

KCS was established with the goal of providing an academically rich and challenging education for our students built upon the foundation of the Word of God. Admission is offered to a broad range of academic abilities and readiness levels. Developmentally based with a hands-on approach to learning, our programs offer age-appropriate experiences through a variety of exciting activities and lessons incorporating the use of manipulatives.

### **Early Childhood Education- Grades K3-K5**

Our Early Childhood Education program designed to enhance the developmental stages of growth. Students' spiritual, intellectual, emotional, physical, and social development is carefully considered as they are nurtured, instructed, guided, and encouraged.

#### **K3:**

- Bible
- Reading
- Language Arts
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science
- Writing
- Music and Movement
- Computer Lab
- Library
- Special Activities

#### **K4:**

- Bible
- Language/Reading
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science
- Writing
- Music and Movement
- Computer Lab
- Library
- Special Activities

#### **K5:**

- Bible
- Language/Reading
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science Lab
- Handwriting
- Computer Lab

- Music and Movement
- Physical Education
- Art
- Spanish
- Special Activities
- Library

**First Grade:**

- Bible
- Language Arts
- Reading
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science Lab
- Handwriting
- Physical Education
- Computer Lab
- Art
- Spanish
- Music
- Library
- Special Activities

**Second Grade:**

- Bible
- Language Arts
- Reading
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science Lab
- Handwriting
- Physical Education
- Computer Lab
- Art
- Spanish
- Music
- Library
- Special Activities/Field Trips

**Third Grade:**

- Bible
- Language Arts/Reading
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science Lab
- Handwriting

- Physical Education
- Computer Lab
- Art
- Spanish
- Music
- Library
- Special Activities

**Fourth Grade:**

- Bible
- Language Arts
- Reading
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science Lab
- Physical Education
- Handwriting
- Art
- Spanish
- Music
- Library
- Special Activities

**Fifth Grade:**

- Bible
- Social Studies/History
- Science Lab
- Language Arts
- Reading
- Math
- Art
- Music
- Spanish
- Special Activities
- Safety Patrol
- Physical Education

### 3 Year Old Program:

- Bible - The Bible program is designed to instill the love of Jesus into the lives of our children. As children listen to stories of God's Word, they begin to learn who God is, and that He cares for us. The Bible curriculum encourages the development of their Christian character. Weekly Chapel visits also reinforces spiritual growth and development.
- Reading- ABEKA – The Reading program is designed to promote phonemic awareness through the use of educational materials, establishing a pattern of daily reading, and a language-rich environment.
- Language Arts - In the Early Childhood program language is viewed as a gift from God. Teachers and children share in the daily discovery and development of words in order to assist children in acquiring communication skills and vocabulary necessary for the expression of their thinking and problem solving skills.
- Math – The Math program enriches the children's awareness of numbers as they relate to everyday life. It provides an opportunity for the children to get a basic understanding of counting, shapes, measurement of length, weight, and use of graphs, number recognition, and other very simple math concepts. These very young children learn through creative methods that make pre-school math fun and stimulating.
- Social Studies - The Social Studies curriculum is designed to build the formation of friendship and bonds with other children, learning how the decision making process works in a group setting, learning to share and deal with their emotions , and accepting the differences between people. Science - The Science program is designed to promote curiosity in children in order to expand their understanding of the world God created. Science in preschool includes activities such as hands-on experiments, cooking, exploratory table, mixing colors, playing with sand, and playing with sound.
- Writing - In the Early Childhood program writing develops fine motor skills through activities such as tracing, cutting, gluing, tearing, lacing, stacking, and molding with clay.
- Music & Movement – Twice a week, this special program develops motor skills through music by providing exposure to a variety of multicultural musical experiences. Students discover the world around them through age-appropriate activities. The fun-filled activities include: movement stories, musical instruments, puppets, hula hoops, bubbles, balls, parachute, trampoline, and much more.
- Computer Lab – Students learn the parts of a computer, software and its uses, use of websites to develop language, computer sorting and memory games, and they sample classical music.
- Library – Weekly story time, puppet fun and enjoyment of age-appropriate, language-rich books are all enjoyed by our students.
- Special Activities: Activity centers feature library, science, dramatic play, transportation, art, and teacher/student workstation, Cooking activities such as Green Eggs and Ham, Stone Soup, and Friendship Fruit Salad, Fun Dress Down Days, Teddy Bear parade, Fire Safety, Pumpkin Patch, Thanksgiving Feast, Gingerbread Shop, Snow Day, Dr. Seuss Week, 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School, Earth Day, Mother's Day Tea, Grandparent's Day, Father's Day Breakfast, Character Book

