

*Encouraging Learning,  
Strengthening Families,  
Inspiring Legacies for God's Glory.*



**CIRCLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

**Lower School Course Guide  
2015-2016**

# CIRCLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## ***Academic Support Team***

**Deni Corbett** Academic Lead – Explorations  
denic@circlechristianschool.org

**Ruth Brown** Parent Activity Designer – Explorations  
ruthb@circlechristianschool.org

**Gretchen Simmonds** Academic Lead – Frameworks  
gretchens@circlechristianschool.org

**Cindy Pilling** Academic Lead – Foundations  
cindyp@circlechristianschool.org

**Becky Saunders** Director Circle Arts/CSA  
beckys@circlechristianschool.org

**Tim Werner** Athletic Director – KAP Lead  
timw@circlechristianschool.org



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>4</b>	<b><i>Complete Course Listing</i></b>
<b>6</b>	<b><i>Schedules</i></b>
<b>7</b>	<b><i>Explorations and Foundations</i></b>
<b>17</b>	<b><i>Frameworks</i></b>
<b>21</b>	<b><i>Circle Arts and Extracurricular Activities</i></b>
<b>26</b>	<b><i>Frequently Asked Questions</i></b>

## Complete Lower School Program and Class Listing

First Baptist Church Oviedo Campus		Calvary Assembly Winter Park Campus	
Monday	Thursday	Tuesday	Friday
<b>Academic Offerings (8:45 am-1:50 pm)</b>			
<p><b>Explorations (K4-4)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literature</li> <li>Communication</li> <li>Social Studies</li> <li>Science</li> <li>Drama/Music</li> <li>Art</li> </ul> <p><b>Frameworks (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literature Studies</li> <li>Writing Instruction</li> <li>Science</li> <li>History</li> </ul>	<p><b>Foundations (K4-6)</b> <i>Baroque World and Colonial America</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey of History</li> <li>Bible / Church History</li> <li>Survey of Science</li> <li>Survey of Visual Arts</li> <li>Survey of Performing Arts</li> </ul>	<p><b>Explorations (K4-4)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literature</li> <li>Communication</li> <li>Social Studies</li> <li>Science</li> <li>Drama/Music</li> <li>Art</li> </ul> <p><b>Frameworks (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literature Studies</li> <li>Writing Instruction</li> <li>Science</li> <li>History</li> </ul>	<p><b>Foundations (K4-6)</b> <i>Baroque World and Colonial America</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey of History</li> <li>Bible / Church History</li> <li>Survey of Science</li> <li>Survey of Visual Arts</li> <li>Survey of Performing Arts</li> </ul>
<b>Extracurricular Offerings (2:00-3:15 pm)</b>			
<p><b>Kids at Play (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Education and Group Playtime</li> </ul> <p><b>SClragous! Hands-On Science (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul> <p><b>Hands-On Science (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul> <p><b>Bricks 4 Kidz (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fun with Legos®</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amazing Artists (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art</li> </ul> <p><b>Kids at Play (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Education and Group Playtime</li> </ul> <p><b>First Stage Players (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Music, Movement, and Creative Play</li> </ul> <p><b>Circle Theatre Kids (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act and Perform</li> </ul> <p><b>Beginning Strummers (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar</li> </ul> <p><b>Intermediate Strummers (5-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar</li> </ul>	<p><b>Kids at Play (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Education and Group Playtime</li> </ul> <p><b>SClragous! Hands-On Science (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul> <p><b>Hands-On Science (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul> <p><b>Bricks 4 Kidz (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fun with Legos®</li> </ul>	<p><b>Kids at Play (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Education and Group Playtime</li> </ul> <p><b>First Stage Players (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Music, Movement, and Creative Play</li> </ul> <p><b>Circle Theatre Kids (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act and Perform</li> </ul> <p><b>Beginning Strummers (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar</li> </ul> <p><b>Intermediate Strummers (5-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar</li> </ul> <p><b>Zumba (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dance</li> </ul>

## Lower School Program and Class Listing Continued

Lake Nona Campus	
Monday	Friday
<b>Academic Offerings (8:45 am-1:50 pm)</b>	
<p><b>Foundations (K4-6)</b> <i>Baroque World and Colonial America</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey of History</li> <li>• Bible / Church History</li> <li>• Survey of Science</li> <li>• Survey of Visual Arts</li> <li>• Survey of Performing Arts</li> </ul>	<p><b>Explorations (K4-4)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature</li> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• Social Studies</li> <li>• Science</li> <li>• Drama/Music</li> <li>• Art</li> </ul> <p><b>Frameworks (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature Studies</li> <li>• Writing Instruction</li> <li>• Science</li> <li>• History</li> </ul>
<b>Extracurricular Offerings (2:00-3:15 pm)</b>	
<p><b>First Stage Players (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Music, Movement, and Creative Play</li> </ul> <p><b>Circle Theatre Kids (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act and Perform</li> </ul>	<p><b>SClragous! Hands-On Science (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul> <p><b>Hands-On Science (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul>

## Campus Schedule

2015-2016 course and program offerings will be available on the following days. Please note the campus location when choosing your course.

