

## Spanish

Spanish education begins in the Early Learning Center and continues through Grade 12. The curriculum gradually adds new vocabulary and skills throughout the grades. Students also learn about cultural appreciation, traditions, and celebrations.

### *Antilles, First Graders:*

- Are familiar with** and easily recognize, the Spanish language
- Reinforce conversations** with projects, activities, stories, games, songs, and dances
- Begin to read** basic Spanish phrases
- Learn vocabulary words** to include numbers, days, greetings, colors, clothing, foods, and animals

## Visual Art

Art is used extensively in all aspects of learning in the Lower School. In the art studio, students develop an understanding of visual language and build self-confidence in their art making abilities.

### *Antilles First Graders:*

- Study four basic strands:** perception, creative expression, historical/cultural heritage, and critical evaluation
- Use their creativity** and real life experiences to create works of art
- Make connections** through the arts and other disciplines such as science, technology, math, and social studies
- Explore** drawing, painting, printmaking, weaving, and sculpting

## Music

The music program introduces musical traditions and history into the curriculum while cultivating individual talents, self-confidence, creativity, responsibility, and self-expression. Students develop musical skills that support our middle school music program in which each student learns to play a band instrument.

### *Antilles First Graders:*

- Read and write** simple patterns of rhythm and pitch
- Identify** basic instruments and melodies
- Learn** about composers and music history
- Perform songs** that reinforce lessons learned in the classroom



## Physical Education

Children in the Lower School have designated Physical Education classes two or three times every week. The focus of our program is to develop physical and cognitive skills, fitness, personal enjoyment, and an appreciation for lifelong health.

### *Antilles First Graders:*

- Learn** sportsmanship skills and spatial awareness
- Discuss health topics** on nutrition and safety
- Develop gross motor skills** with activities such as jumping, running, catching, and kicking
- Are introduced** to social and developmental skills necessary to play team games with rules

## Library

The Lower School Library's 25,000 books are accessible to students, faculty, and parents. The range of materials include picture books, chapter books, multi-cultural books, reference materials, magazines, audio books, computers and DVDs. While gaining a love of reading during weekly library classes, students are encouraged to become independent thinkers and lifelong learners.

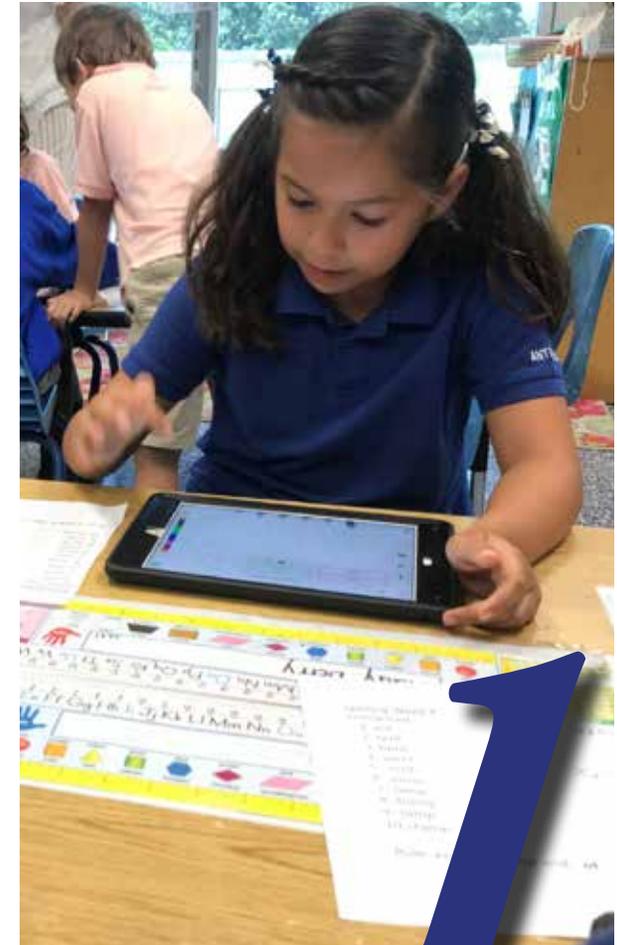
### *Antilles First Graders:*

- Become competent** using library materials
- Participate** in author studies
- Differentiate** between fiction and non-fiction stories
- Discover** how to locate books for their own reading level