Day, Christmas Program, Spring Musical, In-House Field Trips, Bike Day and much more.

#### **4 Year Program**

- Bible – The Bible curriculum is designed to build Christian character. The Bible has a prominent place in the curriculum. Biblical principles are integrated throughout our program. Weekly chapel reinforces biblical lessons.
- Language/Reading – Open Court – KCS language curriculum provides phonemic awareness and exposure to the wonderful world of reading. Students have a print-rich environment that stimulates a love of reading.
- Math – Students learn their shapes, sorting, matching, counting, comparing and measuring.
- Social Studies – The Social Studies curriculum assists children in acquiring skills for healthy interaction with others. Children gain knowledge of who they are, and that they are valued and to be respected. The program includes exploring their culture and appreciating their own unique family.
- Science - The students will discover, explore, and learn about themselves, others, and the world that God created.
- Writing – Scott Foresman -Students learn to write their names, the alphabet and numbers using D’Nealian manuscript style.
- Music & Movement – Twice a week, this program develops motor skills through music by providing exposure to a variety of multicultural musical experiences. Students discover the world around them through age-appropriate activities. The fun-filled activities include: movement stories, musical instruments, puppets, hula hoops, bubbles, balls, parachute, trampoline, and much more.
- Computer Lab – The students discover the parts of a computer, software and its uses, use of websites, computer sorting and memory games, and sample classical music. Early reading, letter, numbers, shapes, sorting, colors sounds, puzzles and following directions are all reinforced in the computer classes.
- Special Activities: Dr. Seuss Week, Firefighter Day, Stranger Danger program, 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School, Snow Day, Earth Day, and so much more.

#### **Kindergarten Program**

- Bible – Positive Action for Christ – The Bible curriculum helps to build Christian principles in students through the study of God’s relationship to mankind. Through dramatization, story telling, music and participation in weekly chapel, students learn of the life and message of Christ.
- Language/Reading – Open Court –The curriculum is structured with many opportunities for listening, speaking, reading, and creative writing. The phonetic is approach emphasized so student read quite early. The curriculum includes: grammar, punctuation, descriptive/position/action words, tense, critical thinking and number. Students are taught to distinguish between reality and fantasy.

