

ACADEMICS

The educational program of each child, though similar because of a common nature, nevertheless differs according to the individual needs, personality, and achievement.

Students in grades four through eight participate in a departmental educational program. The curriculum is designed to meet both state and diocesan standards.

Students in Pre K, Kindergarten and to Grade 3 participate in a self-contained educational program.

Pre-school and Kindergarten follow the traditional educational philosophy based on PA academic standards.

The Pre-School Program is conducted five days a week in either half or full day sessions, depending on age:

a.m.	7:45 to 11:00
all day	7:45 to 2:35

The class will consist of either 3, 4 or 5 year old students who will work in a Traditional Education Environment with age appropriate Materials, progressing on an individual readiness.

A continuous program of instruction concerned with the needs of the individual student is offered. Every effort is made to challenge all students to advance at his/her own rate.

Basic to the curriculum are the following subjects: Religion, Language Arts (includes: phonics, grammar, vocabulary, spelling, reading, listening and speaking skills) Social Studies (including Pennsylvania History), Science, Mathematics, Accelerated Math, Music, Art, Physical Education and Computer Literacy.

ACCELERATED MATH

A course in accelerated math is offered to students in the sixth, seventh and eighth grade who qualify. This course is designed to provide students with the challenge needed to fit into honors courses at Holy Redeemer High School.

ACCELERATED READING PROGRAM

The Accelerated Reading Program is an integral part of the reading program and is offered year round. In this program, students build their reading level at their own pace.

ART EDUCATION

An Art program is provided for our students in Grades Pre K through 8. Students while learning the elements and principles of design learn respect for themselves, others and an appreciation of God's world through Art.

COMPUTERS

The Computer Lab is equipped with Dell computers which are networked within the school and connected to the Internet. Class is scheduled for the Computer Lab. The Lab is open for student access outside of class by special arrangements with the Lab Instructor.

MUSIC EDUCATION

The Music program is considered an integral part of the curriculum. The program includes instruction in music appreciation and theory as well as Spiritual Choral preparation for student liturgies and prayer services.

LIBRARY

The library is open each day during school hours. Each class is assigned a library period once a week. The library is also available to students for research work when necessary. The library is well stocked with up-to-date periodicals, books and reference materials.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

P. E. is provided for our students on a weekly basis. Students are taught the ideals of good sportsmanship as well as the appropriate behavior necessary to sports and activities related to a well rounded P.E. program.

Parents **MUST** have a yearly physical examination for their children prior to the beginning of the P. E. and sports programs and notify the school of any condition that exists that may hinder the child in either P. E. class or sports. The school will **NOT** assume responsibility for incidents that occur due to physical conditions not made known to the school prior to the commencement of the P.E. or sports programs.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Catholic religious education is presented on a daily basis to all students.

In the Religious Education Program we endeavor to help our students develop an attitude of acceptance and respect of each individual person because of his/her dignity as a person and a child of God.

The Religious Education Program touches many aspects of daily Christian living. Central to the Program is the development of respect for all, self-discipline, and self-control.

Students in Grade 2 are prepared for the sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist as a part of the Religion curriculum.

Sacramental prep for Confirmation will be done in 5th Grade. Students who are in grades 6, 7, and 8 are eligible for this Sacrament. The final instruction for this Sacrament takes place in school one year prior to the reception of the Sacrament. This instruction is inculcated into the Religion curriculum at that time.

All sacraments are received at the Home Parish of the student.

REMEDIAL COURSES

A course in remedial math is provided to eligible students through the cooperation of LIU #18.

Remedial Reading is provided to eligible students under Title I. Remedial reading instruction takes place through a computer program designed especially for each individual student.

SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Support Program offers students with special needs who are mainstreamed in a regular classroom, students who require make-up work, or students in need of individual testing, with the opportunity of one-on-one instruction with certified support staff.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The After School Program is held on school grounds for a nominal fee and gives each child time for play, homework, videos, snack and games. The program runs daily from 2:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. **and will run** on early dismissal days, both scheduled and those due to bad weather from 11:00 am to 5:45 pm. It **will not** operate on snow days and scheduled days off.

All students planning to use the program must be pre-registered by Friday for the next week.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

The following procedures have been set up with the safety of the children in mind:

BUS RIDERS: will be dropped off in the morning at the main entrance. They are dismissed from this entrance.

