

## Fifth Grade Information Sheet

At Fortis Academy, students in grades K-5 are enrolled in the Grammar School. During these six years, children have an incredible capacity to learn and store copious amounts of information. We, as educators, take advantage of this time by maintaining high expectations on the material being learned. Our aim is to fill and form a child's mind, first with the truth and beauty of God's sovereignty, and second with the facts of each subject necessary to grow in understanding and wisdom.

In scripture we regularly see the words *knowledge*, *understanding*, and *wisdom* distinguished one from the other: "For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding," Proverbs 2:6. The grammar stage corresponds to the scriptural term *knowledge*. "Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge," Proverbs 19:27.

### Morning Assembly

All students attending Fortis Academy gather before school begins each morning for a brief time of worship. This assembly takes place from 8:45-8:55 behind the school at the cross. Principals and upper school students lead traditional hymns, prayers, and read scripture. This is a peaceful time for students to come together and have the opportunity to reflect on how God has blessed our school and how they can contribute to a healthy school atmosphere that glorifies Him. "*Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: but as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*" I Peter 1:13-16

### Parent Role: Co-Teacher/Guide for independent study

In preparation for School of Logic a 5<sup>th</sup> grade students should become increasingly more independent as the year progresses.

At Home Work Time: approximately 5-6 hours per homeschool day

### FIFTH GRADE CORE:

#### Language Arts

Fifth grade language arts concentrate on preparation for the School of Logic. In grammar, students advance to classification of pattern 4 sentences. They write 3-5 paragraph essays based on key word outlines. Writing topics are drawn from the time period being covered in history. All formal work is to be written in cursive. Students are expected to read a minimum of 12 books during their fifth grade year. Six of these are to be read with the class in order for weekly discussions to take place. Six additional books may be chosen from the Fortis booklist to be read independently. Teachers organize structured and engaging activities as a response to literature for each required reading book. Students continue to develop their ability to complete written narrations to enhance reading comprehension. Reading skills begin to involve understanding, contemplating and communicating thoughts on quality literature. Students build on vocabulary through the continued use of Classical Roots.

#### History

Students explore and examine the culture and key events of a particular time period through our curriculum *Mystery of History*. With assistance from teacher and co-teacher, students gain

knowledge through quality literature, hands-on activities and time line figures. Outlining skills are introduced in fifth grade history. During the first semester, these outlines are completed in class with guidance from the teacher. In an effort to encourage independent study, students begin to create one-tier outlines at home at the beginning of the second semester. Throughout the year, these outlines are used to drive conversation (opinions, reflections, questions) within the classroom. Knowledge of key historical dates and other history-related memory work are assessed regularly.

### Math

Saxon 6/5 applies mathematical tools and techniques to real-life mathematical situations using word problems. Topics include incremental development of order of operations; geometry and measurement; integers; divisibility concepts; ratios; statistics and probability; prime and composite numbers; patterns and sequences; and powers and roots.

### Science

The focus of Science is to explore and celebrate God's creation. Students will use Apologia Science to gain knowledge and understanding of a concentrated Science subject. At home, students read the text and respond by answering questions specifically designed to draw the student's attention to key material. In class, hands-on experiments and activities take place to solidify new information. Preparation for 6<sup>th</sup> grade science includes guided in-class note taking and independent at-home study for tests. Science-related memory work will be assessed regularly throughout the year.

### Memory Work

Memorization is a crucial tool for students in the grammar stage. It is how the bedrock of facts is built, upon which the house of dialectic and rhetoric stands. For continued practice with this skill, memory work builds from the fourth grade level to include lengthier Bible verses and poetry. Students also memorize geography, math facts, science and history facts, grammar rules, spelling rules, and more.

### Latin

Students continue to build upon their Latin knowledge from fourth grade with in-class assignments during the first semester. In an effort to encourage independent study, work in Latin shifts to at-home assignments as well at the beginning of the second semester.

### SUMMER PREPARATION:

Keep reading! For a list of Classical literature, go to <http://www.classical-homeschooling.org/celoop/1000.html>. To grow in writing skills, have students copy bible verses and beautiful poetry. Practice Shurley jingles. Review AAS word and phonograms cards from K-4th grade.

Math: review math facts (addition/subtraction/multiplication/division); consider "Mind Benders" workbooks, speed drill sheets or incomplete worksheets from 4<sup>th</sup> grade math workbook.

### FIFTH GRADE CO-TEACHER SUPPLIES:

1 large dry erase board for use with All About Spelling phonics tiles, pencil sharpener, 1-1.5" binder (style/color your choice), Office Max Write On 8-tab Color plastic divider (Item # 20615390), page protectors, 3-hole hole punch, tape dispenser, stapler and printer.