- Math – Silver Burdett Ginn –Students participate in many hand-on activities. Curriculum includes: sorting, classifying, number exploration, measurement, money, simple fractions, addition, subtraction, time money and word problems.
- Social Studies – MacMillan/McGraw-Hill- The curriculum includes topics such as family, neighborhood, seasons, our country, national emblems, special days, special topics and famous Americans. Students learn to think critically to be accepting of others and to be proud of their heritage.
- Science Lab –Harcourt - The students receive instruction in the Science Lab two times a week. The curriculum includes: Life Science (human body, five senses, plants and seeds, life in the ocean), Earth Science (using land and water, our earth and weather, solar system, stars) Physical Science (light, sound, heat, shadows rainbows)
- Handwriting –Scott Foresman – In order to allow for easy transition to cursive, our kindergarten students use the D’Neilian method. As a result, students’ penmanship is improved and mastered throughout the school year..
- Music & Movement – Twice a week, this program develops motor skills through music by providing exposure to a variety of multicultural musical experiences. Students discover the world around them through age-appropriate activities. The fun-filled activities include: movement stories, musical instruments, puppets, hula hoops, bubbles, balls, parachute, trampoline, and much more.
- Computer Lab – Students learn: parts of the computer, about software and its uses, use of websites, and beginner typing skills. Class curriculum themes are supported through websites. Early reading, letter, numbers, shapes, sorting, colors sounds, puzzles and following directions are all reinforced in the computer classes
- Physical Education – All K5 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in P.E twice a week. Students are introduced to various sports, health related fitness activities (Presidential test preparation and testing), games, sports rules, basic motor skills, safety awareness, and receive a foundation for knowledge, skills and motivation to remain in a healthy and active lifestyle.
- Art – Students have art classes for one hour each week. The art curriculum includes: paper cutting, clay, painting, introduction to color/coloring, color mixing, art projects relating to fall, winter, the holiday seasons, and an art book discovering the elements of art.
- Spanish - The Spanish Program at KCS combines computer games, movies, and tapes with traditional techniques to offer the highest education by engaging, challenging and entertaining the students in the four basic areas of speech, audition, reading and writing. Daily classes of 30 minutes each are offered for K5 -5<sup>th</sup> grades. Children from Kindergarten to Second Grade start with basic greetings, colors, days of the week, months and seasons. Numbers, domestic and farm animals, are also taught. Spelling and writing styles specific to Spanish are also reinforced, and complemented with other cultural events such as the projects and presentations of the Hispanic Heritage Week. Our Spanish program is for everyone – students are not required to have a prior knowledge of the language and because of the small class sizes and the personal attention given to each individual, learning and progress are quickly accomplished
- Library – Students check out books on a weekly basis. They also enjoy library story time. The children can practice reading independently using Beginning

Reader's books, and children's magazines. Students are introduced to Destiny Quest (search database) and learn proper check out procedures.

- Special Activities – In-house and off campus field trips, nature walks, gardening, and other projects all serve to reinforce our kindergarten curriculum.

### **Elementary Education - Grades 1-5**

#### **Grade One**

- Bible – Positive Action For Christ aims for students to find knowledge, wisdom, and understanding from the Word of God. In addition, the primary goal of this curriculum is to allow the Holy Spirit to work the lives of students to conform them to the image of Jesus Christ (Romans 8: 29). Weekly Chapel also enriches the students' spiritual growth and development.
- Language Arts –Open Court – Students become skilled in demonstrating their knowledge through speaking and writing. It is our goal for students to become skillful in organizing sentences into paragraphs and short stories. They will develop skills to write legibly for a variety of audiences and purposes. Students develop phonemic awareness, blending and segmentation and word knowledge through research-based strategies. These strategies help to develop reading, writing, and spelling. Practice and review of language skills are systematically built into the curriculum to ensure mastery.
- Reading – Open Court – The first grade curriculum teaches the skills of reading, writing and language to grasp complex concepts. The goal is for the students to develop the skill of making sense of new words through phonetics, word skills, and context.
- Math – Silver Burdett Ginn – The curriculum allows students to learn number patterns as the foundations for all mathematics. Students learn to understand and see connections between math concepts, with other subject areas, and to the real world. Our students develop independent and cooperative learning and apply these skills in a group setting. We also develop critical thinking skills with our curriculum.
- Social Studies – Macmillan/McGraw-Hill – The first grade curriculum introduces students to neighborhoods and communities. Students will also increase their awareness of historical, cultural and citizenship. The students also learn about other countries.
- Science Lab -The students receive instruction in the Science Lab two times a week. The curriculum includes: Life Science (living/non-living things, animals with bones, insects, spiders, and the human body), Earth Science (rocks, fossils, water cycle, weather, rocks/fossils, and changes in matter) Physical Science (magnets, push/pull, sink/float, and magnets)
- Handwriting – Scott Foresman -D'Nealian -Students learn manuscript writing. The goal is for students to write legibly. This style of manuscript helps students easily transition to cursive handwriting in second grade.
- Physical Education – All K5 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in P.E twice a week. Students are introduced to various sports, health related fitness activities (Presidential test preparation and testing), games, sports rules, basic motor

