

# First Grade Curriculum

*Ss. Peter & Paul School*

## RELIGION

Catholic values are integrated and discussed in all subject areas. Catholic faith, prayers, and scripture are learned.

Students will be introduced to:

- Traditional common prayers
- Creation
- The Holy Trinity
- Celebrating the Liturgy
- Renewing Baptismal vows
- The Saints
- An introduction to Church vocabulary
- Weekly Mass
- Service - Provide books for an inner city school



## LANGUAGE ARTS

Students will be introduced to the writing process including:

- Discussing
- Drawing
- Conferencing
- Reusing
- Publishing
- Writing complete sentences using correct punctuation
- Recognizing nouns, verbs and adjectives

### Reading

Through the reading program, children will experience literature in poetry, folk tales, non-fiction, fiction, fantasy and plays.

Students will be introduced to:

- Topic and details
- Settings
- Reality/Fantasy
- Word meanings
- Main ideas
- Sequences
- Cause and effect

### Phonics

Students will develop skills that allow them to read with fluency, comprehend written language, communicate, and listen and speak effectively.

Students will be introduced to:

- Beginning, middle and end sounds
- Rhyming words
- Long and short vowels

## **Handwriting**

In first grade D'Nealian Handwriting is taught.

Students will study:

- Letter and number formation
- Letter and word spacing

## **MATHEMATICS**

Students will study:

- Identifying and writing numbers 0-100
- Adding and subtracting numbers to 20
- Grouping
- Graphs and charts
- Measurement
- Estimating
- Calendars
- Fractions
- Geometric shapes
- Time and money
- Solving simple word problems

## **SCIENCE**

First grade will use concrete, hands on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. Students learn through observation, prediction, questioning and explaining.

Students will study:

- Plants, animals and human growth
- Habitats
- Weather
- Good health and exercise
- Force and motion
- Properties of matter
- An introduction to the Solar System

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Students will develop an awareness of people around them.

Students will study:

- Families
- Homes
- Neighborhoods
- Working together
- Meeting needs and wants through goods and services

- Celebrations
- Map skills
- Our country and citizenship

## FINE ARTS

### Art

All students in grades 1-8 will be taught the language of the arts, understand how works of art are produced through creating and performing and understand the role of the arts in civilizations past and present.

Grade 1 students will focus on:

Art Elements –

- Line
- Geometric shapes
- Primary and secondary colors
- Space
- Form (3-d composition)
- Texture
- Balance and symmetry
- Light and dark contrast
- Focal point emphasis
- Rhythm and movement

Students will also be introduced to the work of American artist Grant Wood and have the opportunity to use various media.

### Music

Students will identify a variety of sounds and sound sources (e.g., instruments, voices and environmental sounds).

All students will be given the opportunity to perform on stage in the school musical.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students will demonstrate:

- Safe movement in physical activities
- Basic gross motor skills
- Advance coordination activities

## TECHNOLOGY

Technology is incorporated with class curriculum and infused as a tool throughout. During first grade the students will be introduced to:

- Basic computer skills including the relative positions of the keys on the keyboard
- Painting and/or drawing a graphic to illustrate a story
- Launching and using a basic word processing program
- Creating single screen multimedia projects
- Understanding the basics of privacy and safety on the Internet



## HOMEWORK

First graders will be assigned homework as needed for practice and reinforcement as well as completion of special projects. On an average first grade students can expect 15 minutes of homework daily.

## PARENTS CAN HELP BY:

- Modeling active participation in weekly liturgy, daily prayer and service
- Showing an interest in homework and school activities
- Encouraging good nutrition, rest and exercise
- Reading with their children every day
- Staying in touch with the school