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
<b>LAKE NONA GCC Lower School</b>	Foundations K4-6				Explorations K4-4  Frameworks 4-6
<b>WINTER PARK Calvary Campus Lower &amp; Upper School</b>		Explorations K4-4  Frameworks 4-6  Extracurricular K4-6  Fundamentals 7-8  High School 9-12			Foundations K4-6  Extracurricular K4-6  Fundamentals 7-8  High School 9-12
<b>OVIEDO FBO Campus Lower School</b>	Explorations K4-4  Frameworks 4-6  Extracurricular K4-6			Foundations K4-6  Extracurricular K4-6	
<b>WINTER SPRINGS Metro Campus Upper School</b>	Fundamentals 7-8  High School 9-12		CSA 9-12  Circle Arts 7-12	Fundamentals 7-8  High School 9-12	

## Lower School Class Periods

All elementary programs (K4-6) share the same schedule.

<b>Program Begins</b> 8:45 am	<b>Program Ends</b> 1:50 pm	<b>Electives Begin</b> 2:00 pm	<b>Electives End</b> 3:15 pm
----------------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------------



# EXPLORATIONS

## FOUNDATIONS

Great stories encourage learning which is why the *Explorations* program and the *Foundations* program are all about the story! These two programs help parents teach in a hands-on, cohesive and inspired way.

The *Explorations* program (Grades K4-4) offers unit studies built around great children's literature. Hands-on lessons in communication, writing, social studies, science, and art make stories come to life in the classroom and at home. *Explorations* offers one page-turning adventure after another!

The *Foundations* program (Grades K4-6) embarks on a yearlong study of a single historical time-period, examining the events and culture of the era and the personal stories of real people which make them meaningful. This engaging learning environment employs a Biblical lens through which surveys of history, Bible/church history, science, visual arts, and performing arts are taught. Complementary literature recommendations provided.

In both programs, families are provided a roadmap that includes lesson extensions, project ideas, resources, and on-line activities for home instruction. Through unit-study learning, families can teach multiple-aged children, with various learning styles, at diverse reading levels while sitting around one table. Most importantly, everyone will have fun doing it! Write your own story – the story of your family's learning adventure!

***Circle is pleased to offer students in K4 the opportunity to register for Explorations. These students will not be enrolled as tuition-based students at Circle Christian School, but accepted as provisional students in the Explorations program. Students must be age four by September 1, 2015. In addition, there may be classroom readiness evaluations for children in this age group.***

# EXPLORATIONS

## Explorations K4-4

Learning Through Literature

Monday - Oviedo  
Tuesday - Winter Park  
Friday - Lake Nona

Academic Enrichment OR  
Core Academic Program

*“Childhood is the time and children's books are the place for powerful emotions, powerful language, powerful art.”*  
– Betsy Hearne, children's book reviewer and scholar

Explorations is a page-turning adventure through the wonderful world of children's literature. Using beautifully illustrated books as our launching pad, we explore literature, communications, social studies, science, music, and art in the classroom and at home. Explorations books are hand-picked by our leadership team to capture imagination, teach deep truths, excite innovation, and explore God's wonderful world. In 2015-16, we'll be exploring biographies that inspire, poetry that sings, folk tales that delight, and adventures that thrill. Each book is sure to become a family treasure, helping you build a library to delight your children (and grandchildren) for many years to come!

In Explorations' unit-study model, each academic activity and hands-on experience is connected to beautifully illustrated children's books, which results in a richly layered learning environment. Explorations classrooms especially focus on building literature, language arts, writing, and communication skills. Students also enjoy hands-on social studies and science explorations. Artistic technique and art appreciation are part of each class day. Classroom teachers also introduce weekly Bible verses and acquaint students with musical masterpieces. Explorations classes are divided as follows: K4, Kindergarten, 1st grade, 2nd grade, 3rd grade, and 4th grade. Each grade level enjoys the delights of learning in a self-contained classroom with a dedicated teacher. [Note: Grade-level divisions may vary depending on student enrollment.]

