

First graders will learn through stories, prayer, Scripture, activities, discussion, reflection, and weekly mass about their Catholic faith. Catholic values are discussed and integrated in all subject areas throughout the day. The focus is on traditional common prayers, creation, The Holy Trinity, celebrating liturgy, sacraments of Baptism and the Holy Eucharist, liturgical seasons.

Language Arts

The Language Arts program is all encompassing and includes reading, phonics, writing, speaking, listening and the study of literature. The components of the program emphasize the development of those skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, apply correct spelling, grammar, and phonemic awareness, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired and understood are applied and reinforced in all content areas.

Reading/Literature

Students experience different genre of literature (poetry, folktales, nonfiction, fiction, fantasies, and plays). Reading fluency will develop and improve as students are presented with the following skills throughout the year:

- Linking spoken and written languages
- Using word identification strategies
- Developing vocabulary (listening and sight)
- Using structural analysis
- Comprehending the main idea
- Sequencing events of a story
- Analyzing details
- Using context clues
- Distinguishing fact from fantasy
- Making predictions
- Self-appraising and self-correcting while reading
- Using a glossary and dictionary

Writing

First Grade students use writing to convey thoughts and meaning. Our students will write effectively using words and pictures to convey thoughts, write simple sentences, apply spelling knowledge and phonetic patterns, apply grammar and mechanics (capitalization, proper spacing, basic punctuation, and complete sentences).

Listening/Speaking

First Grade students will listen for understanding, follow directions and respond appropriately to the speaker. Students will use acquired language and vocabulary to express opinions. Students will participate in class discussions, recall and retell stories. Students will also present material orally.

Mathematics

First Grade students acquire a knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills and to solve math problems. Our first grade students will:

- Identify, write and order numbers from 0-100
- Add and subtract numbers up to 12
- Use grouping and regrouping
- Solve simple word problems

- Chart, compare and graph data
- Measure/compare length, weight, and width
- Use a calendar
- Use a clock to determine time
- Identify monetary values
- Identify patterns and shapes
- Complete a hundred chart
- Identify and describe characteristics of shapes
- Use manipulatives to solve for an unknown

Science

First Grade students will use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They learn through observing, predicting, questioning, and explaining.

Our students will study:

- Plant, animal, and human growth
- Investigate habitats
- Property of matter
- Gravity
- Force of motion
- Weather
- Patterns of change of sun/moon/earth

Social Studies

First Grade students will develop an awareness of people around them. The focus will be on families, homes, neighborhoods, working together, meeting needs through goods and services, celebrations.

Physical Education

In first grade, our students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle. Students will maintain personal fitness, acquire an awareness of personal health needs, demonstrate and build gross motor skills, and participate in cooperative group games.

Art

In first grade, the students will have the opportunity to express themselves in various art forms.

Technology

Our first grade students will visit the technology lab and use software for reinforcement of classroom lessons. They will recognize basic computer components and be comfortable using them. Our first graders will produce simple projects from using the computer.

Library

First Grade students will use the school library and locate books of interest to be checked out each week.