

Christ Classical Academy Magnus Lector Reading Program

Magnus Lector for the Grammar School Grades 1-5

Philosophy - Why Magnus Lector?

The human soul longs for beauty. The aim of CCA's Magnus Lector or "Good Reader" program is to provide our students with a feast of true, good, and beautiful stories throughout the whole course of their education at our academy. Just as good, nutritious food is necessary for the body to grow, so too, are good books necessary for the growth of the mind.

Practice - How does Magnus Lector work?

Part One: Book Club & Group Presentation

Students are placed in small book clubs where the teacher will train them to pay close attention to their text by asking great questions. The aim of these groups is enjoyment and community around story. Collectively and creatively during class time, the group will present their book to their classmates. This is an opportunity for incarnational (and the story became flesh and dwelt among us) learning. The students bring their book to life and communicate this with others.

Part Two: The Written Summary

Students will prepare a 4 by 6 inch note card with the following information. On one side, students will include the title, author, genre, characters, and setting. This may be in bullet form or complete sentences. On the reverse side of the card, students will write a one-paragraph summary of their book. Writing skills assess thinking skills. Two main goals are organization of thought and clarity of thought. See the rubric for specific point allocations.

For your reference, here are the simple summarizing skills that the instructor will assess:

- The basic details of the book (title, author, setting, genre, main character(s))
- A clear understanding of plot (main conflict, major events, and resolution - if applicable)
- Grade-level grammar mechanics (spelling, grammar, "dress ups", and handwriting)