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Toddler Program-Grade 12 | Since 1950



GRADE

## Curriculum in the Classroom

### Office of Admission

Shannon Harris, *Director*  
Ava Kendall and Karen Coffelt, *Associates*  
7280 Frenchman Bay, St. Thomas, VI 00802  
340-776-1600 x1701 or x1702  
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*In First Grade, the children learn through play and hands-on learning activities, and by incorporating reading and written work.*

*Independence and responsibility are encouraged throughout the year as the children learn social skills and become critical thinkers and independent readers.*



## Social Studies

We offer a balanced approach to social studies by teaching the disciplines in conjunction with reading, map, globe, chart, graph, and critical thinking skills. We also teach tolerance, inclusivity and diversity throughout our lessons. The children dive into history, civics, research, and geography. Speaking and listening skills are practiced during morning meeting, weekly assemblies, field trips, and visits from guest speakers.

**Character Traits:** respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship are emphasized school wide throughout the year with projects and presentations.

### *Antilles First Graders:*

**-Find locations, map keys and compass roses** on maps and globes

**-Use and read** charts, tables, and diagrams

**-Discuss** communities, laws, wants and needs, goods and services, and historical people and places

**-Learn about the seven continents** with stories, songs, and projects

**-Gain social skills while participating** in cooperation activities, group projects, and games

**-Are introduced** to Digital Citizenship using the Common Sense Education Program

## Science and Technology

In Grades 1-5, the Science Fusion Program supports a student-centered approach for learning science concepts and vocabulary, building inquiry, STEM, and 21st Century skills. Math, technology, and writing are included in every lesson. Throughout the lower school grades, the students explore five different themes - Nature of Science, STEM, Life Science, Earth Science, and Physics.

### *Antilles First Graders:*

**-Learn** how scientists work

**-Discover** technology and coding

**-Explore** animals, plants, weather, the sun and the moon, matter, energy, the five senses, the human body, and dental health

**-Present research reports** and self-built habitats to younger grades

**-Visit** island museums, observatories, and fire stations

## Mathematics

The *Math in Focus* Program is used in Grades 1-7. In the primary grades, concepts and skills are developed through hands-on instruction, games and practice, both independently and in small and large groups. Children develop fact strategies, mental math strategies, and problem solving skills through concrete, pictorial, and symbolic models. They learn to recognize connections, and how to build upon them. They develop new vocabulary and use critical thinking skills. As they move through the program, children present mathematical thinking through discussions and math journal activities. They discuss and share mathematical ideas, use lesson vocabulary, and further investigate and analyze ideas by completing critical thinking activities.

### *Antilles First Graders:*

**-Explore** numbers to 120

**-Investigate** time, money, shapes, and position words

**-Compare** length, weight, and volume

**-Explain problems** using graphs and charts

**-Solve real world problems** involving addition, subtraction, and patterns

## Language Arts

Our Reading Program consists of five critical components: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. These elements support each other and are woven together to build a solid foundation of linguistic understanding. To practice reading fluency and build community, our students read to the younger students on a regular basis. Our experienced Reading Resource Teacher assists classroom teachers during reading time.

Our Writing Program consists of the writing process and elements, writing applications, listening, speaking, viewing, and presenting. Students also learn to incorporate the Six Traits of Writing: ideas/development, voice, word choice, organization, sentence fluency, and conventions.