CAR RIDERS: All students are to enter the school through the main front door (no earlier than 7:30 am). Therefore, parents have an option to either park in the lot and walk their children to the front door or pull up and drop children off. We will continue to have someone to help children exit cars and, again, we ask parents not to get out of cars so as to keep traffic moving. It is important that traffic does not back up onto Wyoming Avenue.

Parents are not to walk children into the building.
Teachers will be available to supervise children.

No student is to go to the classrooms until the teacher on duty instructs them to. **For the safety of the students, this policy must be strictly adhered to every morning.**

Students will be dismissed out the side doors facing St. Cecilia's parking lot. Grades PK – 3 will be dismissed from the Sports Entrance (ramp) and Grades 4 – 8 will be dismissed from the side door nearest the front of the school. Parents are to wait for their children outside the building near the door or in the parking lot. Parents are asked not to come into the school to wait for their children in the hallways or entrance ways.

PRESCHOOL:

Arrival: Please follow procedure for Car Riders.

Dismissal will be as follows:

Students will be dismissed by the side Sports Entrance facing the parking lot.

Bad Winter Days: On bad winter weather days, we will **not** use the Sports Entrance at dismissal. Ice sometimes accumulates on the sidewalks and ramp. On these days, **all students** will be dismissed from the side entrance nearest the front of the school.

DAILY SCHEDULE

The school opens at 7:30 a.m. Students must be in the building **no later than 7:45 a.m.** Dismissal begins at 2:25 p.m. with bus riders, except when noted on the school calendar. Car riders in Grades Pre-K to 3 will begin dismissal at 2:35 p.m. and car riders in Grades 4 to 8 will be dismissed starting at 2:45 p.m.

DISCIPLINE/HOMEWORK GRADES 4 TO 8

Conduct:

When a student breaks a classroom rule or is disruptive, uncooperative, or disrespectful in any manner as deemed unacceptable by the principal or classroom teacher, that student will be giving one demerit by the principal or the teacher.

Dress Code Violations:

When a student receives 3 uniform notices, one demerit will be issued to that student. See "Dress Code" below for requirements.

When a student accumulates 3 demerits, that student will be issued a detention. Detention will be held from 2:45 pm to 3:30 pm Monday through Thursday. The homeroom teacher in each grade will track the demerits. Detentions will be held after school only, not during the day. Detentions must be served the day after the 3rd demerit is given. Detention notices as well as demerit notices will be sent home to parents. A parent needs to sign the form and return it the next day.

Detention must be served regardless of other commitments.

Serious infraction of the school rules will be dealt with by the principal and may result in immediate detention or suspension.

Consistent inappropriate behavior may lead to a student being put on a behavioral contract. If a student continues to misbehave, that student will lose privileges such as, but not limited to, participation in classroom parties, field trips, sports, clubs, etc.

DRESS CODE

NOTE: Shirts must be tucked into skirts, pants, shorts and skirts at all times!!

DRESS CODE REQUIRED FOR GIRLS

(K-3) WAC uniform jumper with a blue or white peter pan uniform blouse; navy knee socks or tights; dark color school shoes. (No clogs or half backs).

(4 -8) WAC uniform skirt; navy vest; blue or white peter pan uniform blouse or oxford cloth button down collar blouse; navy knee socks or tights; dark color school shoes (no clogs or half backs).

Skirts are knee length. School shoes must be worn. For safety reasons, heels above two inches are not allowed. Ballet type shoes, brightly colored shoes or decorated shoes may not be worn.

Purses are not allowed in school at any time.

Belts: Belts must be worn - Plain brown or black. No other colors, no designs, no sparkles. Belts should not hang that they need to be placed in a pocket.

School Shoes: Dark colors, loafer or dress style

Heels on shoes should be less than 2 inches (Safety)

No sandals, no ballet-type shoes, no sneakers, no canvas, no boots, no climbing shoes or boots, no open back/clog style shoes, no shoes in colors other than black, navy blue or brown, no shoes with ornamentation of any kind.

Blouses: White or blue peter pan uniform blouse or oxford cloth button down collar blouse. No tee shirts, no pullovers. No colored tee shirts may be worn under uniform blouses.

WACS Jumpers and Skirts: Jumper and Skirt must be knee length.

Socks: Plain navy socks - no designs, no other colors.

Headbands: The only headbands girls are permitted to wear are the uniform headband purchased at Flynn & O'Hara or plain solid color headband. No other headbands are acceptable – no ornamentation on headbands.

