

LAKE MARY

PREPARATORY SCHOOL



LOWER SCHOOL
**CURRICULUM
GUIDE**

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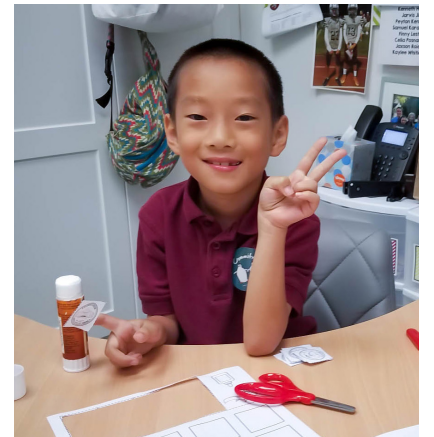
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the Lower School at LMP! Our students are success stories as a result of our highly qualified, dedicated staff and supportive parents. We offer a safe, nurturing, and academically rigorous learning environment that builds strong foundations in our scholars. As educators, we take a whole-child approach to learning, and therefore we provide academic, social, and emotional learning experiences. The relationships built in our community are at the heart of what we value most at LMP and we encourage our scholars to take advantage of the opportunities we provide. Please visit our website, tour our campus, and further explore all that Lake Mary Preparatory School has to offer.



Lynna Varitek
Lower School Principal



MISSION, VISION, VALUES

At Lake Mary Preparatory School, our goal is to ignite the full academic potential of every student. We use a whole-child approach to learning that promotes intellectual, emotional, and social growth while emphasizing problem-solving, critical thinking, and higher-order reasoning. This approach engages students in their development and encourages them to take ownership of their decisions and actions.

MISSION

To ignite the full potential of every student by preparing them academically, socially, and emotionally so they can succeed in an ever-changing world around them.

VISION

Create a safe learning environment surrounded by a culture of meaningful feedback, pedagogies, critical thinking, and challenging academics that inspire students to own their individual academic success and become responsible global citizens.

CORE VALUES

We believe in **UNITY**. We are a caring, compassionate, diverse community composed of different beliefs and traditions celebrating commonalities in our experiences. We embrace the **FUTURE**. We create a school-wide culture filled with new pedagogies for teaching, learning, and moving education forward. We embrace **INTEGRITY**. It is our moral compass, defining our character, behavior, and the origin of our decisions. We trust in **TEAMWORK**. Individually we achieve goals; collectively we accomplish exceptional results.

WE are Lake Mary Prep.



SPECIAL EVENTS, FIELD TRIPS, CLUBS, AND ACTIVITIES

After Care Program

Band

Back to School Night

Book Fair

Chorus

Concerts

Family Prom

Festival of Trees

Field Day

Fifth Grade Tallahassee Field Trip

Fifth Grade Moving Up Celebration

Game Night

Homecoming Week

International Dot Day

Meet the Teacher

NEHS

New Parent Orientation

Odyssey of the Mind

Orchestra

Peace Day

Pep Rallies

Pioneer Day

PreK4 Promotion

Safety Patrol

Spooky Literacy Night

STEAM Night

Student Government

Student-Led Conferences

Theater

Track or Treat



LANGUAGE ARTS

Lake Mary Prep fosters a lifelong love of reading by increasing children's skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. LMP implements Lucy Calkins Units of Study as a primary curriculum to meet the expectations of our high standards. An authentic text-rich environment blended with explicit instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension is structured through the whole group, guided and independent reading practice. Students are challenged to think critically through differentiated instruction that meets the needs of all learners. Our primary teachers are trained to use the Orton-Gillingham approach using sight, hearing, touch, and movement to help students connect language with letters and words.

The LMP scholar will learn to write in an increasingly complex and precise manner. Children begin to learn the often difficult but exciting task of putting their words and thoughts on paper. They eventually learn that there are different purposes for writing and that the style of writing changes with the purpose. Our scholars build strong foundations in writing while learning to develop and express clearly and creatively.

Linking reading and writing is imperative as our scholars learn to critically think and respond to literature while practicing the craft of writing through a reading and writing workshop approach. Individual student conferences are routinely led by highly trained educators to build a strong foundation and lasting commitment to learning.



PRESCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS

Our PreK offers a safe, supportive learning environment for children to grow and develop. Get Set For School and Handwriting Without Tears are the primary curriculum implemented in the preschool. Children who master handwriting are better, and more creative writers.

The earlier we teach children to master handwriting, the more likely they are to succeed in school, and write with speed and ease in all subjects. We use fun, engaging, and developmentally appropriate instructional methods throughout instruction in the preschool.

