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for 2016-2017
School Year!
See Our
Summer Camp
Schedule
Inside!



From the Headmistress...

Did You Ever Wonder What Makes Our Math Program so Effective?

Oak Crest Private School has a magical math program. It really works. On standardized tests our third to eighth grade students scored in the 94th percentile in math. Here are the secrets of how we achieve this.



Why Are We Learning This?

Our math students begin each math unit by going over the purpose and use of the new topic. This builds an understanding of why a child would even want to learn about what follows. We feel that it is very important to get each student thinking about how they can use what they are learning.

Building the Foundation

Next, teachers present thorough definitions of the key words used in each chapter. You might be amazed to know that our four-year-olds can give you a very acceptable definition of the word “mathematics” as well as quite a number of other terms that children of that age cannot normally define. Defining the words builds the foundation of thorough understanding that lets us ensure that every child masters the materials being presented 100%.

L. Ron Hubbard states that “The confusion or inability to grasp or learn comes AFTER a word that the person did not have defined and understood.” We work hard to avoid such confusions by providing students with thorough definitions from the beginning.

Get Students Participating

Math classes are presented as a seminar up to fifth grade. Rather than insisting that children are quiet throughout the lesson, they are encouraged to loudly repeat the key definitions of new terms being learned. This gets students participating and is an action that they generally enjoy a lot.

Lots of hands-on projects, games and worksheets make math fun and get the students to think with the new ideas and to see how the data is used in life.

One Step at a Time

Each math lesson introduces one new concept. There are many math programs where this is not how it is done. When multiple topics are presented in a single period, sometimes as unrelated as geometry and addition, without adequate practice of each new idea, this can become very confusing. It can become almost impossible for a well-intentioned parent to help a child, especially when there are no textbooks (which unfortunately has also become common).

Every Student Solves Every Problem

At Oak Crest Private School, homework is assigned from textbooks with simple straightforward explanations. Each new concept is then practiced until it is fully mastered. Almost every assignment has a section of story problems where children must demonstrate that they can apply what was taught.

Every exercise in the book is assigned, and any that the student gets wrong must be corrected before a student is allowed to call the chapter complete. Small classes mean that every student who runs into difficulty with an assignment can readily receive help from a teacher. By the end, every student has learned how to solve every problem in the book.

All Materials Are Covered

In most schools, it is common to only assign a part of the exercises of a book, frequently skipping the more challenging ones, and it is routine for teachers not to get to the end of a textbook within a school year. The last chapters are simply skipped.

This does not happen at Oak Crest Private School. Every textbook is completed every year. Every exercise in the book is assigned and done correctly by each student. This ensures that there are no holes left in the child’s education which they could stumble over in future chapters or school years.

Computer Drilling of Math Facts

The student math work is further supported by computer practice, where students learn to use the number keypad, and then drill their basic math facts until they can respond instantly to simple arithmetic questions. These drills gradually become more difficult until students can add, subtract, multiply and divide, as well as convert decimals to fractions and fractions to percentages without any hesitations.

Continued from front page

Speeding Through Middle School Math

From sixth grade on up, students use study guides to work at their own pace. Due to the certainty acquired at earlier levels, they can frequently test out of many chapters in their books. They are only required to learn what they do not yet know. This really speeds their progress through the middle school levels, thus allowing them to start into their high school math while still at Oak Crest Private School.

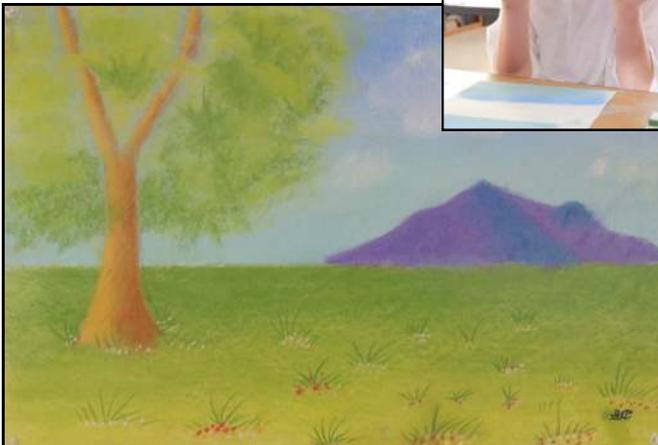
A Valuable Tool for Life

Math can be frustrating and bewildering to someone who does not fully understand it, but it can be a powerful tool for someone who does. Oak Crest Private School students learn mathematics thoroughly, so that they own their education and can get the pleasure of fully using it.

Classical Art Instruction

How do you create an outdoor scene and make it look real? It is kind of like a recipe. Several things go into the “mix” to arrive at a beautiful final product. You need a good basic composition (arrangement of elements) and an understanding of shape, perspective and tones (shading). Finally, you need a good command of your chosen medium. Soft pastels are an excellent choice for creating realistic tones that change gradually. They are especially easy to blend when you use a good quality pastel.

The students did several drills with the pastels, learning how to apply and blend the colors as well as which colors to use. They then composed a simple landscape and went to work with their new materials and new skills. The results were pretty amazing, and the students were so proud of themselves. We will definitely be doing more of this kind of project!