### *Antilles First Graders:*

**-Learn through individualized instruction**, small guided reading groups, and reading centers

**-Practice fluency** with leveled reading books.

**-Decode words** using a systematic phonics approach

**-Comprehend** fiction and non-fiction stories

**-Write clear responses** to literature and to different writing prompts

## Spanish

Spanish education begins in the Early learning Center and continues through Grade 12. The curriculum gradually adds new vocabulary and skills through the grades. Students also learn about cultural appreciation, traditions, and celebrations.

### *Antilles Second Graders:*

- Read aloud** basic Spanish sentences
- Reinforce** conversations through projects, activities, stories, games, songs and dances
- Write** beginning Spanish sentences
- Study** new vocabulary words to include numbers, seasons, supplies, house parts, family members, adjectives, and verbs

## Visual Art

Art is used extensively in all aspects of learning in the Lower School. In the art studio, students develop an understanding of visual language and build self-confidence in their art making abilities.

### *Antilles Second Graders:*

- Study four basic strands:** perception, creative expression, historical/cultural heritage, and critical evaluation
- Use their creativity** and real life experiences to create works of art
- Make connections** through the arts and other disciplines such as science, technology, math, and social studies
- Explore** drawing, painting, printmaking, weaving, and sculpting

## Music

The music program introduces musical traditions and history into the curriculum while cultivating individual talents, self-confidence, creativity, responsibility, and self-expression. Students develop musical skills that support our middle school music program in which each student learns to play a band instrument.

### *Antilles Second Graders:*

- Recognize** the musical alphabet
- Identify** notes on the keyboard
- Learn** about Caribbean Musicians
- Perform** songs including various American and Caribbean folk songs



## Physical Education

Children in the Lower School have designated Physical Education classes two or three times every week. The focus of our program is to develop physical and cognitive skills, fitness, personal enjoyment, and an appreciation for lifelong health.

### *Antilles Second Graders:*

- Practice** sportsmanship skills and spatial awareness
- Discuss** age related health topics on nutrition and safety
- Develop** gross motor skills with activities such as jumping, running, catching, and kicking
- Learn** the social and developmental skills necessary to play team games with rules

## Library

The Lower School Library's 25,000 books are accessible to students, faculty, and parents. The range of materials include picture books, chapter books, multi-cultural books, reference materials, magazines, audio books, computers, and DVDs. While gaining a love of reading during weekly library classes, students are encouraged to become independent thinkers and lifelong learners.

### *Antilles Second Graders:*

- Learn** about the parts of books
- Participate** in author studies
- Locate** fiction and non-fiction stories
- Choose books** to take home on a weekly basis
- Research** topics that complement class units

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## Curriculum in the Classroom

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*In Second Grade, the students begin the year with the fundamentals of first grade and strive toward becoming even more independent. Through a variety of learning experiences, such as individual centers, small and large group discussions, and hands-on activities, the students improve their reading, writing and math skills. The goal is to foster in each student a lifelong love of learning.*



## Science and Technology

In Grades 1-5, the Science Fusion Program supports a student-centered approach for learning science concepts and vocabulary, building inquiry, STEM, and 21st Century skills. Math, technology, and writing are included in every lesson. Throughout the lower school grades, the students explore five different themes - Nature of Science, STEM, Life Science, Earth Science, and Physics.

### *Antilles Second Graders:*

- Perform** experiments using the scientific method
- Explore technology**, coding, plants, mangroves, marine life, environments, resources, fossils, weather, and the solar system
- Hold science fairs** for their families
- Create Power Point research projects**
- Visit** plant nurseries, aquariums, and beaches

## Social Studies

We offer a balanced approach to social studies by teaching the disciplines in conjunction with reading, map, globe, chart, graph, and critical thinking skills. We also teach tolerance, inclusivity and diversity throughout our lessons. The children dive into history, civics, research, and geography. Speaking and listening skills are practiced during morning meeting, weekly assemblies, field trips, and visits from guest speakers.

