

THIRD GRADE CURRICULUM

Religion

Language Arts

Math

Science

Social Studies

Homework

Weekly Packets

Specials



Bishop Larkin Catholic School

8408 Monarch Drive
Port Richey, FL 34668
(727) 862-6981

Accredited by Florida Catholic Conference

Social Studies

The third grade curriculum focuses the people and their cultures that settled the United States. It is aligned with the Common Core Standards and in each chapter students practice a comprehension skill, as well as a map skill. A project is incorporated into the curriculum which allows each student to research a particular state, write a short research paper, highlight its special features in a presentation, and share its culture by bringing in a dish that originated from that state, as well as dress like someone who lives there. Students are able to gain respect and appreciation for the world around them.

Homework

Homework is assigned Monday through Thursday and may include long range projects. Assignments are given to reinforce concepts taught in class, prepare students for upcoming lessons, and to teach responsibility and develop positive study habits. In addition, students are required to read 20 minutes per night and review addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts.

Weekly Packets

Each week parents are provided a packet that includes class assignments, tests, and notes. This provides parents with an opportunity to review their child's work. The packet is to be signed by the parent and returned the following day. A section is provided for either teacher/parent comments.

Conferences

Two formal conferences are scheduled each school year. Parents are also encouraged to meet with their child's teacher as needed to discuss academic progress.

Specials

Students participate in a variety of classes to enhance the basic curriculum which include: Art, Music, Physical Education, Library Science, Computer and Spanish.

“Act justly, love tenderly, walk humbly with God.”

Micah 6:8

Third Grade

The third grade curriculum is geared towards providing an open learning environment with an atmosphere of acceptance and positive guidance. Children are permitted to make choices and share in decision-making in order to encourage independent and critical thinking skills. Third grade students are provided with a strong foundation in reading, writing, grammar, math, science, and social studies. The curriculum is geared towards meeting the needs of each individual student. A teacher certified by the state of Florida helps each student achieve their highest potential.

Religion

The religion program provides the core of a Catholic education. The program is designed to prepare students to deepen their faith and relationships with both God and neighbor. Religion is taught in a loving and prayerful environment. The third grade program focuses on the following topics; the four marks of the church, the disciples of Jesus, the sacraments, parables, Mary and the Saints, and our parish community. The students participate in a weekly Thursday liturgy. In addition, supplemental resources are utilized in order to enhance the religion curriculum. The use of technology is encouraged and included in student activities.

Language Arts

Reading- The reading program utilizes the literature based Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Reading Series and is aligned with the Common Core State Standards. The program includes building on skills that are taught in the primary grades and includes phonics skills, fluency and expression. Students are introduced to a variety of reading genres and work to strengthen comprehension skills in terms of literal and inferential responses. The students also participate in a novel study which encompasses a class project and creative activities to help develop comprehension and build vocabulary skills in an inviting atmosphere which helps to foster the love of reading. Students are expected to use reference materials such as encyclopedias, thesauruses, and dictionaries. The students also have Scholastic Reading Counts available to them and are encouraged to participate in the program everyday.

The reading program is designed for differentiated learning. The students are assessed throughout the school year and placed in a reading group that best meets the needs of each student. Class assignments are

differentiated to reinforce skills as well as offer enrichment for those students that may need to be challenged.

Writing- Students are instructed on the use of and application of the Six Traits of Writing. They are responsible for writing research projects as well as short writing assignments. Writing assignments include letter writing, poetry, biography, and book reports. Students are introduced to expository and narrative writing.

Grammar- Students are instructed on parts of speech, sentence structure, punctuation, and capitalization. These skills are incorporated throughout all areas of the curriculum.

Spelling- The spelling words are derived from the reading series. Spelling words are introduced at the beginning of each story. Many of the spelling words are reinforced throughout the curriculum, so that the student gains a full understanding of the meaning of the words and their spelling and incorporate them into writing assignments. Spelling quizzes are given for each story.

Handwriting

D'Nealian cursive writing skills are reinforced in third grade. All assignments are to be completed in cursive writing.

Math

The MacMillan math series provides the basis for the third grade math program and is aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Emphasis is placed on developing problem solving strategies while strengthening basic math concepts. Content areas include; place value, adding and subtracting larger numbers, multiplication, division, money, elapsed time, fractions and measurement. Differentiated instruction is incorporated into the curriculum through small groups, allowing all students to work on the same concept at their own level. Sunshine Math provides students with the opportunity to enhance their critical thinking skills. Weekly timed math drills, addition and subtraction 1-20 and multiplication facts through 12.

Science

Third grade students study different systems, cycles, and changes. Students learn about forms of energy, physical features, and movement of the sun, moon and earth, and how living things interact with the environment and each other. Much of the work is investigative and the scientific process is incorporated to include organizing and analyzing data. All students participate in the Pasco County STEM Science Fair.