

Tween (6th - 7th Grade, ages 11 - 12)

Class Schedule and Descriptions

Block	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1st	9:15	Writer's Workshop	Literature	Writer's Workshop	Literature
2nd	10:10	Study Skills	Grammar and Vocabulary	Study Skills	Grammar and Vocabulary
Lunch and Recess	11:05				
3rd	12:05	Astronomy	Music and Art	Astronomy	Music
4th	1:00	Apologetics	Drama	Apologetics	Drama
Snack and Clean-up	1:55				
5th	2:10	P.E. or Strategy Games	Physical Education	P.E. or Strategy Games	Physical Education
Dismissal	3:00				

Attendance options:

Monday and Wednesday

Tuesday and Thursday

Monday through Thursday

Overview – Hybrid Approach

Our Tween Program blends academic accountability with enrichment in a structured, Christ-centered hybrid model. Families remain actively involved in their student's core academics while partnering with us for guidance, oversight, and on-campus instruction.

Core subjects such as Language Arts and Math are supported through Education Plans that may include at-home curriculum, online platforms, or small-group instruction. On campus, students participate in enrichment classes designed to strengthen executive functioning, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and independence. This balanced approach prepares students for high school expectations by building both strong academic foundations and life-ready skills.

Writer's Workshop

Class Format: Meets twice weekly

Homework: Weekly writing assignments and reading practice at home

Worldview: Christ-centered, Scripture-integrated

Course Description

Writing Workshop is a dynamic, skill-building course designed to help students in grades 6–10 grow into confident, thoughtful, and effective communicators. Meeting twice per week, this class combines direct instruction, guided practice, peer collaboration, and teacher feedback to strengthen each student's writing ability across multiple genres.

Students will develop essential skills in grammar, structure, clarity, and style while learning to write with purpose and conviction. Through narrative, expository, persuasive, and creative writing assignments, students will practice expressing ideas clearly and persuasively. Older students will gradually develop stronger thesis statements, structured arguments, research skills, and analytical writing techniques appropriate for high school preparation.

As a Christian learning community, we approach writing as a gift and responsibility from God. Students will explore how language reflects truth, beauty, and goodness, and they will be encouraged to write with integrity, humility, and discernment. Scripture integration will help students understand how communication can honor Christ (Colossians 4:6) and serve others with wisdom and grace.

In-Class Activities

- Mini-lessons on writing craft and grammar
- Guided writing time
- Peer review and constructive feedback
- Small group writing conferences
- Model text analysis
- Vocabulary and style development

Homework Expectations

Students will complete weekly writing assignments and occasional reading or prewriting tasks at home. Homework **may** include:

- Drafting or revising compositions
- Grammar practice
- Scripture reflection journaling
- Research preparation (for older grades)

Assignments are designed to reinforce skills taught in class and build writing stamina and independence.

Outcomes

By the end of the year, students will:

- Write clear, organized paragraphs and multi-paragraph essays
- Strengthen grammar and mechanics
- Develop a personal writing voice
- Engage thoughtfully with texts and ideas
- Practice revision and constructive critique
- Understand how writing can glorify God and serve others

Study Skills

Middle School Study Skills is a full-year course designed to equip students with the executive functioning tools and academic strategies they need to succeed in middle school and beyond. Throughout the year, students develop practical systems for organization, time management, and goal setting while building a growth mindset and taking ownership of their learning.

Students learn how to create effective organization systems, manage long- and short-term assignments, reduce procrastination, and design productive study environments. The course then moves into research-based learning strategies, including note-taking methods (Cornell, outline, and mind mapping), active reading and annotation, memory techniques, and test preparation skills grounded in age-appropriate brain science.

In the second half of the year, students strengthen academic performance skills such as writing, basic research, source evaluation, critical thinking, and plagiarism awareness. They also develop communication and self-advocacy skills, learn how to collaborate effectively, and practice project planning and presentation techniques. Digital literacy and responsible technology use are integrated throughout the course.

The year culminates in a personalized Study Skills Portfolio showcasing organized materials, sample notes, goal reflections, and an individualized study plan. By the end of the course, students demonstrate increased independence, academic confidence, and readiness for the growing demands of upper-level coursework.

Apologetics

Apologetics equips students to understand, articulate, and defend the Christian faith with confidence, clarity, and grace. In this course, students learn not only *what* they believe, but *why* they believe it.

Through guided discussion, Scripture study, and practical application, students explore foundational questions. Students are introduced to age-appropriate logical reasoning skills, recognizing common worldviews, identifying faulty thinking, and responding thoughtfully to cultural challenges. Emphasis is placed on respectful dialogue, humility, and speaking truth in love.

The course strengthens biblical literacy, critical thinking, and discernment while encouraging students to develop a personal, well-reasoned faith. By the end of the year, students will be better prepared to engage in meaningful conversations about Christianity, navigate cultural pressures, and stand firm in their beliefs with confidence and compassion.

