

Our SMES Family

St. Matthew's believes parents are an essential part of the team that facilitates each student's journey. We expect a partnership with parents to form a safety net for our students. We offer many opportunities for parents to volunteer. Our "open door" policy encourages collaboration with faculty and administration to meet individual student needs, and parents supporting parents through this time in a child's life can be invaluable.

St. Matthew's actively seeks a diverse student body and welcomes children of all races, religious faiths, and socio-economic groups. St. Matthew's Episcopal School has a tradition of more than seventy years of excellence in education.

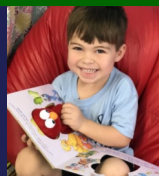
"St. Matthew's means a lot to me and it's special because it's inside my heart." —SMES Student



"What makes St. Matthew's unique is the teachers and staff who know each individual child on so many levels, and curriculum that is growing and changing to meet the needs of the students." —SMES Parent



"I like being a student at St. Matthew's because all of my teachers love and care for each one of us as if we were their own." —SMES Student



"I've relished watching my children thrive in this very special environment. Every day they are loved, supported, and challenged to excel. I've watched their minds and spirits grow, even as their bodies do. I am so grateful for all that SMES has meant to our family—especially to the two people most precious to us in this world!" —SMES Parent



Mission

† nurturing mind, heart, and soul
in a Christian environment †



A Message from The Head of School

Our school is the primary ministry of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. We are a community of Christian learners devoted to the academic, social, and moral development of our students. We are deliberately and proudly an Episcopal school dedicated to the pursuit of academic excellence, development and nurturing of young minds, and character education.

Perhaps the most often asked question is what characteristics distinguish a school as an Episcopal school. The National Association of Episcopal Schools articulates the answer with four pillars: school worship, community life, religious formation and study, and social justice. As an Episcopal school, we are committed to welcoming people of all faiths, as we explore and define our personal spiritual journeys. We encourage students to question, explore, and discover their own paths. We begin each day with chapel and Morning Prayer or Eucharist. All students are invited to share in the Holy Sacraments and to participate in the life of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and School. Finally, and perhaps more importantly, we are committed to demonstrating the teachings of Christ in our school community and the community beyond the gates that enclose our campus.

I welcome you to visit, tour, and explore this amazing school. I invite you to study the school's mission, philosophy, and curriculum. You will find a curriculum that supports academic excellence while it allows students to grow socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. I also invite you to visit the school during school hours to ensure that you personally witness our mission in action. Through a tour while school is in session, you will see children who are actively engaged in learning academic skills and life lessons that are carefully and gracefully woven into all that we do at St. Matthew's.

Warmly,
S. Myers McAllister

St. Matthew's Episcopal School does not discriminate in regard to race, creed, color, sex or national origin.

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"St. Matthew's is special to me because we learn about God in everything we do. To me, it is a place of being one of God's children. Here is where I feel that I am truly His child." —SMES Student

"At St. Matthew's we have witnessed a fellowship and community that is truly remarkable. My daughter has thrived in this loving, supportive school environment, and we have been amazed by the progress she has made both emotionally and academically. She loves her school and is excited to wake up in the morning; this is something we have never experienced until now. We are blessed to be considered a member of such an outstanding St. Matthew's family!" —SMES Parent

"St. Matthew's is a place where everyone is treated like someone special. There is no other school like it. —SMES Graduate

www.StMattsSchool.com
Visit our website for more information.

Academic Life

St. Matthew's is dedicated to scholarship and an enriched academic environment that strives to help each individual reach his or her full potential. Our optimal class sizes provide ideal learning environments that allow teachers to encourage strengths and instill in each St. Matthew's student a love for learning and the joy of discovery. We believe in education of the whole child, with a balanced focus on academic, spiritual, social, physical, and emotional development.



Our curriculum is approved by the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and emphasizes reading, grammar, written composition, math, science, and social studies. Our faculty and administrators bring credentials, experience, and a deep commitment to nurturing, inspiring, and guiding young people.

We recognize that young people learn best when they are totally involved in the material or process presented. Each St. Matthew's teacher strives to create motivational learning experiences within the classroom. We also recognize our students' varying learning styles by ensuring that each lesson contains components which will reach each student.



St. Matthew's Episcopal School Highlights:

- Preschool (3 year old program) through 7th grade
- Balanced focus on academic, spiritual, social, physical, and emotional development
- High academic standards
- Instruction in PE and Health • Music • Spanish • Computer Lab • Science Lab • Library • Art
- Dedicated, nurturing, professional faculty and staff
- Service learning focused on integrating meaningful community service to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen our community
- Chapel services
- Math and Reading Enrichment Programs
- Learning Lab resource program
- Technology in every classroom
- Before and After School Care
- Encore after-school enrichment program
- Sheep and Shepherd mentoring program
- Sports, 4-H, Student Government, Drama, and more
- Parental involvement and volunteer opportunities

Vision Statement

St. Matthew's Episcopal School provides a nurturing Christian environment that encourages academic excellence and personal creativity. Graduates of St. Matthew's Episcopal School are future generations of socially conscious and responsible individuals equipped to reach their highest potential in an ever-changing world.

Philosophy

SMES serves to engage each student in the pursuit of academic excellence while developing self-worth and a positive relationship with others in a Christian environment as reflected by the Episcopal Church. The total environment of SMES reinforces family values and the God-given dignity of each student's capability to develop in mind, body, and spirit.



Service Learning

One focus at SMES is service learning. We encourage and provide opportunities for our students and faculty to give, share, and be people for others. Some of these opportunities include a food drive, a coat drive, purchasing gifts to give less fortunate families a blessed Christmas, assembling bags for children in the hospital, Christmas caroling at local businesses, donating to Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Research, making ornaments and decorations for nursing home residents, and donating care packages for US military troops serving overseas.