

Elective Descriptions – 1st & 2nd Quarter: 2022–2023

AIG:

K/1st Choice:

AIG - Best of the Best*: Students will be introduced to books by award-winning authors and illustrators. Among the Caldecott, NC Children's Book Award, or ALA Notable Book winners, they will find stories that delight and fascinate them. Their enjoyment will be shared with others through activities such as read-alongs, creative activities, and dramatizations.

AIG - Thinking Power*: Do you like to solve puzzles, use clues to solve mysteries, and think outside of the box? Sharpen your thinking skills with Thinking Power! In this class, we will explore different types of thinking, including deductive logic, analytical thinking, inventive thinking, creative thinking, visual perception, and evaluative thinking. We will have fun while exercising our brains!

4th/5th Choice:

AIG - Inventions*: Inventions are all around you! Enjoy building various inventions, designing your own ideas, combining inventions to create new ideas, and researching famous inventors. In addition, you will become an inventor yourself and have a chance to submit your own invention to our Thomas Edison Inventions Fair.

AIG - Intro to Engineering*: Students will be introduced to 12 different types of engineering. They will be presented with scenarios that require them to become each type of engineer and solve a problem with their team. They will make predictions, test materials, investigate solutions, and make presentations with their team using the data and observations they complete. 21st Century Skills will be utilized as they explore each type of engineering field and develop a deeper understanding of what it means to be an engineer.

Dance:

K/1st AND 2nd/3rd Choice:

Dance the Story: "The Nutcracker" (semester long): This course will introduce students to basic technique and movement in a variety of dance styles. The dance styles experienced in this elective may include ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary/modern, lyrical, creative, or musical theatre. Choreography and performance will be the focus of the elective as students will participate in our annual production of "The Nutcracker," which will be a collaborative arts performance at the end of the semester.

4th/5th Choice:

Storybook Dance: "The Nutcracker" (semester long): This elective will allow students to explore technique in a variety of dance forms that may include ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, contemporary/modern, creative dance, improvisation, or musical theatre. Dancers will make connections between the written word and communication of movement as they prepare and participate in our annual production of "The Nutcracker," which will be a collaborative arts performance at the end of the semester.

Media/Technology/ELA/Math/Science:

K/1st Choice:

Authors in the Making: Lego Narrative Builder: LEGOS are EVERYTHING AWESOME! Explore LEGO's through writing and be inspired! Imagine building fantastical storyboards to learn how to SHOW NOT TELL. Learn the writing process with a fun twist using LEGO Fairy Tales, LEGO Space and LEGO Communities expansion kits. Build-up the story elements, character, setting, action and problem-solution brick by brick.

2nd/3rd Choice:

Bookmakers Workshop: Calling all student authors! Get your creative juices flowing! Learn from authors before you about the history of bookmaking as well as the art of bookmaking from start to finish. Then you, as an author yourself, will have the opportunity to make a variety of books, experience different ways that books are published and create a showcase of published pieces.

Cinderella Around the World: Pack your bags. Grab your passport. We are on a literature world tour to find Cinderella. Is she Appalachian, Creole, Chinese, Egyptian, or Jewish? Who helps her with magic? Is it a fairy godmother, fish, turkey, or dove? You will meet many different multicultural "Cinderellas" in this elective. Did you know there are over 1,500 versions of the Cinderella story dating back to the first century? In this elective you will visit the seven continents and read a "Cinderella" story from many different countries while completing many activities and projects during the world tour.

Storytelling: Exploring through Podcasts: Students will participate in an art form as old as language itself. They will be taught skills to become storytellers through practicing the techniques and strategies used by professional storytellers. Folk tales, hero stories, epics, legends, and original stories will be shared through storytelling sessions. Students will focus on the elements of a story while reading, viewing, and listening to various types of tales. They will explore the world of podcasting and be encouraged to retell stories in their own words, remaining actively involved as they apply skills in reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking to create and present their own stories.

4th/5th Choice:

School News - WPLA: The primary purpose of this elective is to produce a "Your School News" program to present important school information and events. Students who participate in this elective will study concepts of presentation: speaking, diction, personality, celebrity, marketing, branding and advertising. Research, writing, editing, and reporting as well as incorporating new technologies to produce each program, are prime focus areas.

World Language:

K-5th Choice:

Exploring Spanish: Hola! Join the Spanish elective to learn basic Spanish vocabulary, common phrases, and some silly songs. Play games, dance and create while learning about famous people, places, and the beautiful culture of Spanish speaking people.

