

## Authentic Individuals. Inspired Futures.

**Elementary School Viewbook** 





#### The mission that guides us

Our community inspires students to discover joy and passion in their learning, purpose in their lives, and the confidence to express their unique selves in a nurturing, inclusive, and collaborative environment.

#### The vision that drives us

Authentic Individuals. Inspired Futures.



Creativity



Exploration



Leadership





Соигаде



Originality



Integrity



The values that define us

Empathy



Curiosity



Optimism





Perseverance



Stewardship



Respect



#### A word from our Head of School

Here Be Dragons is the phrase that medieval scholars wrote on their maps to mark uncharted territories they had yet to explore: places they believed held mythical creatures, obstacles to overcome, and wonders to behold. In addition to the dragon being a symbolic part of our school's identity, we have adopted this as our icon to illustrate the boundless learning and growth opportunities that our students experience on their educational journey.

St. George's Elementary School students learn the foundational skills needed for academic success, and how to use their heads, hands, and hearts to make learning—and ideas—matter. Problem-solving, critical thinking, teamwork, and learning to write and speak confidently in English and in French are part of every St. George's student's daily experience. St. George's classrooms are all about communicating, thinking, and doing—that's how children learn best.

In addition to small class sizes of 12 to 16 students, our dedication to responsive teaching enables us to offer a rich and stimulating experience to every student. They learn how to grapple with new concepts, supported by expert teachers who love their craft as much as they care for their students.

Active learning is at the core of everything we do because we believe it fosters engagement, promotes leadership, and nurtures the unique aptitudes of each learner. What's more, this foundational teaching philosophy is not limited by age or stage of development. Applied accordingly at both the Elementary and High School levels, St. George's method reinforces our reality: One school, two campuses.

A St. George's Elementary School education is excellent preparation for life in an ever-changing world—not just in preparation for High School and post-secondary, but for living a life of meaning with integrity. Students move on as budding global citizens, with a healthy appreciation for diversity. They understand the importance of expressing their unique selves and respecting the same in others.

These formative elementary school years are some of the most influential moments of a student's life. At St. George's they will be acknowledged, supported and encouraged every step of the way.

Michael O'Connor

Head of School



### Leading progressive education since 1930

As pioneers of Progressive Education in Montreal, we continue to lead and champion the philosophy upon which we were founded over 90 years ago.

St. George's School of Montreal offers a child-centred, progressive educational environment that cultivates intellectually curious, passionate, lifelong learners. Our collaborative and experiential approach fosters the development of complex thinking skills and empowers students to grapple with real-world challenges while demonstrating empathy and social responsibility.

Inspired by innovative research and meaningful engagement with the world, our school sets the conditions for each student to feel empowered and confident to create, explore, and develop into their authentic selves. A vibrant learning community, where every child is known, respected, engaged, challenged, and inspired.

#### Our 6 Founding Principles

While our Founding Principles continue to guide us, their meanings and application are always evolving, particularly as we gain a deeper understanding of child development and the neuroscience of learning.

1

#### The child should have abundant opportunity for creative expression

The ability to think and act creatively is our most precious resource. At St. George's, we have always recognized this. We ask students to apply creativity in teamwork, in re-approaching and improving work, in solving complex problems, and in understanding and appreciating diverse viewpoints and experiences.





2

#### Adapt education to the differences of the individual child

The sciences of learning and child development have come a long way since 1930. Our work to understand and apply new research findings and concepts has continued apace. This inspires and enables us to build learning experiences suited to every child as they grow, develop, discover, and pursue their own passions.

#### Health must come first

Our programs are designed to accompany children from Kindergarten onward, providing physical activities, and social emotional learning opportunities for constructive, age-appropriate play.

#### 5

#### Learning comes from doing

St. George's has always supported learning by doing as a fundamental principle of our school. Here, hands-on, project-led classroom experiences engage students in real-world exploration that turns theory not just into practice, but also lifelong interests.



#### Group-consciousness and socialmindedness should be developed

More than ever, today's world needs people who understand and care for one another, and who are devoted caretakers of our most essential resources. Active learning, engagement outside the classroom, and an emphasis on the development of character—from the classroom to the community—imbue a capacity for social engagement and global stewardship.





#### The classroom should be freed from unnatural restraints

In St. George's classrooms you will find students working individually and in groups, on questions and projects that draw them into their own learning process. We value productivity, and treasure the relationships and empathy that develop between students, teachers and each other.