At home, parents can use Explorations as their academic foundation by incorporating the Parent Extension Guide (PEG) into daily instruction. The PEG provides subject-by-subject, hyper-linked lessons for each book and is available for download on our Explorations website. It covers literature/language arts, Biblical worldview, science, the arts, and social studies/history, where appropriate. Building on material introduced in class, each PEG includes discussion connections, reading and writing exercises, and hands-on activities to increase student learning. Using the



PEG, parents can teach children across multiple grade levels and delight in whole-family learning from beautiful books. Add appropriate math and phonics curriculum to the PEG lessons, and you have a complete elementary school curriculum!

Scheduled Parent Workshops are held throughout the school year in order to provide continuing parent-educator training. Led by Parent Activity Designer Ruth Brown, these gatherings provide hands-on demonstrations of PEG activities and lessons, model conversation-based teaching methods, and build Biblical understanding of book themes. Plus, parents receive free “workshop only” resources and have a lot of fun together!

### ***Literature-Based Unit Study***

In 2015-16, we'll be taking new adventures around the world, across cultures, and through history powered by fascinating books and our imaginations! We will spend two weeks on each book. Classroom lessons will be based on a customized roadmap of academic objectives in the following areas:

- Reading Comprehension
- Literary Analysis
- Writing Process
- Communication Skills
- Vocabulary Enrichment
- Penmanship

At each grade level, Explorations classrooms are rich in story-based discussion and activities. Together, the class explores a range of literary genres, including fiction, non fiction, fantasy, folk tale, biography, and poetry. Students grow in communication skills, expand writing abilities, sharpen critical thinking, and make connections to the world around them.

Students learn to identify story elements, use figurative language, and better communicate in written and spoken word. They publish an original writing project each month. For 2015-16, our writing focuses will be personal narratives, how-to papers, recipes, opinion paragraphs, descriptive essays, and poetry. Explorations uses Zaner-Bloser's *Strategies for Writers* (2015 edition) for classroom instruction. Parents selecting Explorations as their core academic program need to purchase and use the grade-appropriate *Strategies for Writers* textbook as directed in the PEG. In addition, penmanship strokes are introduced and practiced in Explorations classrooms using



Zaner-Bloser's *Handwriting* curriculum. Teachers are trained penmanship instructors. Parents build on skills by using the handwriting practice sheets provided on the Explorations website.

Explorations classrooms are full of song! Many teachers use music to praise the Lord as well as teach concepts. For 2015-16, traditional hymns will be our music masterpieces! Using *Hymns for a Kid's Heart* by Bobbie Wolgemuth and Joni Eareckson Tada, children will learn to sing beautiful hymns of praise at school and home! Plus, students will discover the stories behind the hymns and come to understand their rich biblical theology. In addition, we have created original ABC Bible Verses cards that are used in class and at home to teach 26 Bible verses over the course of the school year. The Parent Extension Guide (PEG) helps parents teach Biblical worldview lessons using God's Word to address themes from our books.

Since we spend two weeks on each book, students will enjoy deep explorations and learning in other academic areas connected to the story, including science, history, social studies, and geography. Fun group activities are woven into class days. Building on these connections, the PEG provides science and social studies lessons each month.

### **Visual Art Enrichment**

Explorations books are hand-picked for their story content as well as their beautiful illustrations; therefore, visual art and art appreciation are an integral part of our program. Grade-level Visual Art (50 minutes) classes dive into creative technique, artistic expression, and art appreciation. In class, students study art masterpieces, learn elements of art, and practice using artistic techniques to create their own original pieces. Art masterpieces, selected by our Explorations art teacher, connect the element of art being studied to the story being read. Students learn how to use all seven elements of art – line, shape, color, value, texture, form, and space. The gifts and talents of each student are nurtured and refined as they participate in Visual Art class. Students also grow in verbal communication skills by participating in quarterly “Easel Talks,” which proceed each ***Explorations Presents!*** During Easel Talks, student artists showcase work created in class, while parents are invited to interview them regarding artistic choices, subject matter, and techniques used.

### **Communication Skills Focus**

Everything comes together at ***Explorations Presents!*** Our quarterly program gives Explorations students the opportunity to practice their growing communication skills in front of a big audience of parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends. Throughout the year, Explorations students learn how to construct print, verbal, and visual messages. At ***Explorations Presents!*** they share these messages with the family audience through group performances, book summaries, poetic recitations, puppet theatre, reader's theatre, and more. In addition, our students are becoming quite famous for highly imaginative performance art pieces set to music! Through ***Explorations Presents!***, we focus on providing students with the opportunity to practice the communication process rather than give a perfect, polished performance. Then, we celebrate each child's growth and budding confidence!