***Teacher Recommendation Encouraged**

Music:

K/1st Choices:

Orchestra I (year-long): Learn to play the violin & read music in an ensemble! This class will have an opportunity to share what they have learned in group performances during the year.

There's Magic in Music: Students will discover the magic of music through singing, chanting, dancing, and playing as they become tuneful (able to sing in tune), beatful (able to keep a steady beat), and artful (appreciate many types and forms of music).

Music We Can Play & Sing: Through a sequential, vocal/instrumental approach, children will be introduced to music reading skills. Students will learn to become independent musical thinkers with the help of a rich variety of folk and classical music.

Story Time for Young Listeners: Listening is essential and basic to all musical experiences. Through a variety of integrated arts activities, students will hear and study famous classical compositions, their stories/origins, and their composers.

2nd/3rd Choices:

Orchestra I/II - (year-long): Play the violin, viola, or cello in this course. Emphasis will be placed on both individual and group instruction. Solo and ensemble performances will be encouraged. This class will have an opportunity to share what they have learned in group performances throughout the year.

Band I - (3rd Graders ONLY - year-long): Learn to play a musical instrument heard in band.

Keyboard for Sight & Sound I: Each quarter through games, basic fundamentals of music and playing techniques students will learn to play a keyboard instrument!

4th/5th Choices:

Orchestra II - (year-long): Continue playing the violin, viola, or cello in this course. Emphasis will be placed on both individual and group instruction. Solo and ensemble performances will be encouraged. This class will have an opportunity to share what they have learned in group performances throughout the year.

Band II - (year-long): This course will include instruction on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Emphasis will be on individual and group instruction. Solo and ensemble performances will be a vital part of this course.

Orff Key: Carl Orff developed a complete musical experience for children through singing, chanting, dancing, and playing instruments. This course will use ukuleles, xylophones, voices and percussion instruments to provide fun and playful music making. (The 2nd quarter class will be part of Powell's annual Nutcracker performance in December.)

P.E./Health:

K/1st Choice:

Ready, Set, Move: This is a course designed to strengthen gross motor skills by using large muscle groups. Activities will include imitating body movements, identifying and using body parts, and manipulating their bodies in space.

New Games I: Students will participate in the joy of play, cooperation, and trust, rather than simply striving to win. Games are based upon the philosophy, "Play Hard, Play Fair, Nobody Hurt." Activity level will range from physically active to quiet group games. Good sportsmanship will be emphasized as well as practice in basic movement skills.

2nd/3rd Choice:

Growing Strong: In this class students will learn positive ways to get and stay healthy. Activities will include fun ways to develop good health and safety habits.

New Games II: Students will participate in the joy of play, cooperation & trust, rather than simply striving to win. Games are based upon the philosophy, "Play Hard, Play Fair, Nobody Hurt." Activity level will range from physically active to quiet group games. Good sportsmanship will be emphasized as well as practice in basic movement skills.

4th/5th Choice:

Shaping Up: Who's in control of having a healthy body? Aerobic exercises and nutritional education will enhance the awareness of what food and exercise can do for the body.

New Games II: Students will participate in a wide variety of games suitable for this age level. Based on the philosophy, "Play Hard, Play Fair, Nobody Hurt," these games will promote the development of leadership ability in a cooperative group setting. Stamina and agility will be developed, as well as social interaction skills.

Visual Arts:

K/1st Choice:

All Together: Students will explore a variety of art media to build their skills of drawing, cutting & pasting, and sculpting.

Animals in Art: Students interested in animals will have the opportunity to use a variety of mediums to portray animals in their artwork.

2nd/3rd Choice:

All Together: Students will explore a variety of art media, such as, paper mosaic, plaster sculpture, gelli plates and more to build their skills of drawing, cutting, pasting & sculpting.

Astounding Artists: Through a study of astounding artists' lives & works, students will create their own "masterpieces" using a variety of art media & methods. Observing works of art by Vincent Van Gogh, Henri Matisse, Salvador Dali, Faith Ringgold & more will enable students to see and understand each artist's unique style.

4th/5th Choice:

Drawing the Line: Students will have the opportunity to draw a wide variety of subjects from life & imagination. Line techniques, perspective, proportion & visual texture will be taught.

Drawing & Painting: Exercises in drawing techniques will be experienced with an emphasis on the human figure, still life, and objects from nature. In painting, color theory will be emphasized. Students will incorporate their drawings into paintings.