Makeup/Nail Polish: **No makeup** is permitted. Artificial nails are **not** permitted and **only clear nail polish** may be worn.

Jewelry: Girls may wear **one pair of post type** earrings only – no other piercing. Watches may be worn but **no other types** of wrist bands or wrist jewelry. A religious cross or medal may be worn by no other types of neck jewelry are permitted. One ring per hand may be worn.

OPTIONS: October 15 to April 15

Girls Grade K-3 may wear blue turtleneck with school initials.
Girls Grade 4-8 may wear blue turtleneck with school initials and navy v-neck sweater with school logo.

Girls may wear navy blue slacks (no corduroys, jeans, leggings or other shade of blue) with a WACS cardigan sweater (K-3) or WACS v-neck sweater (4-8)

Sneakers may not be worn.

OPTIONS: Start of school to October 15 & April 15 to end of school

All students may wear navy dress shorts (NO cargo shorts will be allowed) no shorter than 2 inches above the knee and no longer than 2 inches below the knee. Girls may wear skorts.

Girls may wear WACS polo shirts with the shorts, skort or uniform skirt only from start of school to October 15 and from April 15 to end of school.

Non scuffing sneakers may be worn with shorts or skorts. No sneakers with long pants or skirts.

DRESS CODE FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS

October 15th to April 15th -- navy uniform sweats with school logo, white socks, and sneakers. **No other sweats or sweatshirts** may be worn. Navy wind suit jacket and pants with school logo may also be worn.

Start of school to October 15th & April 15th to end of school - navy/white uniform sweat shorts with school logo, navy or white uniform tee shirt, white socks, sneakers. Sneakers have to be full sneakers –NO HALF BACK OR CLOG SNEAKERS ARE TO BE WORN (NO form of open heal sneakers may be worn.)

No “Spirit Wear” except on dress down days.

DRESS CODE REQUIRED FOR BOYS

Navy dress slacks (no corduroys, jeans, or other shade of blue);
Light blue or white dress shirt with navy tie or WAC polo shirt. The Uniform navy pull over sweater is the only one acceptable. Dark color dress shoes and socks are required. Sneakers may not be worn.

School shoes must be worn. Sneaker type shoes or boots not allowed.

Belts: Belts must be worn - Plain brown or black. No other colors, no designs, no sparkles. Belts should not hang that they need to be placed in a pocket.

School Shoes: Dark colors, loafer or dress style

Heels on shoes should be less than 2 inches (Safety)

No sandals, no sneakers, no canvas, no boots, no climbing shoes or boots, no open back/clog style shoes, no shoes in colors other than black, navy blue or brown, no shoes with ornamentation of any kind.

Navy Pants: Navy blue uniform long pants. Navy blue dress shorts are an option from start of school until October 15th and from April 15th until the end of school. No cargo pants, no designs, no jeans.

Socks: Navy or black socks - no designs, no other colors.

Jewelry: Boys are **not** permitted to wear earrings. Watches may be worn but **no other types** of wrist bands or wrist jewelry. A religious cross or medal may be worn but no other types of neck jewelry are permitted. One ring per hand may be worn.

OPTIONS: October 15 to April 15

Boys Grade K-8 may wear long sleeve polo shirts or dress shirts with navy tie.

The navy V-neck uniform sweater may be worn over the shirt.

Sneakers may not be worn.

OPTIONS: Start of school to October 15 & April 15 to end of school

All students may wear navy dress shorts (NO cargo shorts will be allowed) no shorter than 2 inches above the knee and no longer than 2 inches below the knee.

Non scuffing sneakers may be worn with shorts. No sneakers with long pants.

DRESS CODE FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS

October 15th to April 15th -- navy uniform sweats with school logo, white socks, and sneakers. **No other sweats or sweatshirts** may be worn. Navy wind suit jacket and pants with school logo may also be worn.

Start of school to October 15th & April 15th to end of school - navy/white uniform sweat shorts with school logo, navy or white uniform tee shirt, white socks, sneakers. Sneakers have to be full sneakers –NO HALF BACK OR CLOG SNEAKERS ARE TO BE WORN (NO form of open heal sneakers may be worn).

No “Spirit Wear” except on dress down days.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY

Families having students participating in competitive programs are required to pay an annual fee of \$25.00. This fee contributes to the continual restoration of sports uniforms, balls, etc. Special envelopes are provided to students for this fee early in September.

