



## TEACHING METHODS AT ROCHAMBEAU

*Teaching methods combine methodological rigor, acquisition of knowledge, attention to student development, and cultural enrichment. Great attention is paid to the children's individual pace, whatever their age may be. The school year is structured in three quarters, at the end of which the school makes an assessment of the student's academic progress. About every six weeks there is a break in instruction, at which time the students then have a vacation of one to two weeks.*

### PRIMARY EDUCATION

*The primary section comprises the nursery school and the elementary school.*

#### Nursery School/Kindergarten

*In a warm and colorful setting, the French nursery school and kindergarten accepts students beginning at the age of three. The students are divided into classes, each led by a teacher who is aided by a nursery school assistant. The day begins with the welcoming of students at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m. Instruction aims at the child's harmonious development of various skills: conceptual intelligence, which requires the mastery of language; response to concrete situations; artistic and cultural sensibility; and motor skills. Another objective of the French nursery school and kindergarten is to teach the children to coexist. Instruction is given mainly in French and gives priority to reasoning, observation, experimentation, and creativity. It relies on the child's capacity for imitation and invention, and on the pleasure of action and play. It is divided into three years, which are called the younger section, the middle section, and the older section.*

#### Primary School

*At the age of six, the child leaves nursery school/kindergarten for primary school. This consists of five years of schooling. Each student is assigned to a class of some twenty to twenty-five children, under the responsibility of one French speaking class-teacher. Learning to read and write, which begins in the older section, constitutes the main task during the year spent in CP. In the classes which follow, mastery of oral and written language and arithmetic skills are complemented by the exploration of history, geography and the sciences, and by courses in English, introduction to computer science, and by a course in physical education (in English). Instruction in French includes mental arithmetic and recitation of poetry by heart, which has a great beneficial effect on the memory. At the end of each trimester, a report card is given to each student's family. Parents are invited to meet with the teachers twice a year. Numerous bilingual projects allow our students to open up in the scientific, artistic and literary fields. The older students have the chance to take part in field trips of discovery, organized by age group, to Annapolis, Maryland, to Williamsburg, Virginia, and to Canada. ■*

**The Lycée takes great care in ensuring a smooth transition from nursery to elementary school and then to middle school.**