### **K4-4th Grade Academic Options**

Parents of Kindergarten-4th graders may select Explorations as a core academic program or for enrichment only. If selected for core academics, parents agree to purchase the 2015-16 booklist books and follow the grade-appropriate lessons on the Parent Extension Guide (PEG) to cover language arts, science, social studies, art, and Bible. Additionally, *Zaner-Bloser's Strategies for Writers* (2015 edition) must be purchased and used for writing and grammar instruction for grades 2nd-4th as directed in the PEG. At home, parents add math, reading instruction, and spelling (as needed) to complete a student's elementary core curriculum.

***Special note:*** Fourth-grade parents selecting Explorations as core will need to attend a special orientation meeting, which will be scheduled prior to the first day of school. There may also be follow-up teacher meetings to evaluate student progress. Additionally, we will offer a bundle of recommended 4th grade language arts curriculum materials, including grammar, reading comprehension, spelling, vocabulary, and handwriting selections. By offering more parent-teacher interaction, we hope to provide a gentle bridge to the hybrid learning environment in Circle's other programs. The Circle Christian School model – embraced in our Frameworks (4-6th grade), Fundamentals (7-8th grade), and High School (9-12th grade) programs – encourages parent involvement while building independent learning through teacher-assigned work.

Families selecting Explorations as enrichment only are welcome to enjoy classes, PEG activities, and workshops, but are not able to count Explorations for any core academic subject. Instead, they will need to select and use Circle-approved curriculum covering language arts, reading, Bible, history, and science for their elementary students.

We look forward to sharing the adventure of Explorations with you and your family.

# FOUNDATIONS

## Foundations K4-6

An Integrated Survey of History and the Arts

Monday - Lake Nona  
Thursday - Oviedo  
Friday - Winter Park

Academic Enrichment OR  
Core Academic Program

The Foundations program integrates the arts, Bible/church history/worldview, and science, to study a single historical time period, examining the events and culture of an era and the personal stories of real people which make them meaningful. When people and events are studied in their historical context, students are better able to understand the big picture of God's purposeful, sovereign work throughout history. Foundations strives to present each lesson through a Biblical lens in order to identify worldview and help shape a God-centered perspective. Understanding how God worked in the past improves our ability to evaluate the present and prepare for the future with hope. When the engaging classroom presentation is complemented by comprehensive home study, students are challenged to grow in wisdom as well as intellect. Parents receive an Academic Instruction Manual (the AIM), which provides a subject-by-subject, weekly overview, strengths-based learning activities, literature recommendations, and spiritual application for a rich, at-home experience. Add math, phonics or language arts, and you have a complete curriculum!

***The 2015-16 course of study is the Baroque World and Colonial America, c. 1600-1800.***

### ***Survey of History***

As nations developed, Europe experienced a period of time marked by a highly ornate and extravagant style, most evident in art and architecture. This Baroque style was merely a reflection of man's increasing arrogance, and set the stage for radical changes in society under the rule of absolute monarchs who undermined the authority of scripture. Still, nations flourished under these strongly controlled governments; trading companies were established; exploration continued; and colonization was prized. A false sense of stability bolstered the trend toward opulence among the elite, paid for by taxation of the poor; and governments on the fringe longed to follow in their footsteps. Spain was left behind in the 16th century; England and France emerged as world leaders, both seeking to establish empires. Only one could succeed. The men and women who launched the world into the Modern Age - Oliver Cromwell, Louis XIV, Marie Antoinette, Frederick the Great, Peter the Great, Catherine the Great, to name a few - were powerful, flamboyant, and intensely patriotic.

In stark contrast to the lavish European model, God moved in the hearts of a relative few to travel to a New World, to overcome enormous challenges, and to settle a wilderness . . . this was a life whose chief focus was survival. Who were the people answering His call? Who would they become? The pages of history testify of undaunted courage, sheer determination, resourcefulness, and a rich faith. Ultimately, this same strength of character would propel these early settlers to issue a call for liberty and a fight for independence. John Smith, William Penn, Daniel Boone, Patrick Henry, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington - these men were skilled diplomats, strong leaders, charismatic personalities, and passionate orators . . . each focused, each fulfilling the purpose for which they were created; each affecting the future as an American nation is born. Students will survey the events of the 17th and 18th centuries and the contributions made by the men and women on two continents whom God used to shape the course of the world.

### ***Bible and Survey of Church History***

The vanity of the Renaissance took man's self-confidence to new heights; technology improved his ability to promote it far and wide. During the Baroque period, the result was a large scale abandonment of Biblical truth and pursuit of man-centered philosophies. The Enlightenment cast a long, dark shadow, with far-reaching consequences. Believers seeking sincere faith and worship - the reformed - were challenged by politics and the religion of the established church. God gave men like John Wesley, Matthew Henry, and George Whitfield the courage to stand for truth and, as a result, revival swept the European continent in the Great Awakening.