Literature and Book Clubs

This course is ideal for families seeking rich literature study within a distinctly Christian, classical framework while allowing students to grow at their own pace through leveled book clubs.

Literature Curriculum: Memoria Press Book Clubs by Level: Our 6th–7th Grade Literature Studies course is a Christ-centered, classical literature program built around the trusted curriculum of Memoria Press. This course cultivates deep reading, thoughtful discussion, and biblical discernment while meeting students at their individual reading levels through structured book clubs.

Course Structure

Students meet **twice weekly** at our homeschool learning center for:

- Guided literary analysis
- Socratic-style discussion
- Vocabulary development
- Possible written narration and composition
- Character and worldview studies
- Public speaking through discussion leadership

Students complete **required reading at home** between class meetings. Families should expect consistent weekly reading assignments.

Book Clubs by Reading Level

Students are placed in small-group book clubs according to reading ability and maturity level (not strictly grade). This allows every student to be appropriately challenged while building confidence and comprehension skills.

Each book club:

- Reads full-length, unabridged novels
- Engages in structured discussion
- Analyzes plot, character, theme, and literary devices
- Evaluates worldview through a biblical lens
- Completes occasional written responses and projects

Christian Worldview Integration

Literature is examined through Scripture, encouraging students to ask:

- What does this story reveal about human nature?
- Where do we see sin, redemption, sacrifice, or courage?
- How does this align with biblical truth?
- What virtues or warnings are presented?

Students learn to think critically without compromising faith, developing discernment and wisdom.

Expectations

- Two in-person classes per week
- Required reading completed at home
- Active participation in discussion
- Possible written assignments and occasional quizzes or vocabulary checks

Grammar and Vocabulary

Curriculum: Fix It! Grammar from the Institute for Excellence in Writing

Parents choose the level available for their class that's appropriate for their child. The students will be grouped according to their level within the class. The teacher will work with groups individually.

Each Fix It! Grammar course is based upon a fictional story that has been significantly abridged and rewritten. The six courses and their recommended grade levels are:

- Nose Tree - Level 1, grades 4-5 (Tween class option only)
- Town Mouse and Country Mouse - Level 2, grades 4-5 (Tween class option only *if they've already done Nose Tree)
- Robin Hood - Level 3, grades 6-8 (Tween **or** Teen class option)
- Mowgli and Shere Khan - Level 4, grades 6-8 (Tween **or** Teen class option *if they've already done Robin Hood)

Vocabulary Curriculum: WordUp! from Compass Classroom

This course includes WordUp! volumes 1-3. Students will learn 67 Latin and Greek roots plus over 600 English words through videos, writing and games with other students.

Music and Art (Tuesdays)

Music and Art alternate throughout the term on Tuesdays, with Music only on Thursdays.

–**Music** focuses on foundational music theory and basic instrumental instruction. Students will learn to play the ukulele (separate supply fee required) and singing. They will have the opportunity to sing during our annual Christmas and End-of-Year assemblies.

–**Art** focuses on drawing skills with an emphasis on animal studies, helping students develop observation, technique, and creativity.

Drama

Drama is an engaging performance-based class that develops students' confidence, creativity, and communication skills through acting and stage production. Students learn foundational theater concepts including stage directions, blocking, voice projection, facial expression, body language, characterization, and script analysis.

Throughout the year, students participate in structured warm-ups, improvisation exercises, and scene work to build ensemble trust and performance skills. They learn how to interpret scripts, develop believable characters, memorize lines, and respond naturally on stage.

A major focus of the class is preparing and performing plays and short skits for our Christmas and End-of-Year assemblies. Students experience the full rehearsal process — auditions or role assignments, script study, blocking, rehearsal discipline, and final production — while learning responsibility and teamwork.

By the end of the course, students grow in stage presence, public speaking ability, and self-confidence while gaining meaningful experience performing for a live audience.

Astronomy

Astronomy invites students to explore the wonders of the universe through a biblical worldview. As we study the sun, moon, planets, stars, and galaxies, students will see how creation reflects the order, power, and creativity of God.

Students will learn about the solar system and basic space science concepts, understand the movement of the Earth, moon phases, and seasons, explore stars, constellations, and major features of our universe and engage in hands-on projects, models, and observation activities

Throughout the course, we will connect scientific discovery with Scripture, recognizing that “the heavens declare the glory of God” (Psalm 19:1). Students will grow in both scientific understanding and awe for the Creator who designed the universe with purpose and precision.

Physical Education

Our Physical Education Program is designed to promote physical fitness, coordination, teamwork, and character development in a structured and engaging environment. Students participate in age-appropriate activities that build strength, endurance, agility, and motor skills while learning the value of sportsmanship and self-discipline.

Our P.E. classes include a variety of activities such as team sports, skill drills, relay races, cooperative games, and fitness challenges. Specific sports include basketball, baseball, soccer, kickball and hockey. Instruction emphasizes proper technique, safe play, and respectful competition. Students are encouraged to set personal goals, persevere through challenges, and support their peers.