#### Lifelong learning starts here

#### **Academic Program -**Kindergarten to Grade 6\*

#### Kindergarten and Grade 1

- · English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- · Physical Education
- · Music
- Science and Technology
- · Arts
- · Library and Digital Literacy
- · Français langue seconde
- · Culture et citoyenneté québécoise
- · Univers social (1e cycle)

#### Grades 2-6

- · English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- · Physical Education
- · Music
- · Français langue seconde
- · Science et technologie
- · Arts plastiques
- · Culture et citoyenneté québécoise
- · Univers social (1 et 2)
- · Library and Digital Literacy · Géographie, histoire et éducation à la citoyenneté (3 à 6)

#### \*Homerooms provide a balanced bilingual learning environment.

#### **Bilingual Program**

We offer a bilingual environment where students learn in both English and French. Through exposure to content in both languages and meaningful experiential learning in the real world, our students are immersed equally in English and French. Our teachers collaborate closely, utilizing similar teaching methods for oral, reading, and writing skill-building, ensuring that our elementary school students gain confidence in expressing themselves in both languages. With a focus on language development, cognitive flexibility, and cultural understanding, we provide a solid foundation for academic and personal success where students are prepared for a future where bilingualism is not only an asset but a way of life.

#### English

Our approach nurtures a love for reading and writing through foundational literacy skills anchored in the science of reading, and a diverse range of activities. From literature circles and read-aloud sessions to animated discussions and creative writing projects, students strengthen their language abilities and develop effective communication.

With a focus on inquiry and critical analysis, students build a strong foundation in both narrative and formal writing. As they advance, they refine their skills through thoughtful responses to literature, exploration of writing techniques, and regular practice in descriptive language.

By fostering their abilities in reading, thinking, speaking, and writing, we equip students with the comprehensive language skills needed for future academic and personal success.

#### **French**

Our French language program prioritizes academic growth, ensuring students build strong foundations in reading, writing, and critical thinking. Through Ateliers de lecture et d'écriture (Reading and Writing Workshops), students engage in focused literacy activities, developing

essential language skills. Cercles de lecture (Literature Circles) further enhance comprehension and analytical abilities, fostering collaborative learning and discussion.

Beyond literacy, students participate in transdisciplinary projects that integrate subjects like Social Sciences, and Culture and Citizenship in Quebec, applying their language skills in real-world contexts.

Complementing this academic focus, our program also offers an immersive experience where students engage with francophone culture through field trips, specialist visits, and events, enriching their appreciation and practical use of the language.

Ultimately, our goal is to build a strong foundation that will allow our students to feel competent and confident in French.

# What makes our school great? Ask a St. George's parent.

"The flexibility and care that is provided for each child. The individualized support they receive is amazing."

"A genuinely child-centred approach. It is a place where children feel safe, happy, and encouraged."



**STEAM** 

St. George's offers interdisciplinary STEAM learning that brings Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics together.

#### Science and Technology

We equip students with critical thinking and problemsolving skills to understand the natural world. Students engage in hands-on activities that foster their understanding of scientific principles, delving into meaningful experiences that impart a deep appreciation for the interconnectedness of our world.

#### Art

Throughout their educational journey with us, students learn to think as artists, developing a spirit of play, discovery, and creation. Art also encourages self-reflection, empathy, and an appreciation for different perspectives, promoting emotional intelligence and cultural understanding.

#### **Mathematics**

Students explore mathematics through the lens of applied problem-solving, with an emphasis on authentic situations. Understanding the roots of mathematical concepts enables a greater depth of understanding of how math applies to everyday life. Students engage in hands-on activities, puzzles, and real-world scenarios that require them to think critically, analyze data, and employ mathematical reasoning.

#### Hands-On Learning

Interdisciplinary projects help students make real-life connections to their learning while developing new skills. Through hands-on experiences like working with our Farmbot, students benefit physically and emotionally. Our maker spaces provide dedicated areas where students can solve problems, apply skills, and use tools to create something new, reinforcing the real-world applications of their education.

#### Integrated learning



#### Music

Students learn music fundamentals, both practical and theoretical. They learn to play in an ensemble with different instruments and explore the possibilities of music through various activities: creative movement, singing, listening, dancing, and more. Throughout their musical journey, our students also gain exposure to different cultures, languages, and historical periods.