Play-based learning, music, hands-on materials, and active participation are integrated into the daily routine to help young learners develop physical, social-behavioral and language skills. The PreK scholar develops concepts of print, phonological awareness, print motivation, and awareness through various hands-on methods. Research shows that children who attend high-quality early childhood programs learn more and are better prepared to master the complexity of formal schooling in years to come. Our program aims to develop the whole child by providing academic, social, and emotional experiences that promote a love of school and learning for years to come.

SOCIAL STUDIES

American history, geography, economics, civics, and government are at the heart of our social studies curriculum. Cooperative learning activities range from mapping, graphing, and role-playing, to read aloud and analyzing primary sources. Blended learning experiences include interactive student notebooks and digital courseware. Historical inquiry and analysis will guide the instruction through storytelling, authentic text, and literature. Students learn the story of our democratic ideals, communities, and people throughout our curriculum.



PEACEBUILDER PLEDGE

I am a PeaceBuilder. I Pledge...

- To praise people
- To give up put-downs
- To seek wise people
- To notice and speak up about hurts I have caused
- To right wrongs
- To help others

I will build peace at home, at school, and in my community each day.



SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Social-emotional learning (SEL) is incorporated into all curricular areas in such a way that social, emotional, and moral growth are the core of academic learning. A meaningful framework is created for students' moral and ethical development in their daily learning.

By incorporating aspects of emotional awareness, conflict resolution, social skills training, and service learning into the curriculum, students are given frequent opportunities to develop and practice strategies that allow them to address complex social, emotional, and ethical dilemmas. Through classroom activities, small group instruction, role-play, and schoolwide awareness programs, students develop personal responsibility, attitudes of tolerance and become informed global citizens. Students engage in meaningful independent and cooperative problem solving to address complex social issues.

Second Step is a classroom-based, social-emotional learning curriculum for Kindergarten through Grade 5 that nurtures children's social-emotional competence and foundational learning skills. Through a holistic approach, the Second Step program aims to create a safer, more positive school community.

S.T.E.A.M. (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS, MATHEMATICS)

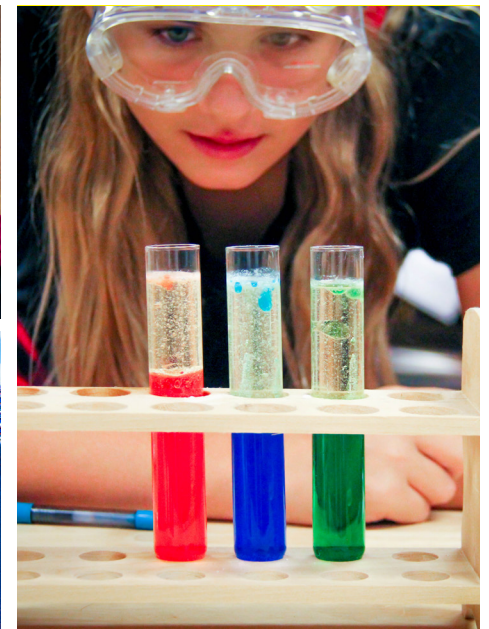
SCIENCE

Our Lower School Science standards are primarily implemented using Picture Perfect Science, a NGSS-aligned, cross-curricular program that grounds scientific meaning through the use of picture books and inquiry-based exploration. Our scholars will develop skills including solution-designing, analyzing and interpreting data, engaging in evidence-based argument and effectively communicating information. Students demonstrate their mastery of science concepts using real-world, student-led problem-based learning opportunities. Additional learning experiences in Makerspace and Think Tank further engage students in critical thinking, collaboration and creativity.



MAKERSPACE

Collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving are the foundation for the Lower School Makerspace. Using a variety of materials including Code-a-Pillars, LEGO building blocks, Snap Circuits, Claymation software, Robotics, and more, students work in collaborative groups to plan, design, build, and create. Real science and engineering experience are gained through tinkering, which is a powerful form of experiential learning. In the Lower School Makerspace, if students can dream it, they can make it!



