

SPECIALS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Saint Susanna's physical education program develops the physical, cognitive and affective areas of each student. The primary goal of the program is movement education. Introductions to the specific skills at a young age and continual review of those skills are essential to positive and enjoyable learning experiences. Our physical education program also encourages lifetime adoption of physical activity through lessons in fitness not related to games and sports. Primary grades focus on motor skill development. Older students focus on developmental skills, which prepare them for participation in recreational or competitive sports and games, with continual review of motor skills.

MUSIC

Saint Susanna's music education program strives to enrich students' lives through musical interactions throughout their entire Saint Susanna experience. Students will learn how to play barred instruments and percussion instruments, as well as develop their singing skills through activities designed with a blend of the Kodaly, Orff, and Dalcroze methodologies. Beginning music students will learn basic songs, dances, use Orff instruments and learn how to play recorder. As students continue through the music program, they will learn the techniques associated with singing properly, playing all of our classroom instruments, and music notation. Music students in the older grades will learn keyboarding techniques, basic music theory, and will be well-prepared for more advanced high school music classes.

LIBRARY

The Media Center contains books, media, and other materials that support the curriculum of the school. The Media Center is automated for circulation and web-based for the Accelerated Reader and STAR Assessment programs. Every class is assigned to visit the Media Center once per week, with additional access available with flexible scheduling.

ART

Saint Susanna's art program teaches students to recognize, use, and demonstrate the elements of design through the use of drawing, painting, chalk, tissue paper, clay, printmaking, mixed media, and 3D objects. Students also learn to appreciate cultural influences and artists of different historical periods and countries. Along with experiencing art in the classroom, students take field trips to museums and are visited by artists and people working in art-related fields.

TECHNOLOGY

The goal of Saint Susanna's technology programs is to encourage and enable our students to become proficient in twenty-first century technologies and to develop skills of creativity, communication, collaboration, problem solving, and critical thinking. The program also teaches our students to be safe and to apply responsible Christian values to their use of computer technologies, including the internet and social networking media. To these ends, we maintain a computer lab, a mobile laptop cart, and other classroom technologies for the students' and teachers' use. Programs currently utilized in the school include: Windows 2008 server, School Minder administrative software, GradeQuick Web grading program, Edline Information System, Follett Library Management System, Accelerated Reader Enterprise (web-based), STAR Reader, and Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Publisher), and ePals Learning Exchange.

SPANISH

In recognition that twenty-first century skills increasingly demand competency in foreign language, Saint Susanna provides Spanish instruction to all students once a week. The Spanish curriculum

at Saint Susanna follows the FLEX format (Foreign Language Experiential) as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. The goals of a FLEX program are to capture the optimal time in a child's life for learning another language, to learn basic foreign language vocabulary and phrases, to gain an understanding and knowledge of other countries and cultures, and to enable children to enter foreign language classes at an accelerated level in high school.

Our Spanish teachers incorporate all five foreign language standards into instruction: communication, cultures, communities, connections, and comparisons. Instruction is varied and includes social networking experiences, multimedia experiences, various assessments, and regular comprehensible input opportunities both in and out of class.

Saint Susanna uses a progressive curriculum called *Viva el español* for students in the first through fourth grades; in the fifth through eighth grades, students use the *Realidades* middle school curriculum. The entire Saint Susanna Spanish program has been designed to develop the students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in a fun and interactive format.