

Purposeful Enrichment



**FIRST Lego League
5th grade team with
their creations**

After School Enrichment Clubs Give Lower School Students a Variety of Learning Experiences

What if you could learn phrases in Chinese, take a hike through the woods, conduct a science experiment, and sing some new songs – all in one week. And it’s not even during school!

Welcome to After School Enrichment (ASE), the Saint George’s Lower School’s program of clubs and activities that keep kids from Kindergarten through 5th grade busy learning and growing after their regular classes are done.

This year over 40 clubs are being offered by parents, teachers, and friends of SGS on campus. Some are sports and recreation based (Dragon Sports, Volleyball, Climbing), some are culture and language based (Chinese Culture and Language), some are STEM (First Lego League, Science), some are academic and competitive teams (Chess, Math is Cool) and some are arts oriented (Drama Improv, Group Voice, Polymer Clay, Studio Art). Most are an

hour long, one day a week (Monday through Thursday), and last for one or two months. The cost is \$14 per day per club.

“We also added a Reading and Homework session from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. for students who need to stay on campus for late pick up or to catch the late bus home,” says Rick Petrini, Head of the Lower School.

And are they popular? Already by mid-year, over 80% of all Lower School students have signed up for at least one of the clubs offered this year, with some trying out two to four different clubs each week.



**Chess Club
hosts a
tournament
at SGS**

“It’s a place to find new passions and explore,” says Tracy Gonser, Assistant to the Head of School and an active SGS parent. “Now parents have more opportunities for their kids to learn while staying on campus.”

Chess Club was the first to return as an in-person offering after the pandemic. “We had about 50 kids show up, so we knew the demand was there,” says Rick. “The energy at these clubs is amazing and the kids are fully engaged. Some clubs need a wait list, and if one club doesn’t work out it’s easy to move on to another club.”

Learning about after school clubs and activities is easy ~ just go to the Student Life/ Clubs & Groups page of the SGS website. (Use the QR Code at lower right as well.) The page features images from each activity, including the grades available and a brief description that appears when touched or moused-over. Parents can search and sort the options by grade or category of clubs to find the activities, days, and sessions that work best for them and their child.

Parents also provide feedback on what works well and how to improve the offerings. Drama Improv Club for grades 3-5 was so popular that the school added one for grades K-2.

When they are ready to register for clubs, parents go to the website’s Parent Portal, where they can sign up on an ASE Calendar.



**Storytelling
in Chinese
Culture Club**

“Our After School Enrichment program was developed specifically to meet a need of families and students,” says Rick. “It was modeled after what some international schools offer, and it’s really unique for Spokane.”

“If anyone in the SGS community is interested in leading a club, just email afterschool@sgs.org” says Tracy. “It could be coding, cooking, dancing, debate, reading, or whatever your passion is that students might enjoy.”



**Designing
charms
with clay**



**Making invisible
writing appear in
Science Club**



Drama Improv Club played a game called “Props” to stimulate quick and creative thinking

On the Web

Learn about After School Enrichment activities at www.sgs.org/home/student-life/clubs-n-groups/ or scan this QR Code:

