



ELA Program

English Language Arts is an integral part of the academic, social and religious structure of Saint Rose School. It includes areas of study such as reading, writing, spoken language, listening and conventions of language such as grammar and usage. The ELA program honors the Toledo Diocesan Standards as well as the Ohio Standards to ensure that students build the strong literacy skill base essential for success in the multiple academic disciplines needed in high school, college, career and ongoing citizenship. Features of the program include the following:

Primary Grades (K-3)	Intermediate Grades (4-5)	Middle Grades (6-8)
Students learn to decode words and recognize the relationships that exist between syllables, letter combinations and words. They learn to read and then read to learn, using different genres, progressing toward independent reading. Students learn the difference between fictional and nonfictional writing. Writing begins with D'Nealian printing followed by cursive handwriting. Basic keyboarding skills are used to promote individual written expression. More specific and sophisticated vocabulary is used in spoken and written presentations in both formal and informal settings. Exposure to music, verse, stories, oral histories, vocabulary acquisition, etc. help to promote active listening skills.	Students put their independent thinking into practice in group settings as they collectively explore genres, plot, and the author's purpose, as well as cause and effect in both fiction and nonfiction works. The use of formal language is explored as students develop their ability to support their ideas with factual evidence. The skills of analysis and reflection are fostered as part of the writing process. Logical sequencing is developed as students learn to verbally present and support their ideas and research. They increase their ability to pose meaningful questions and to assess the need for formal versus informal dialogue. Students learn how to evaluate the meaning and relevancy of verbal presentations as well as different media sources.	Through challenging novels, informational text, historical documents, essays, poetry, short stories and drama, students investigate and compare/contrast genres' treatment of related topics. Reading applications include developing skills needed to analyze the written word. Various genres of writing such as expository, narrative, persuasive, expressive and descriptive are practiced. Students understand that writing is a process comprised of different drafts. Students utilize an increasingly rich vocabulary to refine public speaking and debate. These reading applications endow students with the ability to speak metaphorically and figuratively. Students learn that their voice is a tool for expressing their beliefs.

Testimonials

Saint Rose students are prepared for the rigor of language in a high school setting. Their language arts acumen readies them, not only for writing in their native language, but for world language grammar and mechanics.

—Francis Carnioli, English Teacher, St. John's Jesuit High School and Academy

Saint Rose girls consistently score highly on the reading, language, and essay part of the HSPT. They are well-read and used to a heavy reading regimen. Their grammar and writing skills are also excellent. It is evident that they get solid instruction in grammar and writing strategies.

—Laura Gallaher, Notre Dame Academy Language Arts Department Chair

ELA Program continued...

Twice annually, Saint Rose School administers the Measure of Academic Performance (MAP) standardized assessment to track academic progress, both individually and as grade levels.

