

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. Our Christian values are emphasized with the student pledge.

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 in weekly school Masses
- 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: paragraph writing, narratives, biographies, poetry
- Cursive writing for mastery

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
- Decoding and fluency
- Comprehension skills and strategies: making predictions, inferences, sequencing, comparing and contrasting, cause and effect, main idea and details, summarizing, drawing conclusions, visualization, QAR, graphic organizers, story maps, and author's purpose

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 and subtraction to 20, multiplication through 12
- Place value, rounding, and money
- Four digit addition and subtraction of whole numbers
- Time, data and graphs: pictographs, bar graphs, line plots
- Multiplication and division concepts
- Measurement using both customary and metric systems
- Geometry: 2D/3D figures, congruence, symmetry, number lines, ordered pairs
- Fractions, decimals, and probability
- Patterns and algebraic thinking including number sentences/expressions, function tables

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: Daily Oral Geography, puzzles
- Chart and graph skills: including analyzing the states' size, population, and growth
- Communities: including Naperville and local groups working together
- Government: including the three branches of government and how to pass a bill
- Economics: including money earned, spent, and saved

FINE ARTS

Art

All students will be taught the language of the arts through understanding the sensory elements and expressive qualities; understanding the similarities, distinctions and connections in and among the arts.

Through creating and performing all students will understand how works of art are produced. Students will learn about the processes, traditional tools and modern technologies used in the visual arts. Students will apply skills and knowledge necessary to create visual arts.

Students will understand the role of the arts in civilizations, past and present. Students will analyze how the arts function in history, society and everyday life. Students will understand how the arts shape and reflect history, society and everyday life.

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.

The students will learn about two composers. They will expand on Kodály hand signs and will learn to sing songs in several world languages.

All students will be given the opportunity to perform on stage in the annual school musical and all are involved with either speaking, choir or dancing parts in the Christmas program.

SPANISH

The third grade students attend Spanish class once a week and will be able to:

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

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

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.

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 and monitoring the teachers' web pages
- E-mailing the teachers regarding questions, comments, or concerns