



Enrichment Programs

Updated 8/28/2013



Academic Competitions

PSIA (Private Schools Interscholastic Association) - (grades 1st -8th)

Teacher contact: Kasey Dow

This is an extracurricular academic program for students. There are 19 contest categories covering a wide range of disciplines (math, speech, art, music, science, spelling, vocabulary, geography, etc.). It is an excellent opportunity for private school students to engage in academic competition with their peers at a district and hopefully state level. The higher the grade level the more opportunities there are to compete. (Feb/March)

St. Patrick's Academic Fair (grades 1st -8th)

Teacher contact: Kasey Dow

This is an extracurricular academic program for students. There are a variety of contest categories covering a wide range of disciplines (math, speech, art, spelling, social studies, etc.). It is an excellent opportunity for private catholic school students to engage in academic competition with their peers at a local level. More opportunities are available for the younger students competing than at PSIA. (Feb/March)

Math Counts (grades 6th -8th)

Teacher contact: Soledad Almerido

Students participate in an after school math program (Tuesdays beginning in September) to help enhance their knowledge of math. Students are given a test in December to qualify for one of the two 4 person teams that will compete at the Math Counts Competition at SMU in February. (Opportunity to advance to State as an individual or team) (February)

Robotics (grades 6th -8th)

Teacher contact: Ron Hudson & Jeff Solomon

An exploratory* is offered to students who would like to compete in the local Robotics Competition held in the spring.

GeoBee (grades 5th -8th)

Teacher contact: Anthony Interrante

In the second quarter of the fall semester, students participate in a CKS competition. The CKS winners earn an opportunity to sit for a state qualifying exam. (The top 100 "district" test scores qualify for the state level competition.)

Spelling Bee (grades 5th -8th)

Teacher contact: Office Administration

A competition begins at the school level where the kids compete head to head in their classrooms. The winners compete at the CKS school wide event with a chance to move on to the state level of competition.

Science Fair (grades 4th -8th)

Teacher contact: Carry Hansen

Students prepare approved science projects for the CKS Science Fair Night the end of January. 4th graders receive recognition for their projects. 5th -8th grade students compete for 1st -3rd place ribbons in group and individual categories. (Only 7th & 8th grade 1st place winners are eligible for the district level competition.)

Speech and Drama (grades 6th -8th)

Teacher contact: Billie Houpt

An exploratory* is offered to help the kids find the thespian within them. The students practice both during and after school to prepare a piece for competition.

Continental Math (grades 4th & 5th)

Teacher contact: Kathy Lane

This national test is administered to all the students in 4th and 5th grade. Students receiving high qualifying scores are honored with awards and recognized by CKS in May of each.

Catholic Math League (grades 3rd – 8th)

Teacher contact: Kasey Dow

Formerly called Math Facts, this national test is administered to all the students in 3rd-8th grade. Students receiving high qualifying scores are honored with awards and recognized by CKS in May of each.

Academic Enrichment

SOAR (**S**tudents with **O**utstanding **A**bility in **R**eading/Math) - (grades 3rd-5th)

A program offered to academically talented students meeting the Standardize Testing minimums and grade requirements.

Jr. and Sr. DECATS (DeBusk Enrichment Center for Academically Talented Students)

(**Jr. DECATS**: summer before 4th -6th grade & **Sr. DECATS**: summer before 7th-9th grade)

Teacher contact: Jr. DECATS - Kasey Dow and Sr. DECATS – Jeff Solomon

A summer enrichment program offered by invitation only and coordinated by St. Rita's and John Paul II respectively. (Application process involved)

Duke University TIPS (grades 4th-8th)

A program offered to academically advanced students who meet certain requirements. (Application process involved)

ISEE Preparation (Independent School Entrance Examination) - (8th grade only)

In-school test preparation provided the 1st semester of the 8th grade year to all students. Exam required for admission to most high schools.

High Tech High Touch (grades K-5th)

This is an in-school science program brought into the classroom by High Tech High Touch to help anchor the students' learning in science.

The Science Place (6th grade only)

This is an in-school science program brought into the classroom to help anchor the students' learning in science.

Museum of Science and Nature (4th grade only)

This is an in-school science program brought into the classroom and taught by science professionals. The students learn the inner workings of the heart and eyes by participating in dissections.

Honors Program (grades 6th-8th)

Honors classes are offered in math and English to offer a challenging and extended curriculum. Students are selected on the basis of classroom performance, achievement test scores, grades, teacher recommendations, attendance, and space available.

NJHS (National Junior Honor Society) - (2nd semester 7th-8th)

NJHS was established to recognize outstanding achievement and citizenship in our 7th and 8th grade students. Induction into the NJHS takes place each year in April or May. 2nd Semester 6th grade grades are used to determine 7th grade NJHS acceptance.

Yearbook (grades 6th-8th)

An exploratory* is offered involving the design and creation of the CKS Yearbook.