- skills, safety awareness, and receive a foundation for knowledge, skills and motivation to remain in a healthy and active lifestyle.
- Computer Lab – Each week Grades 1-3 learn and develop strong typing skills. Students discover internet safety, as well software programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Paint, and Power Point. Children complete quarterly projects using software hardware. They also learn about computer hardware and how it works.
  - Art - Students in first grade receive art classes one hour each week. Curriculum includes: creating a book implementing the use of drawing and coloring skills, paper cutting, painting, clay figure drawing, art projects relation to Christmas, winter and Easter. They also review and expand their knowledge on color and simple perspective.
  - Spanish - The Spanish Program at KCS combines the most advanced tools – computer games, movies, and tapes – with traditional techniques to offer the highest education by engaging, challenging and entertaining the students in the four basic areas of speech, audition, reading and writing. Daily classes of 30 minutes each are offered for K5 – 5<sup>th</sup> grades. Children from kindergarten to second grade start with basic greetings, colors, days of the week, months and seasons. Numbers, domestic and farm animals, are also taught. Spelling and writing styles specific to Spanish are also reinforced, and complemented with other cultural events such as the projects and presentations of the Hispanic Heritage Week. Our Spanish program is for everyone – students are not required to have a prior knowledge of the language and because of the small class sizes and the personal attention given to each individual, learning and progress are quickly accomplished.
  - Music – Students receive one hour of music instruction each week. First grade students learn both music theory and keyboard fundamentals. The curriculum includes basic studies in ear training, notation, dynamics, rhythm and the treble clef notes. In addition to this, students participate in two musical performances.
  - Library – Students visit the library weekly for book reviews, introduction to award winning literature/authors, learn research skills, and to prepare for class book reports. A print-rich environment stimulates a love of reading.
  - Special Activities -Jungle Island, Miami Children’s Museum, Miccosukee Indian Tribe at the Everglades, Coconut Grove Playhouse and Earth Day at the movies (“Earth”) at the Falls

## **Grade Two**

- Bible – Positive Action for Christ – The curriculum focuses on having students’ find knowledge, wisdom and understanding for themselves from the Word of God. Students study a specific book of the Bible and follow the story line throughout the book to discover scriptural truths. Students learn to relate the Bible to everyday life with a Christian worldview. Weekly Chapel services develop further spiritual growth and development.
- Language Arts – Open Court - The curriculum enables students to gain language skills which are critical to success in the workplace and necessary to life as helpful citizens. Students should develop a grasp of the language and demonstrate their knowledge through speaking and writing for a variety of purposes and audiences. Grammar, parts of speech, an understanding of the

writing process, proofreading and learning the writer's craft are incorporated in the curriculum.

