

## ENGLISH

First grade students read at their own developmental level in carefully assigned reading groups. They are exposed to a rich variety of fiction and non-fiction as well as specific phonics-based texts, which will enable the students to develop an appreciation for literature and a life-long love for reading. Students learn to describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly while retelling the stories.

Students have the opportunity to experiment with different types of writing and move from simple phonetic to more conventional writing. First graders explore different types of writing. Great emphasis is given to developing independent writers who can integrate their writing skills into all areas of the curriculum.

Students in first grade participate in conversations about a rich variety of topics and texts with peers and adults. They also develop their conversational skills by listening to carefully to what others are saying. First graders learn how to ask and answer questions in order to gather additional information or clarify something that is not understood.

## ESL

### ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

English for Speakers of other Languages (ESL) is designed to teach students to become socially and academically competent in English. Students who demonstrate beginner and intermediate levels are designated as part of the program. Elementary ESL students are assessed and taught in two small separate groups according to their level of English. Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are introduced and reinforced to achieve fluency.

ESL teachers regularly monitor student progress during the year, as students improve, to modify the program according to student needs. This is done through work samples, observations, and official testing. Students are mainstreamed from ESL when they demonstrate an advanced proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. On average, students are in the ESL program at CAISL for about 2 years, but this can vary depending on background in English and other factors.

## MATH

In order to cultivate an in-depth understanding of mathematics, students focus on developing their process skills through mathematical practices. They make sense of problems and persevere in solving them, reason abstractly and quantitatively, construct viable arguments, and critique the reasoning of others. Students model with mathematics and use appropriate tools strategically. They attend to precision, look for and make use of structure and look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning. Process skills are the essential elements for the mastering of math and will be developed through the content shown below.

Students develop strategies for adding and subtracting whole numbers using a variety of models. Students develop strategies to solve arithmetic problems within 20. By comparing a variety of solution strategies, children build their understanding of the relationship between addition and subtraction.

First graders develop methods to add within 100 and subtract multiples of 10. They compare whole numbers (at least to 100) to develop understanding of and solve problems involving their relative sizes. Through activities that build number sense, they understand the order of the counting numbers and their relative magnitudes.

Students in grade one develop an understanding of the meaning and processes of measurement such as length, weight, capacity, time, and money (Euros). Students develop common referents for measures to make comparisons and estimates.

They learn to recognize and sort plane and solid shapes by describing their geometric attributes. They recognize and create shapes that have symmetry, and develop an understanding of fractions and represent them.

## SCIENCE

In first grade we focus on developing the following science and engineering practices or skills:

- Asking questions and defining problems
- Developing and using models
- Planning and carrying out investigations
- Analyzing and interpreting data
- Constructing explanations and designing solutions
- Engaging in argument from evidence
- Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information

We develop these skills by studying the following content areas:

**Physical Science:** Defining and Delimiting Engineering Problems, Developing Possible Solutions, Optimizing the Design Solution.

**Life Science:** Wave Properties, Electromagnetic Radiation, Information Technologies and Instrumentation.

**Earth Science:** The Universe and its Stars, Earth and the Solar System.

**Engineering and Technology:** Structure and Function of Organisms, Information Processing, Inheritance of Traits, Variation of Traits.

## PNL

### LÍNGUA PORTUGUESA 1

Quando os alunos chegam ao primeiro ano, já fizeram de um modo informal, as aquisições linguísticas no meio onde vivem e onde intervêm, tendo alargado competências que lhes permitem comunicar com os outros na Língua Materna, o Português. O conjunto de objetivos para a primeira fase do Ensino Básico, é definido de acordo com os princípios estabelecidos pela Lei de Bases do Sistema Educativo e apresenta os domínios de Comunicação Oral e Escrita, num processo pedagógico centrado nos alunos que, em interação turma-professora constroem a sua aprendizagem, evoluindo progressivamente. No final do ano, pretende-se que o aluno tenha feito a aquisição da Leitura e da Escrita e inicie a capacidade de interpretação de textos.

## PFL

### PORTUGUESE AS A FOREIGN LANG.

PFL is required of all students who are new to the language except to those who are just beginning to learn English. It is taught at Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced level. This program will give students the opportunity to express themselves in Portuguese, orally and in writing, and to understand the culture of Portugal. Students who successfully complete the PFL program through the Advanced level are eligible to move into PNL (Portuguese as a Native Language). During the transition, students will typically receive an Accommodation Plan or sheltered assessment.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

In first grade social studies, students gain an understanding of the similarities and differences between themselves and others. They compare and contrast families, cultures, customs, countries, traditions and explore the Festivals and Celebrations of different national and cultural groups. The children identify people from the past who have demonstrated positive character traits such as honesty, courage, and responsibility. Students learn how heroes such as Mother Teresa, Gandhi, and Martin Luther King, changed people's lives. They will differentiate between needs and wants and learn how people have to work to obtain what they need or want. Students develop their map skills by recognizing basic map symbols, including references to land, water, cities, and roads. First Graders also learn about different climatic regions and their particular characteristics. Through all of these, the students develop their skills at reading a variety of informational texts.

## PE

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The first grade curriculum is designed to help students work on their coordination, locomotor skills and motor abilities. We will start working in general, going to the specifics of the sports skills. Students will be introduced to sports skills, but will not apply them in game situations. Fair play, safety in class, respect for rules and classmates will also be developed.

## ART

Grade 1 artists focus on developing four artistic processes: Create, Perform, Respond, and Connect. The elements of art previously explored, are reviewed and built upon. Collage work enables students to develop their manipulation skills further, as they create work inspired by illustrators. The student's experience of art is broadened by studying the art of different artists and cultures. Artwork can be viewed at the Spring Show and the Fine Arts Festival.

## MUSIC

Grade 1 musicians focus on developing four artistic processes: Create, Perform, Respond, and Connect. They begin to identify and perform basic elements of notation including quarter notes, eighth notes, and basic solfege. Singing and playing is enforced through multicultural songs and games. Students also start to create through improvisation and simple composition. Grade 1 students perform twice annually: the Winter Showcase and the Spring Show.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Technology is an integral part of the First Grade Curriculum. Students understand that computers only follow the program's instructions. Using the bee bot software interactively, students sequence tasks on the screen prior to printing out and testing the results on the bee bot (floor robot). Individually and collaboratively students create, test and modify a program using a graphical environment. Basic operations and concepts are covered during class time.

# 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE



Carlucci American International School of Lisbon

*is a student-centered educational community  
in which we challenge ourselves and each other  
to do our best and to make positive contributions  
to our diverse and ever-changing world.*

# GR 1

## CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



REVISED JULY 2017



Carlucci American International  
School of Lisbon (CAISL)

Curriculum Overview  
Grade 1