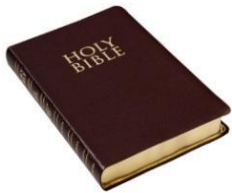


Burge Terrace Christian School

1st – 6th Grade Curriculum Summary

The curriculum at Burge Terrace Christian School features solid Bible training; a strong phonics foundation; a hands-on, discovery-oriented approach to science and history lessons; the development of critical thinking skills; and instruction in music, art, and physical education. We offer attractive classrooms equipped with technology, a computer lab, a full-size gym, outside playgrounds and athletic fields, a well-equipped kitchen and hot lunch program, and an in-house library.

Bible



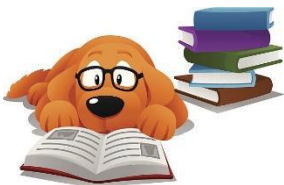
The basics of a God-centered foundation in life are molded early through the examples set by parents, and as children grow older, through diligent instruction. **BJU Press** materials are used to provide the Bible lessons in K4 through grade 6. Lessons establish the authority of scripture, aid children to recognize their need for a Savior, familiarize them with basic Bible accounts, encourage practical application of biblical principles, and connect the Bible with historical events and other subjects.

Bible Truths for Christian Growth is a list of questions and answers that teaches children basic Bible doctrines along with appropriate life applications. Classes work together to learn and recite these answers to life's questions.

Walking in Truth, published by Summit Ministries, is used for our sixth-grade students. Before our students leave Burge Terrace, we want them to be saturated in a biblical worldview in order to meet the cultural challenges of the future.

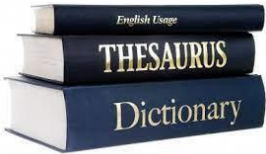
Our BTCS leadership team organizes a weekly chapel program where children in K5-6 recite their Bible class memory work, sing songs, and hear practical Bible messages to present the Gospel and encourage growth in the Christian life.


Reading

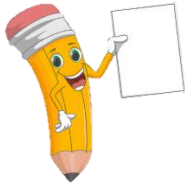





Published by **BJU Press**, the reading program in grades 1-6 at BTCS is built on a solid phonics foundation with meaningful independent activities that reinforce the skills students are learning. The reading texts contain a variety of colorfully illustrated Bible stories, biographies, fiction, nonfiction articles, poems, and plays. Each selection reinforces language skills, and all content is designed to help children develop a Christian worldview, while emphasizing excellent character development. The materials also work to build vocabulary and critical thinking skills.

	<p>The phonics foundation that was taught in preschool and kindergarten is reinforced in grades 1-2 to help students become readers who can get meaning from print and writers who can communicate effectively. Exciting themed lessons provide practice in letter-sound association, decoding and encoding, word attack skills, rhyming, word family groupings, listening, spelling, comprehension, and reading skills.</p> <p>Our teachers also provide a “read aloud” experience to promote listening skills and comprehension with materials that students may not yet be equipped to read for themselves. Novel studies accompany these read aloud times, introducing students to longer and more complex works as well as advanced vocabulary and ideas. Reading skills are reinforced with weekly online learning.</p>
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<p>English & Grammar</p> 	<p>Beginning by building strong foundational skills in grammar and sentence structure, the BJU Press English program targets traditional English skills and essential reference skills. The series provides step-by-step instructions for the Writing Process and focuses on introducing students to each major category of writing. Students as young as first graders create both academic and creative writing projects and apply grammar and punctuation rules to writing. Strong editing skills are emphasized as well as sentence classification and diagraming skills. This curriculum also provides a wide variety of technology resources and individualized helps for different types of learners.</p>
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<p>Spelling</p> 	<p>BJU Press Spelling is designed to help students learn a group of words they can spell correctly upon recall. Students learn that spelling represents sounds in words. Word lists contain high-frequency words with reliable phonics and structural generalizations. Proofreading exercises help students to become familiar with their own spelling and to become skilled in detecting errors. Using a word-study approach, students investigate words by identifying, comparing, contrasting, and drawing conclusions about spelling patterns and rules. Dictionary skill lessons support the application of spelling skills, while writing activities give students practice in using spelling in real-life situations.</p> <p>The 5th-6th grade curriculum is expanded to include frequently misspelled words, homophones, and Greek/Latin prefixes and roots. This study gives the students strategies to practice, reinforce, and retain words they will use</p>
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	in everyday life and tackle words that are more complex.
<p>Handwriting</p> 	<p>Strong communication skills make a world of difference. We believe that explicit handwriting instruction gives students the advantage of becoming more effective communicators through accurate print awareness and improved letter recognition. We also stress the fact that attention to detail in tasks such as handwriting reveals a person's character. Thus, BTCS has chosen to emphasize the traditional strokes presented in the Zaner-Bloser handwriting materials to teach students to produce legible manuscript and cursive letter formation. This curriculum is used through fourth grade.</p>
<p>History, Geography, & Social Studies</p> 	<p>In the elementary grades, social studies emphasize learning critical thinking skills by first mastering terminology and then discovering cause and effect relationships in the progression of historical events. Through the integration of geography, culture, government, economics, and history, the progression of this social studies curriculum lays a strong foundation for deeper study in junior and senior high. While lower elementary students learn through topical unit study and upper elementary students take a sequential approach, all curricula develop global citizenship and a broader understanding of world events and their connections by integrating US history with world history.</p> <p>Our first grade curriculum introduces a Christian worldview of the family, community, jobs, land, and the United States. Students learn to relate each aspect of social studies to their own lives.</p> <p>In second grade, Our Fifty States, authored by Mary McCurdy, is used to explore various aspects of all the states.</p> <p>Third graders focus on world continents with a concentration on geography, natural resources, culture and economy. Various Christians are featured with each continent as "People Making a Difference."</p> <p>Fourth graders at BTCS study ancient civilizations from Creation to the Middle Ages. An emphasis is placed on justice, power, citizenship, and religion.</p> <p>Fourth through sixth graders learn basic world and United States geography. Weekly timeline events that have changed our country or world are studied and the year memorized.</p>