TECHNOLOGY

Technology supports the curriculum throughout the classroom. LMP offers a 1:1 device to student ratio, these devices are used to enhance learning. Our goal is to teach students what they need to know at each grade level, allowing technology to advance their learning and educate students to be good citizens of the digital world. Students demonstrate age-appropriate knowledge of technology, solve common tech problems, and demonstrate the use of and appropriateness of various tech tools. Expected learning outcomes revolve around success in the grade-level curriculum. You will know students have reached their goals because they will excel in all related academic areas. Students in PreK through Grade 3 use iPads and in Grades 4 & 5, students use MacBooks to prepare them with the keyboarding and technology skills to transition into Grade 6.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAM

LMP Strives to develop independent learners and is committed to helping each student reach their unique learning potential. The Academic Support Program serves students with learning challenges to help them succeed in a college preparatory setting. Our learning specialist collaborates with teachers and parents to design individualized level support that will help build the academic foundation that students need to meet their learning potential.



ENGINEERING & CRITICAL THINKING IN THINK TANK

Think Tank is a STEAM-infused critical thinking class for Kindergarten through fifth grade. Inspired by the creative problem-solving program Odyssey of the Mind, the Think Tank curriculum builds critical thinking skills in the students through STEAM-based problem-solving activities. From engineering and the design process to coding, logic, and collaboration, the Think Tank uses STEAM skills to teach students how to think critically, equipping them with the 21st Century skills they will need for the future ahead.



THE ARTS

Children of all abilities gain an appreciation for art as they manipulate clay, paper mache, chalk, oil pastels, paint, fiber arts, and glass. During the year, we focus on the elements of art: shape, line, color, texture, value, space, and form. Scholars immerse themselves into the world of art history and learn about the life of artists as they become creators themselves imitating the techniques of the artists. Students foster creativity, self-expression, confidence, and an understanding that their work is unique and of value.



MUSIC

The students in our Preschool and Kindergarten music program experience many different styles of music and movement. They learn a range of songs from traditional early childhood repertoire to current hits. Movement is expressed through creative dancing, choreography, and using ribbon streamers and scarves to show individual interpretations of the music. Kindergarten students explore music with instruments such as xylophones, drums, rhythm sticks, and recorders. Each student performs in four annual performances resulting in the child demonstrating their singing ability and concert etiquette.



VIOLIN

In first through third grade, students will have the opportunity to learn to play the violin. The students learn to work as a team by playing music together as an ensemble. They perform in four concerts annually. The songs range from traditional folk songs to current radio hits, which inspire the students to improve because the songs are familiar and engaging. Music fundamentals such as rhythm, pitch, beat, and tone are reinforced by singing and being able to play each song on the violin.

CHORUS

All students in fourth and fifth grade take Chorus as part of their musical education. Students learn to sing in unison, and read sheet music in parts of a variety of musical genres. Our music selections are varied and expose students to music from different time periods. Chorus students may also participate in sporting events to sing the National Anthem.

ORCHESTRA

Fourth and fifth grade students have the option to choose orchestra so they continue their string education and have the choice of playing the violin, viola, or cello. Students begin to read standard music notation, play orchestra literature typically performed by middle school ensembles, and are able to achieve advanced musicality because the students have learned string instrument fundamentals in first through third grade. Students perform in four annual concerts and prepare to continue playing in the Middle School Orchestra. The music performed has independent parts, which challenge students and improve their critical thinking skills, teamwork, and self-confidence. When the independent parts are combined, music ranging from famous classical pieces to music from movies and radio motivate students to improve their playing and enhance their love for music.

BAND

Students who choose Band in fourth and fifth grade focus on the instrument selection process, music theory, fundamentals of music and instrumental performance. Band instruments include the flute, saxophone, clarinet, trombone, trumpet, and percussion instruments. Students follow a beginning band curriculum and learn the aligned foundational skills of their chosen instrument. Students participate in a minimum of four on-campus performances each year and work to collaboratively make music as a band.



THEATER

Fourth and Fifth-grade students will engage in active warm-ups and theatre games to help them move from dramatizations with simple plots to ones with more complex plots, characters, and ideas. Pantomime (non-verbal movement) develops from early stages of spontaneity and imitation to structured movement that communicates specific emotions and ideas. LS Theater program unit studies include: observation, creating ensemble, establishing environment/a character/an objective, focus and concentration, utilizing voice and stage directions. Grades 4 and 5 also have the opportunity to perform in a full production on the LMP stage.

MATHEMATICS

LMP proudly implements Singapore Math as a primary curriculum to meet its high standards. Supporters of Singapore Math credit the Singaporean methods of instruction and curriculum for its students' success. While American math instruction often relies on drilling and memorization of many skills each year, Singapore Math focuses on children not just learning, but also truly mastering a limited number of concepts each school year. The goal is for children to perform well because they understand the material on a deeper level.