Accelerated Reading (AR) - (grades 1st-8th)

The program motivates students to read more and choose better books, to improve reading scores, to build higher-order thinking skills by earning points through computerized testing. (Students can spend earned points quarterly at the AR store.)

Field Trips (grades K-8th)

School Field trips are encouraged as educational and cultural experiences. Trips are correlated to classroom instruction to anchor learning. Annual field trips include: Taos-8th, Austin/SanAntonio-7th, Pines-5th, Enterprise City-4th and 5th

Summer School Programs (grades K-7th)

A number of different courses are offered to help students reinforce what they have learned or to try something new. Each year the course and teacher offerings vary.

Exploratories* (grades 6th-8th)

Individual programs are offered each quarter in Grades 6 – 8 providing a variety of interesting mini-courses.

Spiritual Enrichment

Vacation Bible School (participants: grades pre K -3rd) (student volunteers: grades 4th – 8th)

Each summer Faith Formation and St. Ann's volunteers work to create a week of spiritual fun and education with a theme through music and activities. Teen students volunteer to assist with the different age groups. VBS is held in the CKS.

First Reconciliation & Communion (2nd grade only)

Children receive First Reconciliation in December and First Communion in May.

Confirmation (8th grade only)

Confirmation and preparation occur in the spring.

Altar Servers (grades 4th-8th)

Schedules are coordinated by a parent volunteer.

House Advisory (grades 6th-8th)

New students and incoming sixth grade students are selected for one of the four houses each year and remain in them for the 3 years of Upper School. Each house meets with their faculty mentors during school hours to work on projects promoting faith, community, and service to the community.

Leadership Enrichment

Student Council (grades 6th-8th)

Each fall the 6th, 7th and 8th grade students elect students to serve as representatives on the CKS Student Council.

Cub Scouts (grades 2nd-4th)

Initiated and organized by volunteer parents from the corresponding grades.

Boy Scouts (grades 5th-8th)

Membership is available at a number of local troops throughout Dallas.

Girl Scouts (grades 3rd-8th)

Initiated and organized by volunteer parents from the corresponding grades

Musical Enrichment

Band (grades 4th-8th)

Instruction is provided by Music Learning and coordinated through the Office. Students meet twice weekly after lunch. Saturday practices off-site are included.

St. Cecilia's Singers (grades 3rd-6th)

Students meet once a week for choir practice in the parish center. (No audition necessary)

Instruction and organization is provided by Henry McDowell, CK's musical minister.

Christ the King Ringers (grades 4th-8th)

Students meet once a week for handbell practice in the church. (No audition necessary)

Instruction and organization is provided by Henry McDowell, CK's musical minister.

Community Service Enrichment

Safety Patrol (grades 4th & 5th)

Students can volunteer to work as a safety patrol volunteer either before or after school. They assist students getting into and out of their cars to help carpool run more safely and smoothly. Coordinated through the 4th/5th grade teachers.

Community Service Hours (incoming 8th graders)

Teacher contact: Bill Leicht

Each year the 8th grade students are required to provide a certain number of community service hours to the church, school, charity organizations, or community.

Annual School Wide and Classroom Service Projects (K-8th)

Each year the school sponsors three school wide drives, Thanksgiving (food drive), Christmas (clothing drive) and Paschal Season (Lenten Boxes). In addition, each class selects a community service project.

Physical Enrichment

DPL Sports (Dallas Parochial League) (grades 5th-8th)

- Organized by the DPL and coordinated through Coach Higgs and Parent Volunteers.
- Grades 5 – 6: Teams compete with other Catholic schools in Dallas. The focus during these grades continues to be development of each player's skills.
- Grades 7 – 8: Skills development is still emphasized, but competition is also heavily stressed. Team selection process may include "A/B Team" selection and/or "Varsity / Jr. Varsity" selection.

Sports Available: Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Soccer, and Track/Swimming Meets

YMCA Sports (grades K-4th)

Organized by the University Park YMCA and coordinated through Coach Higgs and parent volunteers.

Sports Available: Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, T-ball, Soccer, and Track Meets

Cheerleading (8th grade girls only)

Instruction and coordination is provided by 8th grade parent volunteers. (No tryouts necessary)

North Texas Lacrosse (grades 5th-8th)

Organized by the NTL and coordinated by parent volunteers in the various grades.

Social Enrichment

Dances

- The Upper School has two dances during the year. The Fall Dance is for 7th and 8th grade students only. The House Ball occurs during the 2nd semester and is attended by 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students.
- The Father Daughter dance is open to all grades and is sponsored by CKS's PAC (Parent Athletic Committee).

Junior Assembly (8th grade only)

Organized by a committee of parochial school volunteer parents and coordinated at the individual school level by parent volunteers.

Etiquette for Success (8th grade only)

This is a mandatory exploratory* for 8th grade students. The course helps students with manners and appropriate interviewing skills.