The colonization of North America serves as a tangible illustration of the spiritual battle of the times: godly men and women risked it all to cross an ocean and separate themselves from the mounting opposition in Europe. Through suffering and sacrifice, they came to a new land to become a "city on a hill" for all the world to see. The Pilgrims, Puritans, and other early settlers began a rich legacy as they sought to honor the Lord. George Fox, Cotton Mather, Jonathan Edwards, and others pressed to expand the kingdom of God until the continent experienced an evangelical awakening of its own. Nonetheless, the colonies were not exempt from the pride of life and, amidst the growth and prosperity of Colonial America, tensions increased. Students will take an up close and personal look at these communities of believers and their leaders and be challenged to exercise their own faith.

### ***Survey of Science***

Europe enjoyed unprecedented accomplishments during the 17th and 18th centuries. The scientific method, which encouraged experimentation as the logical way to develop conclusions, was still a much-debated process, often producing dissension from many who still embraced ancient, though unqualified, beliefs. However, new freedom of thought grew in greater progression during the Baroque period and technology was better able to support it: the development and use of the compound microscope opened an invisible world to physicians; the advancement of the telescope changed the study of astronomy; and Isaac Newton opened the world's eyes to optical studies. Furthermore, he articulated the laws of gravity and motion and laid the groundwork for great strides in physics.

At the same time, the colonies - out of necessity - were experiencing the very practical application of the natural sciences as they sought to comprehend and thrive in a totally new environment. Natives helped in this endeavor and within a relatively brief period of time, great minds born in the New World made significant contributions, impacting the entire world and its future. Benjamin Rush, Benjamin Franklin, and Eli Whitney were products of a territory abundant in ability, confidence, character, and heart. In stories and studies of the past, students will look for applications of scientific truths in the present, and practice logical thought processes to prepare for the future.

### ***Survey of Visual Arts***

Baroque is from the Portuguese word for misshapen pearls, a synonym for absurd or grotesque. A baroque pearl is irregular in shape, size, and color - the very description of the period's visual arts. Baroque artists continued to change the world of artistic expression by adding greater and more fantastic movement. They strove to bring the world around them to life as never before. They experimented with style, expression, composition, and medium. They introduced genre, paper mache, life-size dioramas, as well as oil paint laced with lead. Vanity followed these artists as more people could afford art and it became common for artists to paint self-portraits.

On the other hand, daily life was a struggle in the colonies of the New World and the art of living was tinted with resourcefulness and practicality as settlers were forced to create a new life. Remarkably, works do exist which were produced just 50 years after the establishment of Jamestown. These rare paintings give us insight into the lives of these hardy people. Although Puritans themselves are not known for producing works of art, they certainly influenced those



who, later, tried to capture the spirit of the early settlers and folk art was born! Students will examine the tremendous variety of creative expression during the most dynamic and diverse two centuries of artistic enterprises.

### ***Survey of Performing Arts***

Baroque music was grand and elaborate and known for ornate melodies and strong beats. It had a rhythmic order and driving energy. Composers wrote passionate emotions into their music in an attempt to stir the listeners' affections of sorrow, devotion, heroism, etc. In fact, the doctrine of emotions called for each individual piece to reflect a single mood and, in practice, the power of music was acknowledged. The lasting elements of music seen in contemporary styles have their roots in the Baroque period. Different genres developed geographically, opera was born, and Italian was established as music's official language. Vivaldi, Bach, Handel, Mozart, and Hayden composed timeless music still enjoyed today.

European theater was firmly established, particularly in France and Italy. The stage itself became more elaborate and mechanized. Spectacles of the stage were conducted to build national prestige. Under the direction of Cardinal Richelieu, France became the social, political, and cultural center of the world. In contrast, England's Puritan-dominated Parliament passed an Act of Suppression, and went so far as to demolish most of the old theaters, including the Globe. However, censorship would not last for long and the heroic play, English tragedy, and witty comedies soon flourished - including actresses for the first time. The Germans contributed to the development of theater with a systematic study of the art of drama.

The strikingly different life of the North American colonists reflected their individuality. Their worship and military music, sea shanties, and soulful songs of slaves make our musical heritage rich and colorful, giving it a unique personality. Performing arts were not highly valued in the New England colonies where survival and development of godly character reigned as the primary goals of settlers. In fact, most leadership was vehemently opposed to such entertainment and many acts were issued to prohibit stage productions. Williamsburg, Virginia is thought to be home of the first theater built in North America in 1716, the governor actively promoting the art. As cities grew in population and wealth, so did the popularity of performances. Eventually, stage performances of both amateur and professional quality were conducted in major cities and country towns.

Students will examine the wide variety of music, learn the fundamentals of the theater production, and try a variety of acting techniques including improvisation, pantomime, and dramatic performance.