**Character Traits:** respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship are emphasized school wide throughout the year with projects and presentations

### *Antilles Second Graders:*

- Read maps**, grids, scales, family trees, and tables
- Tour St. Thomas** while finding landmarks on a map
- Participate** in community service projects
- Are introduced** to leaders, heroes, and government
- Study family** histories and America's beginnings
- Learn** about using technology safely and responsibly with the Digital Citizenship Common Sense Education Program

## Mathematics

The *Math in Focus* Program is used in Grades 1-7. In the primary grades, concepts and skills are developed through hands-on instruction, games and practice, both independently and in small and large groups. Children develop fact strategies, mental math strategies, and problem solving skills through concrete, pictorial, and symbolic models. They learn to recognize connections, and how to build upon them. They develop new vocabulary and use critical thinking skills. As they move through the program, children present mathematical thinking through discussions and math journal activities. They discuss and share mathematical ideas, use lesson vocabulary, and further investigate and analyze ideas by completing critical thinking activities.

### *Antilles Second Graders:*

- Explore** numbers to 1,000
- Compose and decompose** 2D and 3D shapes
- Measure** length, mass, and volume in metric and US customary units
- Explain** problems using graphs and bar models
- Solve** real world problems involving money, time, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division

## Language Arts

Our Reading Program consists of five critical components: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. These elements support each other and are woven together to build a solid foundation of linguistic understanding. To practice reading fluency and build community, our students read to the younger students on a regular basis. Our experienced Reading Resource Teacher assists classroom teachers during reading time. Our Writing Program consists of the writing process and elements, writing applications, listening, speaking, viewing, and presenting. Students also learn to incorporate the Six Traits of Writing: ideas/development, voice, word choice, organization, sentence fluency, and conventions.

### *Antilles Second Graders:*

- Fluently read** and comprehend grade level books of different genres
- Blend and decode** two syllable words and spell grade level words
- Write complete sentences** using proper letter formation, capitalization and punctuation
- Organize written work** to include a beginning, middle and ending
- Write personal narratives**, stories, descriptions, letters, research reports, poems, and literature responses

## Spanish

Spanish starts in the Early Learning Center and continues through Grade 12. The curriculum gradually adds new vocabulary and skills through the grades. Students also learn about cultural appreciation, traditions, and celebration.

### *Antilles Third Graders:*

- Read aloud** with proper pronunciation
- Begin to understand** written and oral instructions in the target language
- Write** sentences that are more complex
- Study** new vocabulary words: adjectives, verbs, body parts, city terms, expressions, questions, time, holidays, jobs, and months

## Visual Art

Art is used extensively in all aspects of learning in the Lower School. In the art studio, students develop an understanding of visual language and build self-confidence in their art making abilities.

### *Antilles Third Graders:*

- Study four basic strands:** perception, creative expression, historical/cultural heritage, and critical evaluation
- Use their creativity** and real life experiences to create works of art
- Make connections** through the arts and other disciplines such as science, technology, math, and social studies
- Explore processes** including acrylic painting, papier-mâché, and block carvings

## Music

The music program introduces musical traditions and history into the curriculum while cultivating individual talents, self-confidence, creativity, responsibility, and self-expression. Students develop musical skills that support our middle school music program in which each student learns to play a band instrument.

### *Antilles Third Graders:*

- Begin to learn** basic music notation and music theory
- Learn** about classical musicians
- Perform** in theatrical presentations and school concerts
- Participate** in community outreach programs such as performing for senior citizens



## Physical Education

Children in the Lower School have designated Physical Education classes two or three times every week. The focus of our program is to develop physical and cognitive skills, fitness, personal enjoyment, and an appreciation for lifelong health.

### *Antilles Third Graders:*

- Practice** sportsmanship skills and spacial awareness
- Discuss age related health topics** on nutrition and safety
- Exercise regularly** with activities such as jumping, running, catching, and kicking
- Exhibit social and developmental skills** necessary to play team games with rules

## Library

The Lower School Library's 25,000 books are accessible to students, faculty, and parents. The range of materials include picture books, chapter books, multi-cultural books, reference materials, magazines, audio books, computers, and DVDs. While gaining a love of reading during weekly library classes, students are encouraged to become independent thinkers and lifelong learners.