- Reading – Open Court – Students learn: phonemic awareness, phonics, word knowledge, comprehension skills, reading strategies, cause and effect, to ask questions, to check themselves, compare and contrast, and to make sure they understand the materials.
- Math – Student lessons motivate children to get involved in their own learning growth through experimentation, questioning, open-ended problems, problem-solving situations, logic and reasoning. Skills such as adding, subtraction, graphing, place value, time and numerical relationships are also developed.
- Social Studies – Macmillan/McGraw-Hill - The curriculum teaches about neighborhoods, communities, history, geography, economics, citizenship, and humanities. Students discover use of calendars, pictographs, and bar graphs. They discuss important events, people and holidays.
- Science Lab - Harcourt - The students receive instruction in the Science Lab two times a week. The curriculum includes: Life Science (animals with and without bones, life cycles, and human body), Earth Science (earth's resources, dinosaurs, solar system) Physical Science (heat, light and sound)
- Handwriting – Scott Foresman – D'Nealian involves a unique, lower-case manuscript alphabet.
- Physical Education - All K5 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in P.E twice a week. Students are introduced to various sports, health related fitness activities (Presidential test preparation and testing), games, sports rules, basic motor skills, safety awareness, and receive a foundation for knowledge, skills and motivation to remain in a healthy and active lifestyle.
- Computer Lab – Grades 1-3 learn and develop strong typing skills. Students discover internet safety, as well software programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Paint, and Power Point. Children complete quarterly projects using software hardware. They also learn about computer hardware and how it works.
- Art – Students in second grade have art classes one hour each week. Curriculum includes: collage, crayon resist, painting with acrylics, pastels, simple weaving and crayon mosaic.
- Spanish - The Spanish Program at KCS combines the most advanced tools – computer games, movies, and tapes – with traditional techniques to offer the highest education by engaging, challenging and entertaining the students in the four basic areas of speech, audition, reading and writing. Daily classes of 30 minutes each are offered for K5 – 5<sup>th</sup> grades. Children from Kindergarten to Second Grade start with basic greetings, colors, days of the week, months and seasons. Numbers, domestic and farm animals, are also taught. Spelling and writing styles specific to Spanish are also reinforced, and complemented with other cultural events such as the projects and presentations of the Hispanic Heritage Week. Our Spanish program is for everyone – students are not required to have a prior knowledge of the language and because of the small class sizes and the personal attention given to each individual, learning and progress are quickly accomplished
- Music – Students receive one hour of music instruction each week. Second grade students learn both music theory and keyboard fundamentals. The curriculum includes basic studies in ear training, notation, dynamics, rhythm and

the treble clef notes. In addition to this, students participate in two musical performances.

- Library – Students visit the library weekly for book reviews, introduction to award winning literature/authors, learn research skills, and to prepare for class book reports. A print-rich environment stimulates a love of reading.
- Special Activities/field trips – Wannado City, Butterfly World, and Deering Estates

### **Grade Three**

- Bible – Positive Action for Christ – The curriculum is intended to make God's Word more meaningful in the lives of our students. The children learn to memorize passages from Scripture rather than individual verses. They also gain an understanding of the land of Israel through map work and other skills. The children study and focus of the lives of Abraham, Jacob, Joseph and Daniel.
- Language Arts/Reading – Open Court – Students are encouraged to have a lifelong love of reading through various reading anthologies. The children are introduced to a variety of genres such as realistic fiction, biography, expository text and fantasy. The use of a glossary, dictionary and a thesaurus are used to improve language and reading. Students improve their reading comprehension through strategies and skills such as prediction, visualizing, monitoring and clarifying, cause and effect and compare and contrast. Reading themes covered include: friendship, city wildlife, imagination, money, storytelling and country life. The students learn about nouns, pronouns, and action verbs, main verbs and verb phrases, types of sentences and punctuation.
- Math – Silver Burdett Ginn – The math curriculum is designed to guide students to solve math problems. Students evaluate and decide the best way to find an answer through the use of manipulatives, calculators, mental math, or paper and pencil. Students discover the different cultures that have contributed to mathematics. Some of the concepts covered throughout the year are addition, subtraction, time, graphing, multiplication, division, fractions measurement and geometry.
- Social Studies – Macmillan/McGraw-Hill – Students become familiar with the continents, oceans, and equator using maps and globes. They learn to read a compass rose and mapping symbols. Students make charts showing landforms, water, mountains, etc. In addition, the class is introduced to our country's first communities: the Anasazi, the Spanish and the Pilgrims. Students distinguish the similarities and differences in the types of communities such as rural, urban and suburban.
- Science Lab - Harcourt - The students receive instruction in the Science Lab two times a week. The curriculum includes: Life Science (vertebrate animal groups, our five senses, plant life cycles, food chains, and food webs), Earth Science (earth's ecosystems and soils) Physical Science (solids, liquids, gases, measuring matter, physical and chemical changes)
- Handwriting – Scott Foresman – D'Nealian involves a unique, lower-case manuscript alphabet. Students write in both manuscript and cursive using correct capital and lower case letters.
- Physical Education - All K5 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in P.E twice a week. Students are introduced to various sports, health related fitness activities

