

# **LIBRARY TIME AT MOUNT MERICI ACADEMY**

## **General Library Curriculum**

### **PreK Through Grade Two**

Library time begins with a story at all grade levels. Choosing which book to read depends on a number of variables. First, the grade level of the class is considered. In grades PreK and kindergarten, a picture book is chosen. At times a book is chosen in order to highlight a particular issue, such as getting along with each other. For instance, if children have been arguing on the recess playground, a book might be read that deals with friends cooperating and working out differences together. Christian values such as kindness, love, caring and respect are often threaded into the stories and discussed. Many times, humorous stories are read just for fun. Holiday stories are always enjoyed at holiday times.

In grades one and two a chapter book is often read. This gets many of the students interested in some of the more popular beginning level chapter books that are available in the library. Also, at this level each week the students are encouraged to suggest non-fiction titles that they are interested in. These books are then put out for the following week's library time. This helps them to get an idea of what we have in the library collection, as well as to expand on many topics that they are currently studying in their respective classrooms.

At all levels, library skills are taught periodically throughout the year. The goal is that by eighth grade the students have a good understanding of how to use a library for both research and enjoyment.

### **Grades Three Through Five**

In grades three through five, chapter books are read. This is a wonderful way to get the older students interested in new authors or perhaps a certain genre of books such as mystery or historical fiction.

## **Middle School Library**

The library for the middle school is available to all students wishing to conduct research or simply to choose a book for their enjoyment. The library is a great resource that can help students to develop skills in critical thinking, writing and overall lifetime learning.

### **Statement of Philosophy – Library**

Library time is meant to provide students with two basics: one being to enhance a child's joy of reading and the other to learn the mechanics of using a library. In learning to use the library, respect, cooperation, consideration, and responsibility are continually discussed and stressed.

### **Library Management Plan**

The library is a walking place  
Please use an inside voice  
Please respect our books

### **Positive Reinforcement for Appropriate Behavior**

Verbal praise  
Classroom teacher informed of a good library time

### **Consequences of Inappropriate Behavior**

Verbal reminder of rules  
Classroom teacher notified of behavior  
Loss of following week's library time