### *Antilles Third Graders:*

- Learn** about book publishing
- Participate** in author studies
- Explore** magazines and books for facts and for pleasure
- Research** topics that complement class units

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## Curriculum in the Classroom

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*Third Grade is a year of increased expectations for the children. The academic learning becomes more formal, and the children are encouraged to become more autonomous with their daily routines and explorations. There is a stronger focus placed on content as the children shift from “learning to read” to “reading to learn”.*



## Science and Technology

In Grades 1-5, the Science Fusion Program supports a student-centered approach for learning science concepts and vocabulary, building inquiry, STEM, and 21st Century skills. Math, technology, and writing are included in every lesson. Throughout the lower school grades, the students explore five different themes - Nature of Science, STEM, Life Science, Earth Science, and Physics.

### *Antilles Third Graders:*

- Investigate** and ask scientific questions
- Discover** the engineering process along with technology
- Explore** changes to the earth's surface, natural resources, rocks and minerals, the water cycle, and matter
- Research** energy conservation and alternate energy sources around campus and on the island
- Listen** to guest speakers and visit nature trails, beaches and museums

## Social Studies

We offer a balanced approach to social studies by teaching the disciplines in conjunction with reading, map, globe, chart, graph, and critical thinking skills. We also teach tolerance, inclusivity and diversity throughout our lessons. The children dive into history, civics, research, and geography. Speaking and listening skills are practiced during morning meeting, weekly assemblies, field trips, and visits from guest speakers.

**Character Traits:** respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship are emphasized school wide throughout the year with projects and presentations.

### *Antilles Third Graders:*

- Use** line and bar graphs, timelines, landform maps, population maps, and resource maps
- Explore** various elements and distances on maps
- Research** different inventors
- Study** traditions and customs of Caribbean culture and the indigenous people
- Participate** during field trips focused around USVI History
- Continue to learn** about using technology safely and responsibly with the Digital Citizenship Common Sense Education Program

## Mathematics

The *Math in Focus* program is used in Grades 1-7. In the primary grades, concepts and skills are developed through hands-on instruction, games and practice, both independently and in small and large groups. Children develop fact strategies, mental math strategies, and problem solving skills through concrete, pictorial, and symbolic models. They learn to recognize connections, and how to build upon them. They develop new vocabulary and use critical thinking skills. As they move through the program, children present mathematical thinking through discussions and math journal activities. They discuss and share mathematical ideas, use lesson vocabulary, and further investigate and analyze ideas by completing critical thinking activities.

### *Antilles Third Graders:*

- Explore** numbers to 10,000
- Investigate** concrete, pictorial, and abstract approaches to solving problems
- Measure** length, mass, weight, volume, temperature, area and perimeter in metric & US customary units
- Explain** problems using different types of graphs, bar models, and line plots
- Solve** concrete, pictorial, and abstract approaches to solving problems

## Language Arts

Our Reading Program consists of five critical components: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. These elements support each other and are woven together to build a solid foundation of linguistic understanding. Our experienced Reading Resource Teacher assists classroom teachers during reading time. Our Writing Program consists of the writing process and elements, writing applications, listening, speaking, viewing, and presenting. Students also learn to incorporate the Six Traits of Writing: ideas/development, voice, word choice, organization, sentence fluency, and conventions.

### *Antilles Third Graders:*

- Read independently** and individually for longer periods
- Summarize** stories verbally and in writing
- Identify** different story genres and spell grade level words correctly
- Write** two and three paragraphs and proofread for neatness, spelling, capitals, and punctuation
- Identify** parts of speech and practice cursive writing research reports, poems, and literature responses

## Spanish

Spanish education begins in the Early learning Center and continues through Grade 12. The curriculum gradually adds new vocabulary and skills through the grades. Students also learn about cultural appreciation, traditions, and celebrations.

