

Cypress Christian School faculty and staff actively seek to carry out the school's mission of honoring the Lord Jesus Christ by providing students an education based upon academic excellence and biblical values. The CCS environment permeates the kindergarten classrooms as students are integrated into the school setting in a manner that allows them to thrive academically, socially and spiritually.

The CCS Advantage

- Transitional Kindergarten (TK) through 12th grade
- Academic excellence since 1978
- Accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and Cognia
- Caring, committed Christian faculty who are degreed and professionally certified
- Biblical values integrated throughout the curriculum
- Comprehensive kindergarten program featuring phonics-based reading instruction
- Weekly chapel time to participate in worship and hear biblical messages
- Chromebooks issued to each student for occasional classroom use
- Weekly instruction in art, technology, library, science lab, music, physical education and PE lab
- Clear, timely communication
- Strong parent-teacher partnership
- Active parent involvement
- Small kindergarten class sizes

Curriculum

- Students receive standards-based instruction in the following classes: Bible, math, reading (including phonics), writing, handwriting, social studies and science.
- CCS has developed our own set of standards based on TEKS that also incorporate STEM and Biblical worldview.
- Biblical values are integrated in every subject throughout every grade level.
- Teachers use cutting-edge curriculum along with other research-based tools to ensure that students are mastering grade-level standards and learning critical thinking skills.
- Students participate in art, technology, library, science lab, music, PE and PE lab to create a well-rounded experience.

Co-Curricular Activities

- Service projects
- Sports - soccer, softball and baseball
- Operation Christmas Child

Events

- Field trips
- Homecoming, Tribal Wars, Run-4-Fun
- Spiritual Emphasis
- Christmas Program
- Daddy Daughter Dance
- Mom/Son Game Night
- Holiday Celebrations
- Grandparents and Special Friends Day

Curriculum Objectives

- Academic excellence and biblical values starting at the transitional kindergarten level
- Strong core classes:
 - **Reading/Language Arts** – Phonics-based instruction in both reading and writing is used. Students receive one-on-one, small group and whole group instruction to allow for differentiated and individualized student achievement.
 - **Handwriting** - Emphasis on proper pencil grip, manuscript and cursive letter formation
 - **Math** - Emphasis on fact fluency and problem-solving skills while mastering grade-level standards
 - **Science** - Develop and understand the scientific method through hands-on and STEM-based experiments while seeing the world through God's lens
 - **Social Studies** - The study of the world God created and the events that have taken place over time
 - **Bible** - The study and understanding of God's Word through Bible instruction and Scripture memorization

Kindergarten Teachers

MaryAlice Matthews

Mrs. MaryAlice Matthews earned her degree in early childhood and elementary education from Sam Houston State University. She is entering her 12th year of teaching where she has spent nine years in first grade and two years in kindergarten. MaryAlice has also spent time working for her church as the Director of Operations. She and her husband have three children, two who attend CCS and one future Warrior!

Christine McKnight

Mrs. Christine McKnight graduated from Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Missouri with a B.S. in elementary education and received her master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Houston Baptist University. Christine has 25 years of teaching experience with the past 10 years being at CCS. She lived in Central America for several years where she had the privilege of learning Spanish and ministering to the Mayan women and children of Guatemala. Christine's certifications include EC, bilingual and ESL and she is certified through ASCI. Christine has taught pre-k, kindergarten and second grade and feels blessed to be a part of CCS.

Elizabeth Tatum

Mrs. Elizabeth Tatum grew up attending a private Christian school where she valued a biblically enhanced education. She later attended Evangel University in Springfield, Missouri, receiving her degree in early childhood and elementary education. She has four years experience teaching kindergarten in Nixa, Missouri. Elizabeth and her husband, Rick, are happy to be back in Texas and are excited to be a part of the CCS family. Mrs. Tatum values having fun with her students and nurturing them to become lifelong learners.

Stephanie Worchesik

Mrs. Stephanie Worchesik graduated from Stephen F. Austin State University with a B.S. in early childhood education. She has certifications to teach ESL and GT students. Stephanie has happily taught kindergarten for the past 24 years in public school and is thrilled to now be a part of the CCS family. She has been married to her husband, Patrick, for 18 years. Her children attend CCS and are thriving in second and sixth grade. Stephanie finds joy in working with families to help their kindergartners grow academically and spiritually.