All students who participate in sports of any kind must have a doctor's permission form and proof of family insurance coverage prior to beginning. If this is not available, the student may not participate in the sports programs.

Boys and girls in Grades 4 through 8 may participate in basketball, flag football, volleyball and soccer programs. Boys and girls in Grades 5 through 8 may participate in the cross country program. Boys and girls in Grade 3 may participate in basketball.

Girls in Grades 5 through 8 may participate in cheerleading. Girls who are already in the program may remain in it as long as all requirements are met.

Boys and girls in Grades 3 to 8 may participate in Chess.

Forensics is open to students in Grades 5 through 8.
Junior Forensics is open to students in Grades 3 & 4.

All students are eligible for sports provided they have met the above requirements. **Also, any student failing two (2) or more subjects at the mid-point in the quarter will be placed on Athletic Probation and may not participate in any extra-curricular activity until notified by the Principal that the probation has been lifted.**

FORENSICS

Forensics is open to students in grades 5 - 8. Forensics, the art of public speaking, is an optional exercise for students who are interested. The training takes place on a weekly basis, after school, for one hour. Students must have parental permission to join the Forensic League. Parents arrange for transportation for their children on the day they stay for Forensics. Forensics helps students build the skill of public speaking, sharpens the memory and lifts self-esteem.

LUNCH PROGRAM

A lunch program is available for students five days a week. The menu and cost are published on the monthly calendar. Milk and drinks can be purchased by the students. Milk is \$.10 per carton (subject to change). An application for free milk is given to each family at the beginning of the school year.

Snacks are available on a daily basis and will be in compliance with the Federal Lunch Program. Our kitchen is equipped with a microwave oven to heat lunches on an individual basis.

Any student who forgets their lunch will be served from our cafeteria and parents will be billed if necessary.

If a child **forgets** their lunch, parents may drop the lunch off at the office. These lunches shall not be from "fast food" restaurants (i.e.,

McDonalds, Burger King, etc.). This practice may not become habitual.

No food is permitted in the classrooms at any time.

REPORT CARDS

Report Cards are issued four times a year – once per quarter.

VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES

Volunteers play an integral part in the day-to-day operation of our school and their time and efforts are very much appreciated. In order to maintain secure conditions and an environment that is organized and meets the needs of our students, as well as follow policies on insurance coverage, all volunteers are required to adhere to the following:

1. All volunteers must report to the office, sign in, and take a “volunteer” badge and wear it for the entire time they all in the school building. At the end of their scheduled volunteer time, they must report to the office, sign out, and return the “volunteer” badge.
2. Volunteers are not to arrive more then 10 minutes before their scheduled time and must leave the building immediately after their scheduled time is over.
3. Volunteers may not wait for their children *inside* the building and may not take their children out of class early on a regular basis.
4. Volunteers must keep all student information, either seen or heard, confidential at all times.
5. The library *must be vacated* every day no later than 2:30 pm for Aftercare. Parents, and children not in Aftercare, will not be allowed in the library after that time.
6. Volunteers may not visit classrooms during the school day, including both before classes in the morning and at dismissal time, unless instructed by the office.

WELLNESS PROGRAM

A survey of parents indicated an overwhelming majority were in favor of a Wellness Policy in our school. A Wellness Committee has been formed consisting of a teacher, parents, our cafeteria manager and the principal. We are implementing the following Wellness Program:

Regarding classroom parties:

- teachers will coordinate classroom parties
 - limit of 2 sweets will be served
 - no goody (candy/food) bags
 - healthy items will also be encouraged
 - no soda
 - beverages: 100% fruit juice, plain water or flavored water, 1% or less milk
2. No Bake Sales – Raffles will be used for mission fundraisers
 3. Handwashing program – speakers will be brought in to speak to the students
 4. A minute or two of exercise will be encouraged either before or after each class.
 5. There will be a Birthday Dress Down Day designated every month for all students whose birthday is during that month. The Dress Down Birthday Day

will be shown on the monthly school calendar. The months of June, July, and August will be added to other months. On that day, students (whose birthday is during that month) may dress down and everyone in the cafeteria at lunch time will sing happy birthday to those students. A cupcake or other treat will be distributed to all students in celebration of those birthdays. Therefore, parents will not have to send in cupcakes on their child's birthday. The PTG will fund this program.

6. No food will be used as a form of punishment or reward.
7. Soda will not be served to students at any time.

The committee encourages all parents and caregivers to support the program. This program has been designed with our students' health in mind.