

Course Description Booklet

Grades K–5



**OUR LADY
QUEEN OF HEAVEN**



ST. VINCENT de PAUL

Mission

**To inspire excellence
and personal growth
grounded in Catholic
principles and tradition**

Vision

**A community of academic
excellence. Catholic in spirit
and culture, nurturing
integrity and respect.**

"ACS reserves the right to revise and amend this handbook at any time during the year. When such revisions are made, school families will be given written or electronic updates prior to the new policy or procedure going into effect."

We believe the successful education of children is achieved by the partnership created between schools and parents/guardians. This handbook will familiarize you with our expectations. This is a set of policy guidelines for students, parents/guardians, teachers and staff to ensure smooth day to day operations. These policies, along with common sense, parent/guardian partnership with the school staff, and student responsibility lead to sound decisions. It is by no means meant to be an all-inclusive document. Situations not mentioned in the handbook will be handled at the discretion and best judgment of the school administration. Thank you for your support.

St. Vincent de Paul School and Our Lady Queen of Heaven Schools are Catholic Schools in the Diocese of La Crosse. As a Catholic School we will teach and advocate our Catholic Faith. All students are welcome in our school, and all parents and legal guardians must understand that Catholic Doctrine will be taught and our policies will be informed by the teachings and policies of the Catholic Church as expressed by the Bishop of the Diocese of La Crosse.. The passing on of our Catholic Faith is our number one priority.

Assumption Catholic Schools shall not discriminate in student participation in programs, standards and rules of behavior, disciplinary actions, or facility usage on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, pregnancy, marital parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Guidance on nondiscrimination within the Diocese of La Crosse is governed by the Code of Canon Law and may take precedence on civil nondiscrimination.

ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL'S PHILOSOPHY

While reflecting Gospel teachings, Assumption Catholic Schools offer a unique education committed to excellence. We operate through the direction of the Diocese of La Crosse as part of the Roman Catholic Church. Along with the local parishes, Assumption Catholic Schools represent:

- a belief in Catholic morality, doctrine, and values; the enhancement of self-esteem and respect for others; and a Christian lifestyle;
- a belief in Catholic education which focuses on the spiritual, intellectual, and physical growth and development of the whole person;
- a belief in Catholic faith which is fostered through prayer, liturgy, service, and community experiences;
- a belief in stewardship reflected in personal commitment, responsibility, and accountability in support of the Catholic educational mission.

MISSION: To inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition

VISION: A Community of Academic Excellence, Catholic in Spirit and Culture, Nurturing Integrity and Respect.

STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE AND GROWTH

- Demonstrates a strong faith and love of God through prayer.
- Supports the mission of the Catholic Church.
- Possesses principles of integrity including honesty, patience, fortitude, generosity, and self-control.
- Recognizes and fulfills responsibility to community, society, and the world.
- Affirms principles of loyalty, commitment, sacrifice, and trust.
- Recognizes and respects the dignity and achievement of others.
- Models Christian standards of ethical behavior in the workplace including charity toward others, respect for authority, pride in achievement, and the ability to be an effective team member.
- Demonstrates a critical appreciation of the arts and all cultures and their achievements.
- Exhibits leadership skills.
- Formulates and effectively pursues worthwhile goals founded on the discernment of personal vocation.
- Displays practical life skills, math competency, writing skills, reading comprehension, scientific reasoning, research skills, and proficiency in information technology.
- Develops habits of lifelong learning and employs critical and creative thinking as well as organizational skills.

GRADE POINT SYSTEM: The K-5 courses utilize the following point system. While numerical scales are arbitrary and defined by each teacher, letter grades should correspond to degrees of proficiency of the subject.

A	93-100	A-	90-92		
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D+	67-69	D	63-66	FACULTY Discretion or D-	60-62
U	0-59				

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- Winter Sports
 - Basketball (Boys/Girls) including Little Royals grades K-5
- Extra Curriculars **based upon yearly participation and health guidelines**

Serving Mass	Student Ambassador Program	Student Council
Cantoring	Cub-Boy Scouts	STEM Scouts
Little Flowers	Brownie-Girl Scouts	Safety Patrol

- Events and Activities **based upon yearly participation and health guidelines**

5 th Grade Promotion and K Graduation	Advent/Lenten Prayer Services	American Heart Challenge
Auction Royale	Birthday Lunch	Catholic Schools Week
Centralia Center Mother’s Day Mini-Concert	Charitable Food Drives	Charitable Fund Drives
Christmas Concert	Christmas Cards for Veterans	Forensics
End-of-Day Prayer Services	Fitness Walks	Service Opportunities
Grade Level Retreats	Homecoming Week Activities	K-5 Family Literacy Night
Kid Kollaboration	Make a Difference Day	

- Field Trips/Programs **based upon yearly participation and health guidelines**

All-ACS Masses	Central WI Environmental Station	Dairy State Cheese
Eau Claire Children’s Theater	Elm Lake Cranberry	Heritage Hill
Historic Pointe Basse	IGA	KASH Park, Stevens Point