#### **Digital Literacy**

We equip students with the essential skills to navigate technology effectively emphasizing communication, efficient information gathering, and responsible technology use. We teach our students to harness these innovations and their potential, ensuring they are adept in a digital world.

#### **Physical Education**

Healthy bodies are intrinsically tied to healthy minds. That's why we impart the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle through physical education. This program creates opportunities for our students to learn through movement and challenge themselves to develop a lifelong appreciation for sports and physical activity.

"At St. George's, leadership isn't a position; it's about positive influence and supportive action."

Michael O'Connor | Head of School

## Signature experiences



Starting in Kindergarten, students engage in signature experiences that extend their education beyond the classroom.

#### **Community Learning**

Throughout the year, our students actively engage in initiatives aimed at supporting local organizations. With the integration of volunteer work, students can lend a helping hand, make a positive impact on the world around them, and gain valuable experience with empathy, compassion, and community engagement.

#### **Everyday Leadership**

We believe in leadership through action and treat it as a skill we should be building every day. It's about helping others do things they otherwise didn't think possible.

#### **Experiential Learning**

We organize day and overnight field trips for students in all grade levels, encouraging them to nurture their sense of adventure and engage with the world around them. To better understand themselves and what it means to be a leader, our overnight trips focus on social emotional learning, communication skills, teamwork, and community building.

#### Sustainability

Our overarching commitment to sustainability permeates every aspect of our educational approach, equipping students with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities required to make a positive impact on our planet. We cultivate student agency, fostering the development of their own voices to initiate efforts to address environmental challenges with creativity, empathy, and scientific knowledge.

#### **Grade 6 High School Transition Program**

Our Transition Program equips students for academic, social, and emotional success as they prepare to enter high school. Our guided approach is designed to:

- · Recognize the pivotal developmental stage of young adolescents
- · Position them to become confident leaders within the Elementary School community
- Introduce them to the skills and routines in preparation for high school

By nurturing independence, fostering positive relationships, and instilling confidence and ownership in their educational trajectory, our Grade 6 students are empowered to seamlessly adapt to Grade 7 and thrive in their new environment.

Students spend one day per week at the High School where they integrate academically, socially, and emotionally. This allows them to become familiar with the High School teachers, routines, and facilities such as our state-of-the-art theatre, robotics workshop, and fitness centre, all of which support a smooth transition to Grade 7.







## Discovering passions:

### Co-curricular activities

We offer students every opportunity to explore their unique interests and incorporate play into their learning process. Whether it's sports, arts, science, social justice, or another area of interest, we encourage students to dig into their passions, develop their talents, and foster authentic relationships with peers and mentors in a non-classroom setting.

#### **Leadership and Social Sciences**

Student Leadership Team Green Team World Scholar's Cup Babysitting

#### Math, Science, Media and Technology

Robotics

Minecraft Leadership

Engineering: Design Create Build

Intro to Coding

Chess Club

Industrial Design

Mad Science

Bricks 4 Kidz





#### **Athletics**

#### Interscholastic Teams

Soccer

Basketball

Flag Football

Cross Country Running

#### **Recreational Sports**

Soccer Development Hockey Development

Basketball Development

Flag Football

Rugby

Dance

Mega Ball Capoeira

Yoga

Ballet

#### Intramurals

Q-Tip Hockey Matball

#### **Arts**

Art Detectives

Bollywood Dancing

Funky Feet

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Artsparx

Master Chef Photography Puppet Making Club de français

Comedy

Theatre

Glee

#### **Additional Services Offered**

Afterschool Program Study Hall for Grades 3-6

PED Day Programs

## We're unique in all the right ways.

We are a warm and welcoming learning community.

We are **collaborative**.

Our approach is **child-centred**, with respect for different learning styles.

We deeply and authentically accept what makes everyone original.



## Great teachers. Great teaching.

Teaching at St. George's is both an art and a science, which is why our teachers work to cultivate a love of learning—meeting individual needs while challenging students to construct their understanding of the world.

Our teachers continually enhance their skills through professional development, implementing research-based pedagogy and best practices for future-focused programs.

An outstanding education is foundational.

A sense of belonging is indispensable.

Give your child both at St. George's.



Authentic Individuals. Inspired Futures.

#### Elementary School Campus

3685 The Boulevard, Westmount, QC H3Y 1S9

#### **High School Campus**

3100 Le Boulevard, Montréal, QC H3Y 1R9

#### Admissions

514-904-0542 admissions@stgeorges.qc.ca

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