### *Antilles Fourth Graders:*

- Have beginning conversations** in a natural, fluid manner
- Understand** written and oral instructions in the target language
- Write** sentences that are longer and more complex
- Study** new vocabulary words including numbers to 1,000 and adjectives with agreement in gender and number

## Visual Art

Art is used extensively in all aspects of learning in the Lower School. In the art studio, students develop an understanding of visual language and build self-confidence in their art making abilities.

### *Antilles Fourth Graders:*

- Study four basic strands:** perception, creative expression, historical/cultural heritage, and critical evaluation
- Use their creativity** and real life experiences to create works of art
- Make connections** through the arts and other disciplines such as science, technology, math, and social studies
- Explore** processes including acrylic painting, papier-mâché, and block carvings

## Music

The music program introduces musical traditions and history into the curriculum while cultivating individual talents, self-confidence, creativity, responsibility, and self-expression. Students develop musical skills that support our middle school music program in which each student learns to play a band instrument.

### *Antilles Fourth Graders:*

- Continue to learn** basic music notation and music theory
- Study** classical musicians
- Perform** on the hand bells and chimes during concerts
- Participate** in the VI community with the Expressions Chorale



## Physical Education

Children in the Lower School have designated Physical Education classes two or three times every week. The focus of our program is to develop physical and cognitive skills, fitness, personal enjoyment, and an appreciation for lifelong health.

### *Antilles Fourth Graders:*

- Exhibit** sportsmanship skills and teamwork
- Discuss** age related health topics on nutrition and safety
- Exercise** regularly with activities such as stretching, jumping, running, catching, and kicking
- Play** team sports such as kick ball, whiffle ball, basketball, soccer, volleyball, and football

## Library

The Lower School Library's 25,000 books are accessible to students, faculty, and parents. The range of materials include picture books, chapter books, multi-cultural books, reference materials, magazines, audio books, computers, and DVDs. While gaining a love of reading during weekly library classes, students are encouraged to become independent thinkers and lifelong learners.

### *Antilles Fourth Graders:*

- Become familiar** with the Dewey Decimal System
- Participate** in author studies
- Analyze** biographies and other non-fiction books
- Explore** research books to help with classroom assignments

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GRADE

## Curriculum in the Classroom

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*In Fourth Grade, students complete a variety of daily routines independently. Autonomy is developed and encouraged as the children follow directions and engage in sustained reading and writing activities.*

*Classroom community is developed through group work and cooperative games across the curriculum. Daily class meetings guide the children in character development while fostering respect and consideration.*



## Science and Technology

In Grades 1-5, the Science Fusion Program supports a student-centered approach for learning science concepts and vocabulary, building inquiry, STEM, and 21st Century skills. Math, technology, and writing are included in every lesson. Throughout the lower school grades, the students explore five different themes - Nature of Science, STEM, Life Science, Earth Science, and Physics.

### **Antilles Fourth Graders:**

- Study** science exploration and the engineering process
- Assist** younger students with technology
- Explore** ecosystems, matter, energy, electricity and motion
- Conduct** science experiments and document results
- Research and analyze** to form conclusions

## Social Studies

We offer a balanced approach to social studies by teaching the disciplines in conjunction with reading, map, globe, chart, graph, and critical thinking skills. We also teach tolerance, inclusivity and diversity throughout our lessons. The children dive into history, civics, research, and geography. Speaking and listening skills are practiced during morning meeting, weekly assemblies, field trips, and visits from guest speakers.

**Character Traits:** respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship are emphasized school wide throughout the year with projects and presentations.

### **Antilles Fourth Graders:**

- Use** latitude and longitude to identify places on a map
- Analyze** maps and graphs in greater depth
- Learn** about immigration and Ellis Island
- Visit** the St. Thomas Synagogue while studying the Holocaust and World War II
- Participate** in voting, elections, and current event discussions
- Practice** using technology safely and responsibly with the Digital Citizenship Common Sense Education Program

## Mathematics

The *Math in Focus* Program is used Grades in Grades 1-7.