McMillan Library	Mead Wildlife Station	Old World Wisconsin
Post Office	Riverview Hospital	Rudolph Fire Station
Skate City	State Capitol Building, Madison	Stevens Point Children's Museum
Stevens Point Sculpture Park	Timbavati Wildlife Park	Tommy Barlett
UWSP Planetarium	WI Dells Safety Patrol Trip	WI State Historical Museum
Wood Trust Bank	Worzalla Publishing	Old World Wisconsin

STUDENT SERVICES

- **Literacy Lab**-The purpose of the SV Literacy Lab is to work as a liaison between students, teachers, and parents to help struggling students accomplish academic success. The literacy staff will communicate closely with the guidance office, teachers, administrators, students, and parents to determine who will be assigned to the literacy opportunity. Students are welcome throughout the day at SV.
- **Academic Success Center**-The SV Academic Success Center is an after school opportunity to complete homework under the guidance of a licensed teacher from 3:40 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday. The ASC is a part of our aftercare program.
- **Student Mentor Program**-The SV Mentor program works to advocate for the children in a mixed grade fashion so that each child is ensured another trusted adult in their school life. Activities include 40 Developmental Assets, 7 Habits for Happy Kids, Speak Your Peace, Are You a Royal?, Virtues=Strength, and other social/emotional learning aspects.
- **Library and Media Services**-The primary and intermediate libraries are an integral part of the school community. Their purpose is to provide services and resources in support of the school's educational program, and to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information.
- **Title I Services**-Through WRPS, K-5 students within Title I school boundaries can be serviced under the parameters of the public school district.
- **Special Needs Scholarship Program(SNSP)**-The SNSP program allows eligible students with an IEP to receive a state-funded scholarship to attend a participating private school.
- **Student Services Program**-The Second Step Bullying Prevention Program is an integral part of the educational mission of the system. The skills taught in this program provide students with the social-emotional learning foundation for the Bullying Prevention Unit. Our student services program is proactive and preventative in its focus. It assists students in acquiring and using life-long social-emotional learning skills. More specifically, our student services program employs strategies to enhance academics, encourage self-awareness, foster interpersonal communication skills, and impart life skills for students. The social worker assists students and families with individual counseling, crisis counseling, individual service plans, and parent/teacher meetings for individual students are provided as needed.
- **Speech and Language Therapy**-Through WRPS and in collaboration with UWSP Speech program, K-5 students can be serviced under the parameters of the public school district.

COURSES FOR GRADES K-5

- **Religion**-The religion curriculum seeks to help students grow both spiritually and academically. Centered on the person of Jesus, the religion curriculum begins with age-appropriate truths of the

Catholic Faith. Students deepen their religion curriculum through weekly participation in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program, seasonal celebrations and activities, prayer services, weekly and Holy Day of Obligation mass, and grade level retreats. Special interest is given throughout the day on behaving according to the will of Jesus; What would Jesus do if he were here?

- **ELA/Reading**-English Language Arts and Reading foundational skills are taught in K-5th grade. Each grade spirals its curriculum to progress from introductory to applying skills in life situations. Grammar, usage, mechanics, writing, spelling, vocabulary, phonics, handwriting, and reading comprehension are taught and revisited in all grades at appropriate levels. Programs intentionally chosen to increase English Language Arts success include STAR Assessments, Accelerated Reader, and other specific technology tools as needed/discovered. Reading programs include Superkids (grades K-2) and Read Side by Side (grades 3-5).
- **Math**-Students are provided the necessary mathematics tools to use as they progress to the next level of academia. These foundational tools include mastery of math facts, applied problem solving, inductive reasoning, real-life application, and an integration of modern technology. We also help students see mathematics as worthwhile, interesting, and relevant. Programs utilized to increase math success include STAR assessments, IXL Online Learning Program, and Moby Max, among other resources. The Rod and Staff Math textbook program is used to develop a strong mastery of math skills and prepare students for real-life math.
- **Science**- Provides opportunity for students to learn by hands-on activities to grow in knowledge of physical, earth, and life science.
- **Social Studies**-The following themes include many hands-on activities to strengthen the foundational understanding of our past, current status, and future at grade appropriate levels: Ourselves, Our Family, Our Neighborhood, Our Community, Regions of the United States, and Wisconsin History, Our Country.
- **Physical Education**-Physical education develops desirable physical, mental, and emotional traits that aid other learning activities and the development of a well-rounded child. The goal of physical education is to develop healthy habits, skill acquisition of games and sports, sportsmanship, and developing teamwork.
- **Art**-Art class provides students the opportunity to develop awareness of the elements and principles of art and design. Students are exposed to the beauty in creation, and to learn the skills of artistic expression from a Christian perspective. The primary objective is to nurture expression through visual media.
- **Music (General/Instrumental)** Participation in general music provides for the deepening of musical knowledge while enjoying the art of music. Through vocal, rhythm instruments, recorders, keyboards, dancing, and research, students learn and perform at their level. Band is offered starting in 4th grade.
- **Computer Applications**- Students will become fluent in keyboarding throughout grades 2-5 by utilizing keyboarding programs. In computer applications, word processing, and presentation applications in Google and Microsoft are explored.