



1st & 2nd New Parent Information

Welcome to CHCS! This is without a doubt a very exciting year for you and your family as you get to experience all the “firsts” of starting school. It is our mindset to partner with you during this transition to make it as smooth as possible for you and your student. During 1st and 2nd grade, students are continuing to build the firm foundation in the grammar stage! Using chants, songs, and facts to remember information our students find this stage to be FUN!

Curriculum Overview

1st grade- Our first graders take their reading skills to a higher level, developing fluency and speed in reading as well as writing. Students begin to build mastery as they explore various readers based on Writing Road to Reading. Students also begin to explore classics and enter into the world of good literature. Math skills grow as well, as students commit more math facts to memory to lay the groundwork for their future studies. Our first graders study learn about being a scientist by studying meteorology, botany, physics, and zoology at a first grade level. In history students explore their immediate world while also exploring many historical figures and traditions around them.

2nd grade- Students continue to master their critical skills of reading and writing and arithmetic, but also begin to drive into the past with the study of Texas History. They focus on the geography of Texas, major cities, historical figures, landmarks and sites of the Lone Star State. In Science they deepen their knowledge of God’s creation using scientific skills while studying atmosphere, weather, and the water cycle. Good literature selections continue to nurture creativity and a love for reading as the students read and write about classic children’s books. 2nd grade also begins writing in cursive. We are providing a packet for practice at home!

Writing Road to Reading

At CHCS, we have chosen what is referred to as the Spaulding Method for our reading methodology. This is consistent throughout all of our grammar school classrooms. This method, found in the text, Writing Road to Reading, as stood the test of time in developing strong readers, spellers, and writers. Attached you will find an overview of the program. This is an introduction for you and to help build common language between student, teacher, and parents. As the year progresses, you may have questions regarding WRTR. We encourage you to reach out to your teacher as questions arise.

Life at CHCS for 1st and 2nd grade.

- Special Classes: Every week your child will attend special classes to broaden their love for learning. These classes include PE, Library, Art, and Music.
- Carpool: Students will be dropped off and picked up through our carpool process. Your child will be escorted to and from the parking lot every morning and afternoon. Please remain in your car to keep lanes safe and clear. As students begin to work towards independence, it is strongly recommended that all CHCS students are picked up and dropped off for carpool.
- Group Me: Each class will have a Group Me group set up. This is an important place to gather information about events and things going on in class. Each class is assigned a room parent who will use this as the primary mode of communication. Please make sure you download the app!
- Handbook: Mrs. Jones will have the parent handbook sent to each new family. Although this is a lengthy document, it is important to take time to read it as it gives specifics on how CHCS operates. This is also a part of your family agreement which will need to be signed and returned at the beginning of the year.

Items Needed

- Backpack. This backpack should be big enough to contain a folder, lunch box, and oops clothes. A water bottle side pocket is very helpful!
- Lunchbox. Please purchase a lunch box that is easy to open for student. We also appreciate lunches that can be independently handled by your child. It is also helpful if lunchbox had a label of some sort as well.
- Labeled water bottle and snack. Students will have a morning snack time. Please label both.
- Outerwear. Every year our lost and found bin overflows with unlabeled clothes. Please label all coats, sweaters, jackets, etc with your child's name.

We appreciate your partnership and can't wait to serve you this coming school year!