	<p>The Oxford Press collection of <i>A History of US</i> curriculum is taught in the fifth and sixth grade history classes. The winner of several awards, these books combine engaging illustration with interesting text. The volumes cover American history from ancient history to about 1900. Believing that knowledge of primary sources are important, the fifth and sixth graders memorize excerpts from famous documents and speeches. Timeline events are added to the curriculum to gain perspective on our country's chronological history and explore 21st century history.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Our emphasis at BTCS is to teach students to be their own “scientists,” who know how to record their observations in their field journals as they develop a deep appreciation for God’s special work in Creation. Our science curriculum promotes student questioning and emphasizes critical thinking and application skills. Students use science knowledge to solve problems and create new ideas that will improve a process.</p> <p>Grades 1-6 are introduced to a wide range of scientific topics through BJU Press Science including scientific processes, earth sciences, life sciences, and physical sciences. Students will acquire science vocabulary, building a foundation for future deeper studies. Investigations and experiments are an important part of student experiences as they encourage observation and application of knowledge. All science content is presented from a biblical worldview and emphasizes the role of the Creator in His creation.</p>
<p>Mathematics (Grades 1-6)</p> 	<p>A good elementary math curriculum teaches concepts on three levels: concrete (manipulatives), semi-concrete (pictures), and abstract (symbolic notation). This enables students to grasp each concept in stages and truly absorb it into their experience, memory, and reasoning. A good math curriculum will also teach toward understanding (not just rote memorization) with exercises that progress from easy to difficult. BTCS uses the math curriculum produced by BJU Press in K4 through grade 6, along with technology reinforcement and enrichment activities.</p>

Computer Skills



BTCS students have access to an individual Chromebook in the classrooms. Various Ed Tech resources are available to the students. These include:

<i>Reading Eggs</i>	K5-6 th
<i>Math Seeds</i>	K5-3 rd
<i>MAP Accelerator</i>	4 th -6 th
<i>MAP Reading Fluency</i>	K5-2 nd
<i>IXL</i>	K5-6 th
<i>Typesy</i>	1 st -6 th

Students also use various Google programs.

Music



BTCS believes that every student should be exposed to good music and the elements (melody, harmony, rhythm, form, timbre, dynamics) which go together to make good music happen. Students should be taught to value excellence both as consumers and as performers of music. Passive exposure that occurs when classical music is played during rest times, silent-reading periods, or art classes also helps to establish subconscious standards for each child. In addition, students perform at various times throughout the school year: e.g., annual musical, Christmas Carol Sing, and Awards Night. Singing games, movement and music correlation activities across the curriculum (Bible, social studies, science, etc.) contribute to children having fun while enhancing physical coordination and developing musical aptitude.

Physical Education



Physical activity is critical to the development and maintenance of good health. The goal of physical education is to develop individuals who have the knowledge, skills and confidence to enjoy a lifetime of healthy physical activity. To accomplish this training priority, BTCS provides an age-appropriate scope and sequence of activities designed to help students demonstrate competency in the motor skills and movement patterns they need to perform a variety of physical activities. BTCS also offers Taekwondo as a means for children to gain confidence, self-esteem, and initiative. It also promotes concentration and discipline while promoting social skills and character development.