In the primary grades, concepts and skills are developed through hands-on instruction, games and practice, both independently and in small and large groups. Children develop fact strategies, mental math strategies, and problem solving skills through concrete, pictorial, and symbolic models. They learn to recognize connections, and how to build upon them. They develop new vocabulary and use critical thinking skills. As they move through the program, children present mathematical thinking through discussions and math journal activities. They discuss and share mathematical ideas, use lesson vocabulary, and further investigate and analyze ideas by completing critical thinking activities.

### **Antilles Fourth Graders:**

- Explore** numbers to 100,000
- Draw and measure** lines, angles, and 2D shapes
- Estimate and measure** length, weight, mass, capacity, volume, area, and perimeter
- Interpret** charts, graphs, plots, median, mode, and range
- Solve** real world problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, data analysis, and measurement

## Language Arts

Fourth graders focus on fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. These elements support each other and are woven together to build a solid foundation of linguistic understanding. Our experienced Reading Resource Teacher assists classroom teachers during reading time. Our Writing Program consists of the writing process and elements, writing applications, listening, speaking, viewing, and presenting. Students also learn to incorporate the Six Traits of Writing: ideas/development, voice, word choice, organization, sentence fluency, and conventions.

### **Antilles Fourth Graders:**

- Read** independently and fluently
- Identify** the main idea and important story elements
- Begin using Wordly Wise** for spelling and vocabulary practice
- Continue** to write two or three paragraphs and proof-read for neatness, spelling, capitals and punctuation
- Practice** keyboarding skills

## Spanish

Spanish education begins in the Early learning Center and continues through Grade 12. The curriculum gradually adds new vocabulary and skills through the grades. Students also learn about cultural appreciation, traditions, and celebrations.

### *Antilles Fifth Graders:*

- Have conversations** in a natural, fluid manner
- Understand** written and oral instructions in the target language
- Continue to write** longer and more complex sentences
- Learn** new vocabulary and focus on Spanish artists and countries

## Visual Art

Art is used extensively in all aspects of learning in the Lower School. In the art studio, students develop an understanding of visual language and build self-confidence in their art making abilities.

### *Antilles Fifth Graders:*

- Study** four basic strands: perception, creative expression, historical/cultural heritage, and critical evaluation
- Use their creativity** and real life experiences to create works of art
- Make connections** through the arts and other disciplines such as science, technology, math, and social studies
- Explore** processes including acrylic painting, papier-mâché, and block carvings

## Music

The music program introduces musical traditions and history into the curriculum while cultivating individual talents, self-confidence, creativity, responsibility, and self-expression. Students develop musical skills that support our middle school music program in which each student learns to play a band instrument.

### *Antilles Fifth Graders:*

- Demonstrate** knowledge of basic music notation and music theory
- Identify** orchestral instruments and leger lines
- Perform** on the hand bells and chimes during concerts
- Participate** in the VI community with the Expressions Chorale



## Physical Education

Children in the Lower School have designated Physical Education classes two or three times every week. The focus of our program is to develop physical and cognitive skills, fitness, personal enjoyment, and an appreciation for lifelong health.

### *Antilles Fifth Graders:*

- Exhibit** sportsmanship skills and teamwork
- Discuss** age related health topics on nutrition and safety
- Exercise** regularly with activities such as stretching, jumping, running, catching, and kicking
- Play** team sports such as kick ball, whiffle ball, basketball, soccer, volleyball, and football

## Library

The Lower School Library's 25,000 books are accessible to students, faculty, and parents. The range of materials include picture books, chapter books, multi-cultural books, reference materials, magazines, audio books, computers, and DVDs. While gaining a love of reading during weekly library classes, students are encouraged to become independent thinkers and lifelong learners.