# FRAMEworks

Classroom learning partners with home instruction— welcome to *Frameworks!* The best of both worlds come together to create an environment that allows students to learn as much about a classroom as they do about history. This program is for families who desire teacher prepared lesson plans and an easy to follow weekly assignment schedule for literature, writing, science, and history. Each self-contained classroom provides an engaging learning environment complete with messy science experiments, group project opportunities and academic accountability. Most of all, these classrooms build a love for our Creator, His people, His story, and His gifts.

These classrooms benefit:

- Parents that desire a relationship with a teaching-partner.
- Parents that are seeking a source of academic accountability in a few subject areas.
- Students that have recently left a traditional public or private school setting.
- Students that enjoy building relationships with their teacher and peers.
- Those preparing for the CCS middle school program.

## Frameworks Grades 4-6

Building Lifelong Learners

Monday - Oviedo  
Tuesday - Winter Park  
Friday - Lake Nona

Core Academics

*Frameworks* is an upper elementary program (4th-6th) that builds learning skills, introduces the classroom setting and academic accountability — while maintaining home instruction as the primary source of education. The goal of this academic program is to partner with parents by providing a “framework” of course lessons, assignments, and activities. This will encourage responsibility, independence, and accountability in students.

### **Writing Instruction**

Introduction to Writing uses the *Institute in Excellence for Writing* (IEW) to build a strong foundation in students' writing skills. Writing style and structure will be introduced using IEW models and elements. Students will learn to dress-up and decorate sentences along with learning a variety of sentence openers. The writing models will help students develop a variety of approaches to written communication.

As fourth-grade students dip their toes into their first formal writing experience and focus on basic skills, they will develop a familiarity with the IEW program. Our fifth-grade students will continue to successfully incorporate the IEW elements and models with a focus on improving existing skills. Instruction in more advanced writing style and structure will help sixth-grade students work toward creating well-crafted stories, essays, and reports.

Each grade-level classroom experience will include exciting classroom brainstorming sessions, helpful peer-editing conferences, and will set the stage for students to share their masterpieces with classmates.

### **Literature Studies**

Students will read and respond to grade-level appropriate literature selections. They will develop reading fluency, comprehensive skills, and vocabulary development as they actively engage in the assigned literature. Primary literary elements such as plot, characters, setting, theme, and conflict will be identified using story-mapping skills. Fourth-grade students will enjoy classic children's literature such as *Charlotte's Web* and *The Cricket in Times Square*. Fifth-grade students will read



historical fiction titles with American History themes. Titles include *The Sign of the Beaver* and *Freedom Train*. Sixth-grade students will engage in a variety of Ancient History themes including *The Golden Goblet* and *Black Ships Before Troy*.

Each grade-level classroom experience will include active literature discussion groups, student produced book talks, and engaging activities related to the literature selections.

## Science

Students will be invited to look at the wonders of God's creation in our classroom and home assignments. Students will be immersed in the sciences of zoology, chemistry, physics, and anatomy. They will engage in studies that focus on God's attention to detail. Using Apologia's science text and activities, students will become true scientists as they begin to enjoy and understand nature to the fullest.

Fourth-grade students will study God's creation through the study of Zoology with an emphasis on exploring the dynamics of flight and animal classification. Students will investigate entomology, the study of insects and chiropterology (the study of bats). They will also work to become amateur ornithologists as they observe the wonderful world of birds.

Fifth-grade students will study the worlds of chemistry and physics using Apologia's latest elementary curriculum. Students will use this study to explore atoms, molecules, simple chemicals, laws of motion, magnetism, and simple machines. The lessons, designed for eager elementary students, include the mechanics of motion, thermal energy, and compound chemistry.

Sixth-grade students will take an in-depth journey into the anatomy and physiology of the body. Students will begin with a brief history of medicine and a peek into cells and DNA. Next students will take a detailed voyage through the human body systems: skeletal, muscular, respiratory, digestive, cardiovascular, nervous, and more. A classroom highlight includes the dissection of a sheep's brain.

Each grade-level classroom experience will include helpful teacher demonstrations, hands-on lab experiments, and opportunities for students to share what they have learned through class presentations.

## History

The world of history will give students an opportunity to view the trials, accomplishments and strides made in the Ancient World, America, and our own Sunshine State. Students will explore the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events that influenced the development of our world today. Our classrooms will use textbooks, literature books, and on-line resources to develop a better understanding of our past.

Fourth-grade students will take a closer look at the beautiful state of Florida. Students will study the geography of Florida and its relationship to the United States. They will continue with studies of Florida's explorers, resources, animals, and statehood.

Fifth-grade students will explore American History by diving into the exploration of the new world including the settlement of the new land and the founding of a new nation. Students will learn what roles Leif Ericsson, Miles Standish, and James McGready play in our history. Classroom studies will highlight the early explorers, the Revolutionary War, and Lewis & Clark.

