.

10. **Strong Balanced Literacy Program:** Our program consists of Data-Driven Instruction with Shared, Guided, and Independent Reading and Writing incorporating Phonemic Awareness, Vocabulary, Comprehension and Fluency.

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