

Homework

Homework is assigned on a daily basis. Students will usually have Math and Language Arts homework every night. Social Studies and Science homework is usually less, although students are encouraged to study each night. In addition, all students should be reading other reading material on a regular basis each day. We try to balance the amount of homework from each subject so that the students are not overly burdened. Most days, students can expect approximately no more than one hour of homework, in addition to studying. Projects are assigned well in advance. Students must plan out their time accordingly in order to meet deadlines. Written homework is not usually assigned over the weekend, and therefore students may use some weekend time to work on long-term projects.

Weekly Packets

Folders will be sent home once a week, on a day specified by the teacher, with papers showing the students' most recent graded assignments. There is a cover sheet included for parents' signature. The work in the folders needs to be reviewed and returned to the teacher on the designated day, with the signature sheet signed.

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.

Spanish

All fifth grade students start Spanish in the level I textbook. They are exposed to vocabulary, grammar and culture. Emphasis is placed on speaking and listening while writing in the target language is introduced.

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

-Micah 6:8

FIFTH GRADE CURRICULUM

Religion

Language Arts

Math

Science

Social Studies

Homework

Weekly Packets

Specials



Bishop Larkin Catholic School

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Accredited by Florida Catholic Conference

Fifth Grade

The fifth grade program focuses on reinforcement and mastery of skills learned in the lower elementary grades in preparation for the students' entry into middle school. Organizational skills and individual student responsibility are emphasized in order for the student to become more independent. We strive to have an interesting and creative atmosphere wherein the students develop a greater love for learning which they will take with them into their later educational years. A teacher certified by the state of Florida helps each student achieve their highest potential.

Religion

Our religion program provides the core of a Catholic education. The fifth grade curriculum is designed to prepare students to deepen their faith and relationship with God and neighbor. The fifth grade focuses on the following topics: The Trinity, Seven Sacraments, Coming of the Holy Spirit, Liturgical Year, Ordinary Time, and Mary and the Saints. The students participate in a weekly liturgy each Thursday. 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

The reading program utilizes the literature based on the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt reading series. The curriculum consists of an integrated reading, vocabulary, spelling, grammar and writing program. Students are introduced to a variety of reading genres and work to strengthen and develop comprehension skills. Students participate in small differentiated groups to reinforce and extend concepts. In addition students participate in a class novel study and use technology to create and present multi-media presentations. The web based Scholastic Reading Counts program is available to students and they are encouraged to participate in the program each day.

WRITING

Students are instructed on the use and application of the Six Traits of Writing. Students work on developing creative writing skills as well as instruction in writing summaries, outlines, note-taking, narratives, research papers, book reports and poetry.

GRAMMAR

Students are instructed on parts of speech, sentence structure, punctuation and capitalization. These skills are incorporated throughout all areas of the curriculum. Voyage in English is used as a supplemental text.

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 at the end of each story.

Math

Using the Macmillan McGraw-Hill series Math Connects, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers, decimals, and fractions are focused on, with an emphasis on accurate computation of basic operations. The on-line text and Smart Board applications provide students a visual understanding of concepts. Students participate in math labs as needed where they use manipulatives, games, and technology to solve problems. Students are placed in small groups to reinforce skills or as enrichment.

Science

Studies include units on the solar system, matter, simple machines, the human body, energy, ecology, all of which include use of classification, observation, experimentation, and frequent hands-on activities. All students participate in the Pasco County Science Fair. There are also projects and/or mini-projects related to the study of certain units, which are linked to the Language Arts curriculum as well. The Science text Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Science Fusion, is available online.

Social Studies

The curriculum focuses on American history from Early North American colonization to the pre-Civil War period, with particular emphasis on colonial life, the Revolutionary War, the Constitution, slavery, and westward expansion. Each unit includes working with maps, time lines, and use of primary and secondary sources. There are some projects and/or mini projects to be completed with certain units. In addition, the Social Studies curriculum includes a study of economics as it pertains to the American free enterprise system. Economics topics are included generally in the study of American history, but a more concentrated study culminates in a field trip to Enterprise Village. This program is sponsored by Pinellas County, and the field trip usually takes place in the third quarter, after several weeks of intensive classroom preparation students learn to manage a checkbook, budget their earnings, and make business decisions. The students use Pearson's My World Social Studies series, "Building Our Country" as a resource.