The sequence of topics in Singapore Math has been carefully constructed based upon child development theory. At LMP the means to mastery is problem-solving, and the beauty of the approach is that the majority of students are well prepared to tackle difficult topics, such as fractions and ratios when they are introduced in the third through fifth grades. Those students are then typically ready for algebra and geometry in middle school.

Students in the same classroom may learn the concepts at different paces, but ultimately they all learn them and develop their own solid foundation for further math learning. This prevents the need for reteaching as students move to the next grade. Scholarly mathematicians are developed as a result of the methods used in LMP's math instruction.



PRESCHOOL MATHEMATICS

In Preschool, students develop a foundational understanding of counting skills using manipulatives, games, and Numicon, our primary math curriculum. Numicon uses a multi-sensory approach that raises achievement across all mathematics ability levels. It develops mathematical fluency by using a visual, practical base to develop conceptual understanding and fluent recall. Numicon helps children to reason mathematically through the use of concrete objects and spoken language to explain and justify. Utilizing problem-solving, reasoning and conversation at its heart, Numicon ensures every child can enjoy success in mathematics.

ENRICHMENT

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

In the Lower School, PreK3 through fifth grade is immersed in an inclusive and culturally rich Spanish environment. Language acquisition is taught through songs, stories, games, activities, and authentic literature. Learning is enhanced through the use of interactive technology. Students are actively engaged in experiencing other cultures and participating in school-based events that celebrate the pride of their own personal heritage.



LIBRARY

The library supports and promotes student reading and a lifelong love of books. Students are exposed to a variety of literature through storytelling, book discussions, and author studies which help them discover the genre of books they will enjoy. The library hosts book fairs that encourage participation in the Sunshine State Young Readers Program, Battle of the Books, and book clubs to expand literacy in our community. Our library is an inviting place where reading and information literacy is honored.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The physical education program fosters a love of lifelong physical health. Developmentally appropriate activities and milestones is the foundation of our physical education curriculum. Preschool and Kindergarten students learn to ride bicycles without support. Primary grades learn the skills needed to participate in team activities. Intermediate grades apply those skills with a focus on teamwork and sportsmanship by participating in a variety of sports. Students are well prepared to pursue future involvement in LMP's athletic programs and lifelong physical well-being.



EXTENDED PROGRAMS

KID POWER

Kid Power is an after school program that provides supervised care and guided activities for students in grades PreK3 through Grade 5. The aftercare program begins immediately after dismissal until 6:00 p.m. Kid Power provides the students with engaging activities, games, arts & crafts, outdoor recreation, and homework assistance. During Kid Power, the students are given a variety of activities that correlate with a weekly theme. Children are actively engaged in team building, games, and fun activities.

Kid Power creates a place for students to connect with their peers, establish new friendships, and develop social skills. Parents are able to maintain a level of comfort knowing their children are secure on campus until they are able to pick them up. Our employees are hired with prior experience, first aid and CPR training, and leadership qualities to ensure that each child is taken care of properly.



EXTRACURRICULAR ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Community School is a fun and exciting after-school extracurricular program that is offered for students in PreK3 through fifth grade. Community School is a great way for students to enhance their school day by participating with their peers in activities outside of the classroom. These classes are instructed by highly trained teachers, staff, and outside vendors.

The Intramural Sports program allows coaches and upper school athletes to teach third through fifth grade students the fundamentals, rules, sportsmanship, and teamwork of various sports. Our vision is to introduce students to new sports in a safe and friendly environment that allows quality time for practice, development of skills, knowledge, and rules of selected sports leading to the opportunity to compete in junior varsity and varsity sports. Baseball, archery, soccer, basketball, and volleyball are just a few of the programs offered for our developing athletes.

SUMMER PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Lake Mary Preparatory School offers various academic, athletic, and specialty summer programs for students in PreK3 through 12th grade. All programs are located at Lake Mary Preparatory School and fit the needs of each individual student. Programs begin in June and run until August.

Academic and Speciality Programs

From academics to the fine and performing arts, we offer weeks of curriculum-focused fun! Immersing students in hands-on, experiential learning is such an important part of Lake Mary Preparatory School's academic program and allows students to learn new skills, let their creativity blossom, and have a ton of fun!

Athletic Programs

Our athletic programs gives campers the chance to learn techniques and grow their game with the help of talented, supportive coaches preparing them for a new season.



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Accredited by FCIS, SAIS, and AdvancED

Lake Mary Preparatory School (LMP) admits students of any race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. LMP does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, and national or ethnic origin in administration of its employment practices, educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic or other school-administered programs.