### *Antilles Fifth Graders:*

- Practice** the Dewey Decimal System
- Participate** in author studies
- Locate and read** several different genres
- Have** unlimited allowance of books, magazines and audio to take home

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*In Fifth Grade, the children strive to become independent learners who will be prepared for the rigors of the Middle School curriculum. In addition to academic skills, this includes organization, responsibility, and independence. Additional responsibilities include running the Green Team initiative, participating in Dancing Classrooms and Student Council leadership.*

## Science and Technology

In Grades 1-5, the Science Fusion Program supports a student-centered approach for learning science concepts and vocabulary, building inquiry, STEM, and 21st Century skills. Math, technology, and writing are included in every lesson. Throughout the lower school grades, the students explore five different themes - Nature of Science, STEM, Life Science, Earth Science, and Physics.

### *Antilles Fifth Graders:*

- Investigate** how scientists work and how they use technology
- Assist** younger students with research projects
- Explore** cells, living things, ecosystems, natural resources, the rock cycle, fossils, oceans, the universe, matter, light, sound, forces, and motion
- Kayak** the mangrove ecosystem, learning about photosynthesis and the life cycle of the red mangrove
- Analyze** the habitats and interactions of living things during off campus field trips



## Social Studies

We offer a balanced approach to social studies by teaching the disciplines in conjunction with reading, map, globe, chart, graph, and critical thinking skills. We also teach tolerance, inclusivity and diversity throughout our lessons. The children dive into history, civics, research, and geography. Speaking and listening skills are practiced during morning meeting, weekly assemblies, field trips, and visits from guest speakers.

**Character Traits:** respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship are emphasized school wide throughout the year with projects and presentations.

### *Antilles Fifth Graders:*

- Compare** various maps, scales and graphs
- Focus** on US geography, becoming an expert on a state of their choice
- Learn** about early settlements, The American Revolution, and the Constitution
- Explore** our judicial system at the Kids in Court trip to the VI Federal Court
- Participate** in the Grand Convention, writing persuasive speeches and planning an election campaign to elect our Student Council
- Practice** using technology safely and responsibly with the Digital Citizenship Common Sense Education Program

## Mathematics

The *Math in Focus* program is used in Grades 1-7. In the primary grades, concepts and skills are developed through hands-on instruction, games and practice, both independently and in small and large groups. Children develop fact strategies, mental math strategies, and problem solving skills through concrete, pictorial, and symbolic models. They learn to recognize connections, and how to build upon them. They develop new vocabulary and use critical thinking skills. As they move through the program, children present mathematical thinking through discussions and math journal activities. They discuss and share mathematical ideas, use lesson vocabulary, and further investigate and analyze ideas by completing critical thinking activities.

### *Antilles Fifth Graders:*

- Explore** numbers to 10,000,000
- Understand** place value through millions
- Work** with angles, lines, points, 2D and 3D shapes, area and perimeter, symmetry, and congruency
- Use** measurement conversions of length, weight, mass, capacity, and volume
- Solve** real world problems involving multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, algebra, geometry, data analysis, and measurement

## Language Arts

Fifth graders focus on reading fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. These elements support each other and are woven together to build a solid foundation of linguistic understanding. Our experienced Reading Resource Teacher assists classroom teachers during reading time. Our Writing Program consists of the writing process and elements, writing applications, listening, speaking, viewing, and presenting. Students also learn to incorporate the Six Traits of Writing: ideas/development, voice, word choice, organization, sentence fluency, and conventions.

### *Antilles Fifth Graders:*

- Read** with fluency and appropriate rhythm, pacing, intonation, and expression relevant to the text
- Employ** strategies to comprehend text: identify, analyze, and apply knowledge of the structures and elements of literature
- Acquire** new vocabulary skills through Wordly Wise
- Brainstorm, write drafts, revise, edit, and publish** their writing pieces using the Six Traits of Writing
- Reinforce** keyboarding skills