Alumni News

Former Oak Crest student, Skylar Guignon, is planning to become a medical doctor and will be starting college this fall. She has already been accepted into the pre-med program at the University of Texas, Austin, at Texas A & M and has been accepted with a full scholarship at the University of Alabama.

Skylar describes her experience at Oak Crest as follows. "The self-paced curriculum at Oak Crest allowed me to move quickly through my courses and always with full mastery of the subjects. With this approach, I was able to study my materials at appropriate gradients and was never bored by waiting on other students to grasp the subject matter. My interest and desire to learn more was always at a high level because of this. Oak Crest's study tech* taught me ‘how’ to read and learn with full understanding and retention. The result was that my natural passion for learning was able to flourish, and I still love to learn years later."

As a part of her high school graduation requirements, she came back to visit Oak Crest and did a presentation to our Form 1 class regarding healthy food choices. Can you guess how many sugar cubes are in a yogurt or a bottle of soda? Skylar had the students eagerly involved trying to figure it all out!

*Study technology: the method of HOW to study as researched and developed by L. Ron Hubbard



Form Completions

Beginner 1
Sahir Hasija
Asmaa Ayche
Reema Awad

Beginner 2
Nasser Alkharji
Zeina Ayche
Varsha Andraju

Form 3 Entry
Lily Wade

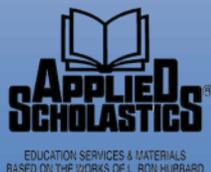


Summer At Oak Crest Private School



June		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		6	7	8	9	10
Animal Week Music: Animal Anthems	Younger Group	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 9:30-12:30	Roller Skating	Soccer Sprinkler Play/ Water Slide Bounce House	Dallas Zoo	Thomas Spray Ground
Science Topic: Exploring Air	Older Group	LEGO Robotics	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 12:30-3:30	Dallas Zoo	Art Project	Roller Skating
		13	14	15	16	17
Cooking / Manners Week Music: Culinary Carols	Younger Group	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 9:30-12:30	Father's Day Art Project (Value of Thank Yous)	Farmer's Market 9:00-12:00 (Table Manners)	Baking Project	Father's Day or Special Guest Luncheon (Set a Table) Movie
Science Topic: Exploring Air	Older Group	LEGO Robotics	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 12:30-3:30	Cooking Project	Farmer's Market 9:00-12:00 (Table Manners)	Father's Day or Special Guest Luncheon (Set a Table) Movie
		20	21	22	23	24
Farming Week Music: Farm Songs	Younger Group	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 9:30-12:30	Arts & Crafts	Fritz Farm Petting Zoo	Arts & Crafts Sprinkler Play/ Water Slide Bounce House	Going Bonkers
Science Topic: Exploring Color	Older Group	LEGO Robotics	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 12:30-3:30	Art Project	Fritz Farm Petting Zoo	Going Bonkers
		27	28	29	30	1
Theater Week Music: Show Tunes	Younger Group	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 9:30-12:30	10:00 Breittling Theater Sound of Music	11:15 Story Time at Hebron/Josey Library	Acting Workshop for Children	Thomas Spray Ground
Science Topic: Exploring Color	Older Group	1:00 Breittling Theater Sound of Music	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 12:30-3:30	LEGO Robotics	Acting Workshop for Children	Coppell Aquatic Center

Schedule subject to change. All times are approximate.



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Summer At Oak Crest Private School



JULY		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		4	5	6	7	8
Red, White & Blue Week Music: Patriotic Music	Younger Group	CLOSED	Arts & Crafts	Gather Wood Cookout	Frog Pond (Farmer's Branch Pool)	Sports Day
Science Topic: Exploring Density	Older Group	CLOSED	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 12:30-3:30	Gather Wood Cookout	Art Project	Arbor Hills Nature Preserve Hike & Picnic
		11	12	13	14	15
Ice, Water, Clouds Music: Beach Ballads & Sea Shanties	Younger Group	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 9:30-12:30	Arts & Crafts	Henry's Homemade Ice Cream	Thomas Pool Sprayground 10:30-12:30	Pizza Making Sports Day
Science Topic: Exploring Density	Older Group	LEGO Robotics	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 12:30-3:30	Henry's Homemade Ice Cream	Nickelmania	Pizza Making Sports Day
		18	19	20	21	22
Story Week Music: Camp Songs	Younger Group	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 9:30-12:30	Andy Brown Park Playground 9:00-12:00	11:15 Story Time at Hebron/Josey Library	Thomas Pool Sprayground 10:00-12:00	Make a Puppet / Create a Puppet Show
Science Topic: Exploring Sound	Older Group	LEGO Robotics	Frog Pond (Farmer's Branch Pool)	Art Project	Roller Skating	Andy Brown Park Playground 9:00-12:00
		25	26	27	28	29
Hooray for Fun Week Music: Silly Songs	Younger Group	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 9:30-12:30	Roller-Skating 9:00-12:00	Sports Day Martial Arts Demonstration	Art Project	Coppell Aquatics Center 12:30-3:30 PM
Science Topic: Exploring Sound	Older Group	LEGO Robotics	Old Town Aquatic Center Pool 12:30-3:30	Art Project	Ice Skating	Coppell Aquatics Center 12:30-3:30PM

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