- (Presidential test preparation and testing), games, sports rules, basic motor skills, safety awareness, and receive a foundation for knowledge, skills and motivation to remain in a healthy and active lifestyle.
- Computer Lab - Grades 1-3 learn and develop strong typing skills. Students discover internet safety, as well software programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Paint, and Power Point. Children complete quarterly projects using software hardware. They also learn about computer hardware and how it works.
  - Art – Students receive one hour of art classes each week. The art curriculum includes: stitchery, designing and stitching a project for the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair, drawing, cartooning, painting with acrylics, creating a collage using complementary colors.
  - Spanish - The Spanish Program at KCS combines the most advanced tools – computer games, movies, and tapes – with traditional techniques to offer the highest education by engaging, challenging and entertaining the students in the four basic areas of speech, audition, reading and writing. Daily classes of 30 minutes each are offered for K5-5<sup>th</sup> grades. Students from Third to Fifth build on what they have learned and continue to expand their vocabulary, using it in day-to-day situations: so the conversations start to get longer and more complex. Spelling and writing styles specific to Spanish are also reinforced, and complemented with other cultural events such as the projects and presentations of the Hispanic Heritage Week. Our Spanish program is for everyone – students are not required to have a prior knowledge of the language and because of the small class sizes and the personal attention given to each individual, learning and progress are quickly accomplished
  - Music - Students receive one hour of music instruction each week. Third grade students have a deeper development of rhythm by the use of rhythmic dictation. Theory concepts are taken to a more difficult level and include tempo, sharps, flats, staccato and intervals. In addition to this, students participate in two musical performances.
  - Library – Students visit the library weekly for book reviews, introduction to award winning literature/authors, learn research skills, and to prepare for class book reports. A print-rich environment stimulates a love of reading.
  - Special Activities – Visit to Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden (tropical rain forest), Candon Park - a Sea grass Adventure (marine animals)

#### **Grade Four**

- Bible – Positive Action For Christ –The curriculum strives to help students understand God’s plan of salvation and accept the Bible’s call for repentance, faith, obedience, praise, and service. Students participate in weekly chapel services and prepare two special presentations for chapel each year. The Bible program includes: defining a character quality and analyzing it in the life of a Bible character, memorizing scripture that is applicable to students’ lives, and studying the birth, life, crucifixion, and resurrection of Christ.
- Language Arts – Open Court - The language arts curriculum helps students express themselves correctly orally and in writing by grammar and writing experiences. Students gain an understanding of the rules of grammar and follow

the writing process of brainstorming, proofreading, and editing to produce writing for different purposes. The students compile a writing folder containing work samples. The program includes the study of: parts of speech, capitalization and punctuation. Students participate in a yearly spelling bee.