Sixth-grade students will take a closer look at the world's first civilizations starting from Creation to the fall of Rome. Students will explore the political, social, and economic characteristics of these ancient civilizations. Students will experience history in a hands-on environment through maps, activities, and student created projects. They will see history through the eyes of the people who lived it as they read literature based on the lives of people who lived in these ancient times.

Each grade-level classroom experience will include teacher-lead topical discussions, student created projects and presentations, and creative classroom activities to reinforce the time period.

### ***What role does the eLearning campus play with the Frameworks program? Is computer access necessary?***

Circle's *eLearning Campus* (eLC) plays a significant role in our instructional model. It is essential for communication and connection between teachers, parents and students. Computer access is required for students to retrieve the necessary documents such as the *Weekly Assignment Sheets*, worksheets, various report forms, and grades. *Frameworks* teachers blend classroom learning with at-home learning by using their class pages to enhance the weekly lessons on the *eLearning* site. Students may encounter discussion forums, digital field trips, links to resources, images and documents, as well as personal teaching videos, which add to the rich learning experience of our classes through the technology of the *eLearning Campus*.



# circle arts

## and Extracurricular Offerings

All courses listed in this CCS Course Guide are subject to change, whether by addition, deletion or modification, at the sole discretion of Circle Christian School. Pre-requisites may apply and sufficient minimum enrollment is needed for all courses.

First Baptist Church Oviedo Campus		Calvary Assembly Winter Park Campus	
Monday	Thursday	Tuesday	Friday
<b>Extracurricular Offerings (2:00-3:15 pm)</b>			
<p><b>Kids at Play (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Education and Group Playtime</li> </ul> <p><b>SClragous! Hands-On Science (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul> <p><b>Hands-On Science (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul> <p><b>Bricks 4 Kidz (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fun with Legos®</li> </ul>	<p><b>Amazing Artists (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art</li> </ul> <p><b>Kids at Play (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Education and Group Playtime</li> </ul> <p><b>First Stage Players (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Music, Movement, and Creative Play</li> </ul> <p><b>Circle Theatre Kids (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act and Perform</li> </ul> <p><b>Beginning Strummers (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar</li> </ul> <p><b>Intermediate Strummers (5-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar</li> </ul>	<p><b>Kids at Play (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Education and Group Playtime</li> </ul> <p><b>SClragous! Hands-On Science (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul> <p><b>Hands-On Science (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discover, Investigate and Create with Fun Science Experiments</li> </ul> <p><b>Bricks 4 Kidz (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fun with Legos®</li> </ul>	<p><b>Kids at Play (K4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Education and Group Playtime</li> </ul> <p><b>First Stage Players (K4-3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Music, Movement, and Creative Play</li> </ul> <p><b>Circle Theatre Kids (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act and Perform</li> </ul> <p><b>Beginning Strummers (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar</li> </ul> <p><b>Intermediate Strummers (5-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guitar</li> </ul> <p><b>Zumba (4-6)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dance</li> </ul>

## Kids at Play

Physical Education

Monday / Thursday - Oviedo  
Tuesday / Friday - Winter Park

K4-6th Grade

Kids at Play is a one day a week physical education activity for children in the elementary grades (K4–6). Healthy minds, joyful spirits, and strong bodies are all important to the development of children. KAP provides students with fun-filled interaction with other children, physical exertion toward improved physical fitness, and specific sports skill development. This offering meets for 24 weeks to facilitate six community park days. KAP T-shirts are included.

## SClrageous! Hands-on Science

Science, Movement and Crafts

Monday - Oviedo  
Tuesday - Winter Park

K4-3rd Grade

This K4-3rd offering combines science, movement and crafts into one great class! Everyday we will begin with a discovery walk designed to improve our observational skills and get the wiggles out. Students will be introduced to chemistry, physics, astronomy, geology and biology through hands-on activities, and will have an opportunity create an integrated science related craft. Don't miss this opportunity to explore the sciences and wonder at God's handiwork. This offering meets for 24 weeks to facilitate six community park days.

## Hands-On Science

Science Experiment Fun

Monday - Oviedo  
Tuesday - Winter Park

4th-6th Grade

Discover, investigate, create and explore with the CCS Science Club! Utilizing the scientific method, students will experiment and use creative problem solving to gain an understanding of chemistry, physics, astronomy, geology and biology. Students will be encouraged to identify and acknowledge God's thumbprint in all they see and do. They will have the opportunity to make tennis ball catapults, clay boats, water rockets, straw towers, and more. Don't miss this opportunity to grow in the sciences with a Biblical perspective and wonder at God's handiwork. This offering meets for 24 weeks to facilitate six community park days.

