



bayarea
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

First Grade

Dear Parents,

We are delighted that you have chosen our school for your child's educational training. We look forward to partnering with your family to provide a quality Christ-centered classroom environment, in which your child will be nurtured for academic and spiritual growth. Our first grade faculty has provided the following overall distinctive elements and readiness areas which we hope will be beneficial for children entering our program. Please contact our school office if you have any questions.

Kingdom Education

Bay Area Christian School exists to provide Kingdom Education to the next generation leading them to Christ, building them up in Christ, equipping them to serve Christ and empowering them to make disciples of Jesus at home, in society, and through the church.

Overall Distinctive Elements

Curriculum: The BJU Press materials are formulated using a Biblical worldview. Students discover how the Bible is relevant to every academic subject because each textbook includes biblical worldview shaping. God's truth is the starting point and standard before man's assumptions are even considered. In addition to biblical worldview shaping, other main elements are critical thinking and academic rigor.

Bible: Foundational Bible Truths are presented in a systematic way and prayer is integrated throughout subjects, classes, and weekly chapel worship. Students memorize monthly scriptures as part of their required Bible class.

Phonics & Reading: *Phonics & English 1* correlating with *Reading 1* and *Spelling 1* focuses on developing phonemic awareness, applying phonics concepts, decoding text, building meaning and knowledge, constructing meaning, using vocabulary and working on semantics and syntax. Students are paired with older and younger student reading buddies. Reading homework should be expected.

Math: BJU math equips students to master foundational skills through hands-on manipulatives and sequential teaching that lead students from a concrete to an abstract understanding of mathematics for the purpose of solving problems within the context of a biblical worldview. *Math 1* develops number sense and understanding of place value to solve addition and subtraction problems; includes fractions, measurement, geometry, time, and money; introduces skills for writing equations, reading graphs, predicting probability and solving word problems; and introduces coding concepts with STEM activities.

Science: BJU science develops foundational understanding of scientific knowledge and inquiry skills with exposure to scientific methods to solve real-world problems. *Science 1* topics include earth, sun, moon, stars, seasons, and weather; plants, animals, human body, health; light energy, sound energy, and communicating with light and sound. Students participate in hands-on science activities including butterfly hatching.

History: *Heritage Studies 1*, 3rd Edition integrates civics, culture, economics, geography, and history from U.S. history beginning with native Americans to the Plymouth Colony covered all from a Christian Worldview (BJU Press, 2013).





Special Events

Star of the week, 100th day activities, pumpkin storybook project and and games to reinforce academic concepts

Specials

Music, art, library, and P.E.

Field Trips

NASA Space Center and Joy the Dog



Summer Suggestions

- Read approximately 20 minutes a day with discussion
- Read Phonetic/decodable readers
- Read Brave Books and other wholesome books
- Complete Book 1 *Vacation Stations: Beyond the Back Door* by Bob Jones University Press
- Practice math speed drills (AfterSchoolHelp.com)



Readiness Areas

Language Arts Prerequisites

- Recognize and write all letters
- Identify and discern long and short vowel sounds and consonants: beginning and ending sounds
- Decode words: dad, beg, did, pig, hum, back, bell, job, fun, went, etc.
- Apply capitalization rule for beginning of sentences and names
- Ascertain and spot rhyming words
- Apply basic punctuation rules



- Know word families
- Figure out the following:
 - Special vowels and r influenced vowels: oo, ou, io, au, er, ar, or
 - Initial consonant blends: bl, br, er, fr, sl st, tw
 - Initial consonant diagraphs: ch, sh, th, wh
 - High-frequency words: here, mother, the, come, for, to, put, what, have, you, etc.
- Read simple sentences and predict what will happen next

Math Prerequisites

- Solve word problems using objects and drawings to find sums up to 10 and differences within 10.
- Identify U.S. coins by name
- Recognize basic shapes
- Count by 1's, 2's, 5's, and 10's to 100 and identify missing numbers
- Tell time to the hour
- Discern patterning



- Count forward and backward to 20
- Read and write whole number words 1-10
- Read and write numbers 1-20
- Count a set of objects up to 20
- Generate a number that is one more than or less than another number up to 20
- Model the action of joining to represent addition and separating to represent subtraction