- Reading – Open Court – The reading curriculum aims to help students become independent readers by the use of strategies that develop critical thinking skills, sharpen their reading and vocabulary skills, and understand fiction and non-fiction. Each month, a different literary category is chosen and students complete a book report. The program includes the study of: short, long and special sounds, digraphs, plurals, abbreviations, words with prefixes and suffixes, rhyming and compound words.
- Math – Silver Burdett – The mathematics curriculum endeavors to help students learn to reason mathematically and become confident in their own abilities. We also strive to increase math literacy. Our curriculum emphasizes the use of manipulatives such as personal dry erase boards and the use of educational classroom games and the computer. The program includes the study of: estimation, place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, time, data, graphs, geometry, fractions, decimals and measurement.
- Social Studies – Harcourt – The social studies curriculum aims to develop understanding of geography of the United States by studying its regions, states, and cities. The program also develops mapping skills. Students work in the computer lab to research and prepare a report on one of various Florida's industries. Field trips are scheduled to study the history and development of Florida including the Barnacle Historic State Parke and the Cape Florida Lighthouse. The students assemble a Florida notebook.
- Science Lab –Harcourt -The students receive instruction in the Science Lab two times a week. The curriculum includes: Life Science (cells, differences in animals, plants and fungi, human digestive system and nutrition, and bird adaptation), Earth Science (minerals, rocks, fossils, and landforms) Physical Science (forces, motion, simple machines, sound and light energy)
- Physical Education - All K5 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in P.E twice a week. Students are introduced to various sports, health related fitness activities (Presidential test preparation and testing), games, sports rules, basic motor skills, safety awareness, and receive a foundation for knowledge, skills and motivation to remain in a healthy and active lifestyle.
- Handwriting – Scot Foresman - D'Nealian- The handwriting curriculum emphasizes self-evaluation and practice of cursive handwriting. The program includes the practice of: letters (a – z), copying poems and letters in best cursive, and evaluating student's own handwriting using a rubric
- Art – Students receive one hour of art classes each week. The art curriculum includes design, color, weaving a craft project for the Miami-Dade Youth Fair, drawing, perspective, watercolor techniques.
- Spanish - The Spanish Program at KCS combines computer games, movies, and tapes with traditional techniques to offer the highest education by engaging, challenging and entertaining the students in the four basic areas of speech, audition, reading and writing. Daily classes of 30 minutes each are offered for K5 – 5<sup>th</sup> grades. Students from third to fifth grades build on what they have learned. They continue to expand their vocabulary, using it in day-to-day situations so their conversations start to get longer and more complex. Spelling and writing

styles specific to Spanish are also reinforced, and complemented with other cultural events such as the projects and presentations of the Hispanic Heritage Week. Our Spanish program is for everyone – students are not required to have a prior knowledge of the language and because of the small class sizes and the personal attention given to each individual, learning and progress are quickly accomplished

- Music - Students receive one hour of music instruction each week. Fourth grade students are introduced to music history by studying classical composers. Music appreciation establishes musical difference and similarities in various pieces. The bass clef as well as major and harmonic minor scales, triads, key signatures, cadences, and rhythmic dictation are some of the topics included in the music theory curriculum. In addition to this, students participate in two musical performances.
- Library – Students visit the library weekly for book reviews, introduction to award winning literature/authors, learn research skills, and to prepare for class book reports. Students gain knowledge to complete an online book report. A print-rich environment stimulates a love of reading.
- Special Activities/field trips-The fourth graders study early South Florida history by visiting one of the oldest houses in Miami-Dade County, the 19<sup>th</sup> century home of Ralph Munroe at the Barnacle Historic State Park. They learn about the development of Coconut Grove and the preservation of its natural environment. They also learn the history behind the Cape Florida Lighthouse by visiting the Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park in Key Biscayne and taking a tour of the lighthouse and the keeper's cottage. Fourth graders also participate in the Biscayne Explorer Day Program at Biscayne National Park, a one day hands-on experience exposing students to scientific experiments in the areas of native plant identification, food webs, and water quality.

### **Grade Five**

Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum strives to prepare students academically, spiritually, and socially for a successful transition to middle school.

