



# Pine Castle Christian Academy

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## Elementary School Overview 2009-2010

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Headmaster: Lorne Wenzel, Ph.D.  
Elementary School Principal: Brenda Oliver, M.Ed.  
Admissions Director: Michelle Campbell  
Executive Director: Kathey Rios  
Athletic Director: Mark Rickman  
Dean of ES/MS Students: Mark Ritchhart

### MISSION:

It is the mission of Pine Castle Christian Academy to introduce students to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ; to inspire them to seek God's Kingdom purpose for their life; and to prepare them academically and spiritually to bring God's truth and grace to their world.

### ACCREDITATION/ AFFILIATIONS:

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; Association of Christian Schools International; National Institute for Learning Development

### STUDENT BODY:

Elementary School (Grades K3-5)	181
Elementary School average class size	17

### STAFF:

11 full-time teachers; 5 da Vinci Instructors; 100% with Bachelor Degrees

### ACTIVITIES:

#### Chapel

Our weekly chapel program plays a significant role in enhancing our spiritual growth. Praise and worship is led by Mrs. Hicks. Each class and grade level has the opportunity to perform a chapel for our preschool through fifth grade students. Special chapels include: Harvest Home, Missions and National Day of Prayer, as well as guest speakers from the community and church.

#### Character Development

Assisting the parents in training a child in the way they should go is our purpose. It's not enough to tell them, students must learn why they need to act, speak and think according to God's word. For this reason we have character development beyond the classroom. Along with each teacher, Mr. Ritchhart (Captain Character) teaches weekly in the classroom and seeks individual students for one on one "character growth".

#### Art

The Art Program encourages students to express themselves creatively through direct experience. Projects are designed to develop students' understanding of the principles and elements of art with an emphasis on art history and art appreciation. Drawing, painting, two and three-dimensional construction are studied. Knowledge of tools, materials and techniques are introduced at successive grade levels. Art work and projects are displayed.

#### Music

The PCCA Music Program fosters students' love of music through participation, practice and performance. Activities are designed to encourage self-expression and develop self-confidence. A progressive study of practical applications, instruments, composers and music styles help to cultivate an early appreciation of music. Beginning Band is offered to fifth grade students. Third, fourth and fifth grade students may join the Lighthouse Praise & Worship Choir, which performs many times during the school year. Two musical productions are performed each year.

#### Physical Education

Physical Education at all levels is designed to promote fitness, teamwork, sportsmanship and fun. Our goal is to develop the major and minor muscle groups to improve daily activities and athletic movements. The students are taught their body is a temple of God (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) and with that in mind, we are to treat it right from the inside out.

## Computer

Students are introduced to our computer lab beginning in preschool. Students are exposed to keyboarding, word processing, database, spreadsheet, presentation software, and research and desktop publishing applications. The program correlates with classroom studies to enhance learning experiences.

## Spanish

A once a week opportunity to learn the basics of Spanish to further enhance and enrich your child's education. The children in K-3 through Kindergarten have a basic introduction to Spanish for 15 minutes once a week. Those in 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade have Spanish for 30 minutes each week.

## daVinci Center For Learning

### HIGH FLYERS (1st-5th)

Students accepted into the High Flyers (gifted) program have the opportunity to use their academic talents in a variety of ways.

### LEO'S LEARNERS (1st-5th)

Students accepted into Leo's Learners will have exciting opportunities to learn through effective small group instruction.

### STUDY BUDDIES (K-5th)

A tutoring program for students in elementary grades who need extra help with homework assignments and test preparation.

## Media Center

The Media Center has an open/flexible schedule, which allows students and teachers to access resources at their point of need. All elementary children visit the Media Center at least once a week. The Technology Resource Center may be scheduled for online research throughout the day. Research skill instruction is integrated into the classroom curriculum

## Athletics

We are happy to offer coed four-on-four basketball league to K-5th grade, co-ed flag football to 1st through 5th grade, and cheerleading to K-5th grade. During the summer, there are also various athletic camps offered for elementary aged students including basketball, flag-football, cheerleading and softball. Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are eligible to participate in tryouts for some of our middle school athletic teams including volleyball, cross country, basketball and others.

## Accelerated Reader

Accelerated Reader is a computerized reading management program that is part of our curriculum for the elementary school classes. Our students read books from our AR list and then test on those books. A record of the students' points earned, reading level and percent correct are available to parents online. PCCA students are continually improving their reading skills!

## Extended Care

PCCA's Before and After School Program is available for students in grades K3 through 5<sup>th</sup>. Children are provided a relaxed atmosphere of safety and care. Hours are 6:30am to 6:30pm. Children are provided a snack and playground time as well as a homework room and opportunities to play games and create arts and crafts. PCCA also offers an extensive summer program with several fun activities including great field trips.

## Field Trips

Each grade level participates in curriculum enhancing field trips. Examples of field trips are Green Meadows Farm, Osceola Performing Arts Center, Sea World, Science Center, Fort Christmas, St. Augustine and Tallahassee.

## Community Outreach and Opportunities

PCCA invites students and parents to participate in Harvest Home Chapel, Operation Christmas Child, Missions Month, ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International) Speech and Spelling Competitions.

## PCCA RECORD OF MEDIAN GRADE EQUIVALENT SAT SCORES 2007-2008

(Score=grade.month For example: 2.8=2<sup>nd</sup> grade, eighth month)

	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b>Total Reading</b>	2.8	3.7	5.2	7.3	7.5
<b>Total Mathematics</b>	2.1	3.2	5.1	7.0	8.0
<b>Language</b>	3.0	5.2	5.2	6.7	8.1
<b>Environment</b>	2.6	3.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Listening</b>	2.7	5.5	5.3	6.0	6.9
<b>Spelling</b>	2.5	3.6	4.3	5.4	7.2
<b>Science</b>	N/A	N/A	6.8	7.9	7.6
<b>Social Science</b>	N/A	N/A	7.0	7.4	7.8
<b>Thinking Skills</b>	N/A	N/A	5.8	6.7	7.3
<b>Basic Battery</b>	2.5	4.0	5.0	6.6	8.2
<b>Complete Battery</b>	2.7	3.8	5.2	6.7	7.7