

Third Grade Curriculum

Ss. Peter & Paul School

RELIGION

Third graders will learn more about their Catholic faith through active participation in prayer, written activities, and service. The religion curriculum is integrated throughout the entire school day.

Students will study:

- The four marks of the Church
- Feasts and seasons of the Church
- The Sacraments
- Recite prayers including the Apostles' Creed
- Liturgical planning and participation
- Perform service to others by providing a food basket each month for the Food Pantry



LANGUAGE ARTS

Third graders continue to strengthen their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. They are encouraged to apply these communication skills throughout all subject areas.

Students will study:

- Journaling
- Daily Oral Language program
- Analogies
- Parts of speech
- Punctuation and capitalization
- Pre-writing, Writing, Revising, Editing and Publishing
- Writing in many formats
- Cursive writing

Reading

Students experience the world of literature. Many genres are studied including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, plays, fantasies, and biographies. Fluency, decoding, and comprehension skills will be developed.

Students will study:

- Vocabulary
- Phonics and word knowledge
- Making predictions
- Sequencing events of a story
- Making connections and inferences
- Main idea and supporting details
- Summarizing and drawing conclusions
- Using reference materials

Spelling

Learners use writing to communicate in a meaningful way.

Students will study:

- Sound and structural patterns in spelling
- Recognizing and internalizing spelling patterns

Listening and Speaking

Pupils will listen for understanding, follow directions, and participate in discussions.

Students will study:

- Small and large group discussion skills
- Oral reading skills
- Oral presentations
- Storytelling

MATHEMATICS

Third graders acquire knowledge of mathematics and its relationship to daily living. Students are encouraged to apply math skills in a variety of ways and strengthen their problem-solving skills. Hands-on experiences are vital.

Students will study:

- Math facts: addition, subtraction, multiplication
- Place value and money
- Addition and subtraction of whole numbers
- Time, data and graphs
- Multiplication and division concepts
- Measurement
- Geometry
- Fractions, decimals and probability
- Patterns and Algebraic Thinking

SCIENCE

Third graders will learn more about the world around them. They learn through observing, predicting, questioning, and explaining.

Students will study:

- Plant and animal life cycles
- Living things and their environments
- Forces and simple machines
- Solar System
- Weather
- Staying healthy
- Processing skills for scientific inquiry

SOCIAL STUDIES

Learners will strive to be good, responsible citizens in their community. They will study the past to build a better future!

Students will study:

- Map and globe skills
- Chart and graph skills
- Communities (including Naperville)
- Government
- Economics
- Landforms

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 3 students will focus on the following art elements:

- Line expressiveness
- Shape
- Color expressiveness
- Space
- Form
- Texture
- Asymmetrical balance
- Contrast (figure/ground)
- Emphasis (contrast and value)
- Rhythm and repetition movement
- Unity and variety (organizing details)

Students will also be introduced to the works of artists Leonardo DaVinci and Louise Nevelson, Asian and Native American art, and have the opportunity to use various media.

Music

Students will identify differences in elements and expressive qualities (e.g., between fast and slow tempo; loud and soft dynamics; high and low pitch/direction; long and short duration; same and different form, tone color or timbre, and beat). They will also know how images, sounds, and movement convey stories about people, places, and times.

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

SPANISH

The third grade foreign language students will be able to:

- Recognize orally the Spanish names for colors, numbers, select fruits and vegetables, winter clothing, opposites and
- animals
- Respond orally to simple questions concerning their names, daily health, likes and dislikes and age
- Sing songs in the target language
- Recognize the meaning of cognates in stories, videos and songs
- Use the target language vocabulary while playing games

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students will demonstrate:

- Safe movement in physical activities
- Control when performing combinations and sequences in locomotor and non-locomotor skills
- Manipulative motor skills
- Advance coordination activities

TECHNOLOGY

Technology is incorporated with class curriculum and infused as a tool throughout. Teachers will use the ELMO and SMARTBoard for demonstrations and interactive learning. During third grade the students will be introduced to and master the following skills:

- Apply special effects such as rotate, stretch, shrink, etc.
- Perform basic word processing e.g. enter and delete, cut, copy and paste text
- Insert and crop images in a document
- Identify and using the punctuation and special symbol keys
- Create single and multiple screen multimedia projects including sound effects and graphics
- Identify and use simple search engines and directories.
- Understand the basics of computer ethics and netiquette



HOMework

Third graders will be assigned homework as needed for practice and reinforcement as well as completion of special projects. On an average third grade students can expect 30 minutes of homework daily.

PROJECT EXPLORE

All third grade students will have the opportunity to develop critical thinking skills in a weekly 20 minute Project Explore session. The focus of activities will be:

- The furthering of intellectual curiosity by solving puzzles, riddles, and challenging mind games
- Higher level thinking skill problem-solving