- Bible - Positive Action Bible For Christ - Our students learn about people from the Old Testament to discover character traits and how this can apply to their own lives. They also learn how the Old Testament scriptures point toward Christ as the Savior. Scripture verses are discussed and memorized each week. Skits are also prepared and presented in chapel 2-3 times each year.
- Social Studies/History - Macmillan/McGraw-Hill – Fifth graders learn about United States history. They learn about Native Americans, European explorers, settlements of English colonies, the American Revolution, our Constitution, federal government, the Civil War and reconstruction, U.S. in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and current events such as the electoral process. Geography skills are also taught in each chapter.
- Science Lab –Harcourt -The students receive instruction in the Science Lab two times a week. The curriculum includes: Life Science (classification, animal/plant cells, and human body systems), Earth Science (earth's surface, earthquakes,

volcanoes, the sun and other stars, Florida's ecosystems) Physical Science (atoms, elements, kinetic –vs-potential energy, and motion)

- Language Arts - Open Court & McGraw-Hill – Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum includes review of basic grammar skills and also instruction and practice writing poetry; expository, narrative, persuasive, and informative essays. 5<sup>th</sup> graders also write a research report with the computer teacher. Our fifth graders learn and practice spelling strategies weekly with words that have the same pattern or sound, and also learn vocabulary words from the reading text for that particular week. We also challenge our 5<sup>th</sup> graders with more difficult words, including words from the Miami Herald Spelling Bee lists.
- Reading - Open Court – Our students read a wide variety of genres in class, and refine their comprehension skills to understand the selections. They also read a book independently each month and write a book report on their selection, explaining the characters, setting, and lessons the author was trying to teach. Each student also participates in our annual book character parade based on their selection.
- Math - Silver Burdett Ginn – Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum reviews basic skills of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division – using larger numbers, decimals, and fractions. They also learn geometry skills, how to find perimeter, area, and volume of figures. Problem solving skills are practiced weekly; and ratio, percent, and probability are introduced. Learning how to use calculators are also a part of our 5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum.
- Art – Students receive one hour of art classes each week. The art curriculum includes: sculpture using paper mache which is entered in the Miami-Dade Youth Fair, drawing, cartooning, painting with acrylics, creating a collage.
- Spanish - The Spanish Program at KCS combines computer games, movies, and tapes with traditional techniques to offer the quality education by engaging, challenging and entertaining the students in the four basic areas of speech, audition, reading and writing. Daily classes of 30 minutes each are offered for all levels. Students from third to fifth grades build on what they have learned. They continue to expand their vocabulary, using it in day-to-day situations so their conversations start to get longer and more complex. Spelling and writing styles specific to Spanish are also reinforced, and complemented with other cultural events such as the projects and presentations of the Hispanic Heritage Week. Our Spanish program is for everyone – students are not required to have a prior knowledge of the language and because of the small class sizes and the personal attention given to each individual, learning and progress are quickly accomplished.
- Music - Students receive one hour of music instruction each week. Fourth grade students are introduced to music history by studying classical composers. Music appreciation establishes musical difference and similarities in various pieces. The bass clef as well as major and harmonic minor scales, triads, key signatures, cadences, and rhythmic dictation are some of the topics included in the music theory curriculum. In addition to this, students participate in two musical performances.
- Special Activities – Fifth grade students participate in school-wide activities, including field day, 100<sup>th</sup> day of school, book character parade, school spirit days, sports field trips (i.e. tennis, NASCAR). The 5<sup>th</sup> grade class experiences a 3 day

- camping trip in Biscayne National Park (Elliott Key), and a field trip to Everglades National Park; both coordinated with the Science curriculum.
- Safety Patrol – Our fifth graders participate in the AAA (American Automobile Association) Safety Patrol Program. Each student learns how to properly display the American flag. Every student helps each morning and afternoon with safety in the parking lot, reminding students and parents to walk in the crosswalks. They also escort students to class on rainy days. For every two weeks of service, they earn pins, moving in rank from private to captain. At the end of the school year, if they have attained the rank of captain, students have the opportunity to go on a 3 day merit trip to Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure in Orlando. The funds for this trip are earned through various fund raisers such as bake sales, calendar sales, pizza lunches, and our annual breakfast buffet. These events are fun and also provide a service to the school community. By the end of the school year the fifth graders feel quite a sense of responsibility and accomplishment because of their service. This will help them be all the more prepared for middle school.