



ELEMENTARY

Our program is centered on **The Literary Tree Curriculum**, which uses a thematic approach to English and Spanish education through children's literature. Students explore over 90 literary texts and engage with at least 75 significant authors throughout their school journey.

Benefits of a Book-Based Program:

- **Intentional Writing:** Books inspire meaningful writing, from letters and guides to campaigns and novels.
- **Immersion Experiences:** Literary immersions create moments of resonance that foster interest and connection.
- **Engaging Teaching:** Complex curriculum elements are taught in a fun and natural manner.
- **Lasting Learning:** Learning is associated with memorable books.
- **Critical Thinking:** Books generate questions that encourage critical thinking.
- **Empathy Development:** Children develop empathy by exploring characters' lives.
- **Literary Language Mastery:** Students imitate and recreate authors' styles.

Integration of IB Principles: Our literary approach aligns with the principles of the International Baccalaureate (IB), fostering inquisitive, knowledgeable, and compassionate young people. By engaging with a variety of literary texts, students develop an open-minded perspective and a deep understanding of global interconnectedness. We promote inquiry and reflection, respect cultural diversity, and prepare students to be committed global citizens. Through literature, they are encouraged to think critically and act with empathy and responsibility, tackling today's challenges with solid skills and values.

The Book is the Hook: Books capture students' imagination and interest, developing essential skills for their future.

Students Support Department

We prioritize inclusive education by offering personalized attention to each student, addressing their unique differences and educational needs. Our interdisciplinary team includes professionals specializing in psychology and educational psychology.

Group Size

Our groups accommodate up to 25 students. In 1st and 2nd grades, we have one lead teacher and one assistant per group.

Special Programs:

- **Values:** Values are integrated monthly into all subjects. Additionally, the chaplaincy program offers spiritual guidance, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and catechesis for First Communion and Confirmation.
- **Happy:** Emotional well-being program that promotes emotional intelligence and comprehensive child development. It includes brief sessions of 5-10 minutes, four days a week, and one 40-minute session.
- **Study Centers:** Weekly program for students needing reinforcement in Spanish, Mathematics, or English. Attendance is mandatory when recommended by the teacher. Offered Monday to Wednesday, from **3:00 p.m. to 3:55 p.m.**

Our Schedule

- **Monday to Thursday:** 8:00 a.m. – 2:55 p.m.
- **Friday:** 8:00 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

*Gates open at 7:00 a.m. for drop-off.

Saint Mary School

Heart-Mind-Spirit

After School Program

Until 5:30 p.m., we offer extended hours for students needing supervision and recreational activities. This service incurs an additional cost.

Strong Areas and Clubs

Promoting holistic development through extracurricular activities in sports, technology, arts, culture, and recreation. **Strong Areas** are free with limited capacity and by teacher invitation, while **Clubs** have an additional cost and are managed by external companies.

Strong Areas :

- Boys' and Girls' Soccer
- Mixed Athletics
- Mixed Basketball
- Volleyball
- Mixed Baseball and Softball
- Band (Wind and Percussion)
- Chess
- Mathematics Olympiads
- Drawing Techniques
- Guitar and Ukulele
- Piano
- Portuguese
- Spike ball
- Ping Pong

Clubs

- Gymnastics
- Dance and Ballet
- Aerial Silks
- Parkour
- Karate (Teiwaz)
- Robotics

ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM

WEEKLY LESSONS TAUGHT BY SUBJECT AT EACH LEVEL

Subjects	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6
Language Arts	9	9	9	8	6	6
Science	5	5	5	5	5	5
Social Studies					2	2
Math	6	6	6	6	6	6
Spanish	5	5	5	5	5	5
Social Studies	4	4	4	3	3	3
Portuguese				2	2	2
Art	1	1	1	1	1	1
Physical Education	3	3	3	3	3	3
Technology	2	2	2	2	2	2
Music /Band	1	1	1	1	1	1
Religion	1	1	1	1	1	1
Homeroom/Values	2	2	2	2	2	2
Happy	1	1	1	1	1	1

Elementary Admission Requirements

1. **Age Requirement:** Applicants for **first grade** must be at least 6 years old by February 15th
2. **Proof of Identity:** Nationals must provide a photocopy of their birth certificate with ID number, while foreigners should submit a photocopy of their passport
3. **Vaccination Records:** Submit photocopies of up-to-date vaccination record.
4. **Photographs:** Provide 2 recent passport-sized photographs
5. **Academic Transcript:** Provide the school transcript from the previous year, certified by the previous school, showing quarterly or bi-monthly breakdown
6. **Admission Exam:** Applicants must pass the admission exam
7. **Parent Interview:** Schedule an interview with our **Student Wellbeing and Educational Support Department**
8. **Financial Certification:** Submit certification of financial status issued by the previous school.
9. **Health Tests:** Provide recent hearing and vision test results
10. **Conduct and Reference Letter:** Include a conduct and reference letter from the previous institution.
11. **School records** from the previous institution
12. **Educational Service Contract:** Sign the Educational Service Contract
13. **Admission Form:** Complete the Admission Form and provide Personal Data Permissions
14. **Additional Documents for International Students** (Both Elementary and High School students):
 - **Birth Certificate:** Submit a birth certificate from the country of origin
 - **Apostilled Grades:** Provide last year's grades duly apostilled, signed, and stamped by the originating school and the governmental body regulating education in the country of origin and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country of origin
 - **Costa Rica Requirements:** For students from Costa Rica, include:
 - Recognition of studies by the Regional Directorate of the Ministry of Education (MEP)
 - Validation of grades by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs