

HCA Elementary Armdale Campus

Sue -- I have added suggestions in bold but I have not changed the basic thrust of what you are saying.

ACADEMIC TRAINING

Our elementary school offers students a solid foundation in the basic core subjects. We start in pre-primary by offering a strong phonetic approach to reading and continue this method of instruction all the way through grade two.

Beginning in grade three, the upper elementary students embark on a journey in *Foundations & Frameworks An Instructional Reading Program*. This program develops patterns of thinking and has independent comprehension as its goal. Working within small groups, the students read a novel, are introduced to new vocabulary words that they use in contextually rich sentences and learn to organize the details in the novel according to the skill being taught for that unit such as character, cause and effect, comparison and contrast, setting, plot and sequence of events. The introductory activity, the read-aloud times and the intellectual art that conclude the study of that novel are designed with the students' enjoyment in mind.

The pre-primaries and primaries use Abeka math which is very strong in computation. We use the Jump Math curriculum in grades one through five. We also offer science social studies, health, gym and art. The students go on field trips which are subject related and also participate in musical productions. We also offer heritage, science and fine arts fairs.

We offer French instruction starting in pre-primary. The teacher is a native French speaker.

Our smaller classes allow our experienced teachers to give more time to the students as needed. (Jo-an, could you please insert the results of standardized testing in our elementary?)

OUR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Our elementary classrooms are set up to be conducive to learning. They are visually appealing and set up in a structured manner. Project-based learning also forms a part of our curriculum.

Students are strongly encouraged to be respectful of authority and of one another and their own and other's belongings through the teaching of Christian character traits and the core values of our school.

DISCIPLESHIP AND LEADERSHIP

At HCA, we are called to help the students in the lower grades learn basic biblical knowledge and then build on it. We encourage the students to ask any questions they may have in a safe and supportive setting. Students are introduced to a culture of discipleship through direct teaching, the example of others and service opportunities.