

Religion

Fourth 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 the Holy Trinity, planning and assisting in liturgy and other forms of worship, liturgical seasons, morality, church structure, commandments, beatitudes, saints, and service.

Language Arts

The Language Arts program is all encompassing and includes reading, 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, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively.

Reading/Literature

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

- Understanding cause and effect
- Examining elements of literature (plot, characters, setting, theme) within a story
- Identifying figurative language
- Sequencing events of a story
- Analyzing details
- Using context clues
- Creating graphic organizers
- Self-correct while reading
- Interpret pronunciation key and diacritical marks in a dictionary or glossary

Writing

Fourth grade students use writing to convey meaning. Our students will write legibly, write multiple sequential paragraphs on a given topic, apply and apply grammar and mechanics including parts of speech, simple tenses, and punctuation. Fourth grade students also use the writing process including pre-writing, writing, revising, editing and final draft. Furthermore, third grade students write in a variety of forms including guided writing, friendly letters, descriptive paragraphs, narrative stories, book reviews, and journal entries. Fourth grade students also learn how to write in outline form.

Listening/Speaking

Fourth 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. Students will also present material orally and make presentations to individuals and small groups. Fourth grade students will give a “how-to” speech.

Mathematics

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

- Identify place value up to 6 digit numbers
- Identify, describe and compare relationships

- Multiply and divide 2, 3, 4 digit numbers
- Describe and use patterns
- Add and subtract fractions
- Use decimals with the four operations
- Measure and compare units of length, capacity and weight
- Compare and construct geometric shapes
- Graph and explain data
- Solve problems with one variable
- Demonstrate problem solving strategies

Science

Fourth 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 third grade students will study:

- Explain relationship of living things to their environment
- Describe characteristics of light and sound
- Describe and use simple electrical circuit
- Identify and classify rocks
- Identify effects on water, rock cycles
- Describe factors affecting ecosystems
- Senses and sense organs
- Energy and work
- Solar system
- Weather
- Oceans
- Simple machines

Social Studies

Fourth Grade students will acquire social and cultural understanding of the world around them. The focus will be:

- Immigration
- Regions of the United States
- U.S. geography
- U.S. Government
- Illinois history

Physical Education

In fourth grade, our students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle. Students will maintain personal fitness, develop muscle strength, endurance and flexibility, use rules, safety and strategies of sports and games, demonstrate sportsmanship and participation in sports and games.

Art

In fourth grade, the students will have the opportunity to express themselves in various art forms. Students will use elements and principles of art to express ideas, interpret artistic products and experiences, learn how art reflects and shapes society and life.

Technology

Our fourth grade students will visit the technology lab and use software for reinforcement of classroom lessons. They will combine text and use of other tools to create a project, use tool bar and

menus for productivity navigation, create and use a database, understand copyright violations, create a multimedia presentation.

Library

Fourth Grade students will use the school library and locate books of interest to be checked out each week. They will also recognize different sections of the library and know how to use a library. Fourth grade students will define a research topic through key word searches.