

Middle School at Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic School

The goal of Middle School is to provide an environment that challenges your child both academically and developmentally. OLACS has high expectations for students as they develop their leadership skills in a caring environment with Catholic traditions. Expect to see the following changes as students transition to Middle School at OLACS:

Religion

As a Catholic middle school rooted in our rich Catholic traditions, religion is taught four days per week. Wednesday is set aside for Mass and service projects. There are many opportunities for a child to put his/her faith into action through school-sponsored service project activities.

Multiple teachers

Each child will have different teachers for many classes and will continue to have specials in music (band/choir), art, and physical education, as well as library time each week.

Rotating schedule

Each child will experience the core curriculum of math, literature, English, religion, social studies, science, Spanish, and vocabulary/spelling/writing as well as the Specials classes.

It may seem confusing at first to a child, but the teachers find that by the second week of school, the students really enjoy moving from class to class and socializing with different students in each class.

Math level placement based on prior demonstrated abilities

Math levels vary in Middle School. Students are placed in a class based on a six-point evaluations/criteria developed by the Archdiocese of Atlanta. The goal is to place each child where he/she is best suited. The criteria that influence the math placement for students are

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| 1) 5 th grade math grades | 4) 5 th grade teacher's recommendation |
| 2) 5 th grade homework participation | 5) ITBS scores |
| 3) 5 th grade classroom attitude | 6) CogAt scores |

Language Arts curriculum

Students will receive increased language arts experiences, including literature, spelling/vocabulary, English, and writing. The emphasis throughout the Middle School curriculum is on enhancing the students' awareness of genre and integrating writing throughout the curriculum.

Computer skills will be integrated throughout the curriculum

Students visit the Computer Lab to increase computer skills and knowledge as it relates to all core classes. Computer time is used to reinforce the learning taking place in the classroom and to provide the student with an alternative method of learning.

Increased leadership opportunities

OLA Catholic School strives to find the right balance between academics, social activities, and extracurricular activities for its students. They may take a larger role in many activities including, but not limited to, Student Council, Literary Magazine, Yearbook, Band, Choir, Musical Productions, Tech Club, Lector Club, Peace Patrol, National Junior Honor Society, Student Ambassadors, and Safety Patrol.

Additionally, students have the opportunity to attend student-planned, teacher-supervised dances, and seventh and eighth grade students have the opportunity to participate in off-campus religious retreats.

Our Lady of the Assumption School seeks to create a nurturing environment grounded in the Catholic faith, which provides for the spiritual and academic development of each child.

2011 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