## First Stage Players

**Movement, Music and Art**

**Thursday - Oviedo  
Friday - Winter Park**

**K4-3rd Grade**

First Stage Players focuses on kids in K4-3rd grade. The program celebrates their incredible imaginations through artistic play, music, dance, and acting exercises. The program culminates in a final open class presentation where the actors can show off all their new theatrical skills!

## Amazing Artists: Making Art With Many Materials

**Visual Art**

**Thursday - Oviedo**

**4th-6th Grade**

Is your child a mini-Monet or a pint-sized Picasso? This class gives children ample opportunity to express their inner artist through a variety of mediums. Along the way they will learn how to use shape, texture, and color to bring their designs to life as well as gain confidence in their creative abilities.

## Circle Theatre Kids

**Theatre and Production**

**Thursday - Oviedo  
Friday - Winter Park**

**4th-6th Grade**

While learning basic acting skills and learning about the theatre process first semester, students will work together to rehearse and perform a short play (25-30 minutes at length) at the end of the second semester with minimal costume pieces (provided by parents) and minimal sets. Additional rehearsals during second semester, outside of class time, are required. This class is designed as an introduction and/or continuation of training to prepare students to enter into Circle Studio Players.

## Beginning Strummers

Music

Thursday - Oviedo  
Friday - Winter Park

4th-6th Grade

This playful class introduces kids to chords, rhythms and simple melodies on a guitar. Through singing and musical games in a supportive environment, kids learn to play the guitar in a group setting. Join us in an adventurous process of playing an acoustic guitar that builds upon early successes making music with their instrument. (1/2 and 3/4 size guitars are recommended. Bring guitars to the first class.)

## Intermediate Strummers

Music

Thursday - Oviedo  
Friday - Winter Park

5th-6th Grade

A continuation group guitar class for students who have successfully completed Beginning Strummers. The class introduces kids to chords, rhythms, and simple melodies on guitar. Alongside encouraging teachers and friends, they engage in an adventurous process of playing guitar that builds upon early successes making music with their instrument. (1/2 and 3/4 size guitars are recommended. Bring guitars to the first class.)

## Zumba

Dance

Friday - Winter Park

4th-6th Grade

Tammy Schreiner will teach a high-energy “Zumba-style” dance class with fun moves = exercise in disguise. Each class will begin with an inspirational Bible verse and end with a healthy recipe and/or samples of great tasting snacks that refuel us after an exhilarating exercise class. Students need water, exercise clothing, and shoes. Parents are welcome to join in the fun.

## Bricks 4 Kidz

Music

Monday - Oviedo  
Tuesday - Winter Park

K4-6th Grade

Your child's learning doesn't need to stop when the bell rings. This Bricks 4 Kidz® extracurricular class taps into your child's potential by encouraging their curiosity and creativity in and out of the classroom.

The Bricks 4 Kidz program offer theme-based, hands-on lessons that will give K4-6 students the opportunity to learn and build with LEGO® bricks. Each class will motivate students by reinforcing S.T.E.M. based principles while enhancing self-esteem, improving fine-motor skills, and teaching important classroom lessons such as organization and following directions.

We believe these classes provide an extraordinary atmosphere for children. The specially-designed project kits and theme-based models make available the building blocks for the Bricks 4 Kidz approach to educational play.

Classes will be offered for K4-2, and 3-6. Class size is limited to 14. The students will enjoy eight units over the course of the 24-week class offering. The units will be:

- Interesting Inventions
- Ticket to Ride
- Amazing Animals
- Construction Craze
- Energy is everywhere
- Factory Fun
- Laws of Motion
- Gadgets & Gizmos

This class will be taught by franchise owners, and Circle parents, Sam and Vivian Hanna.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### ***What is the parent's role for students enrolled in Circle courses?***

Because of the unique nature of courses at Circle, the parent's role is vital for student success. Parents, students, and teachers form a cord of three strands to achieve the highest level of academic and personal training possible. Parents are expected to monitor their student's progress weekly, and assist with assignments when needed. Parents should be actively encouraging their students to work to their highest potential. Parents must model a positive attitude toward the classroom teacher, the coursework, education, and resolution of any issues that may arise.

### ***What is the teacher's role in Circle courses?***

At Circle, teachers seek to transform lives to the glory of God, not just communicate information to students. Teachers work to build relationships with students that encourage and inspire each student to attain their highest personal achievement in the academic arena and beyond. Teachers design lessons that maximize learning in the unique Circle environment. Using a variety of instructional methods, teachers engage students in the curricula as well as provide feedback and accountability. Teachers are encouraged to partner with parents in order to provide the best education possible for each student.