



## The Program Environment

**Christian Fundamentals and Montessori Methods and are integrated throughout the classroom. The following points are some examples of what you might find. However, we invite you to come and explore the classroom for yourself.**

### **Practical Life**

Activities such as sweeping, pouring, sponging, polishing, washing, food preparation, etc., are designed to develop the child's sense of order, focus, concentration, sequential memory and eye for detail. These are fundamental disciplines for further academic learning. Lessons in grace and courtesy are presented to develop social skills and strengthen virtue.

### **Sensorial**

The senses play an important role in the child's development at this early age. The sensorial exercises are designed to develop an awareness and refinement of the senses: visual, tactile, auditory, and olfactory senses. Sensory education helps the child acquire details and accurate knowledge leading toward a reasoning mind. It is a basis for future cognitive learning.

### **Language**

Language development is an integral part of each learning area as well as a special area in and of itself. The classroom exposes the children to many materials and activities that will enable them to develop and refine their vision, hearing, and speech as a preparation for more formal learning of language. To develop readiness, the child prepares his hand for writing with equipment such as the metal insets. Through guidance in the way letters look, sound, and feel, the child moves into the simple stages of phonetic reading. Next, the child is introduced to more complex sounds, expanding his reading ability. This approach gives children a total reading experience that enables them to do more than identify words; it leads them to understand the ideas and feelings. Parallel exercises enhance writing skills, both physical and creative, many of which enlighten children with Bible stories. The California Phonetic Reading Program is also implemented; beginning with pre-selected initial sounds and continuing through Set V.

### **Mathematics**

Children are born with a mathematical mind and encounter mathematical concepts every day. By using manipulative materials to explore first the concept of quantity and then its numerical symbol representation, children develop a clear comprehension of the foundation of the decimal system and operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Eventually, they move towards working with math on more abstract levels.

### **Culture**

Cultural subjects include art, music, history, geography, science and nature with Biblical studies applied to each. These are taught in conjunction with other interests in order to give the child an appreciation of how the arts, sciences and humanities affect everyday life.