

Grade 4

Course Descriptions

Religion:

Our students are in a combined third and fourth grade religion class. In the second year we use the textbook; Jesus Our Guide Faith and Life series

- *Learn about the saint of the day.
- *Learn about the Old Testament
- *To study the life of Abraham, Moses, Joseph, and Jacob
- *Learn about the books of Creation and Exodus, and the Covenant between God and God's chosen people.
- *Review on how to apply the Ten Commandments to our lives today.
- *Learn the Beatitudes, spiritual works of mercy, and the corporal works of mercy. The students learn what we do for the care of the minds, hearts, and souls of others, as we are inspired by the Holy Spirit living within us.
- *Recite the rosary and fully understand all of the Mysteries of the Rosary.
- * Volunteer to be a reader, present petitions, or take on the role of a gift bearer at First Friday Mass
- *Take part in all first Friday Masses, go to confessions, attend holy day of obligation Masses, attend Benediction, and take part in the Stations of the Cross.

Math:

Our fourth graders use the textbook; Progress in Mathematics by Sadlier Our fourth graders are responsible for four main topics in math;

1. Number Theory, Operations and Algebraic Thinking,
2. Measurement

3. Geometry

4 Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability

- *We reinforce addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division skills.
- * Multiply multi-digit numbers and perform long division.
- *Utilize customary and metric units of measurement.
- *Apply many different problem-solving strategies for solving word problems; these include estimating, creating charts, tables, graphs, using manipulatives, choosing a method/operation, writing number sentences, and identifying patterns.
- *Work with large whole numbers.
- *To compare and order fractions and reduce them to lowest term.
- *Factor numbers and find the LCM of numbers.
- *Change mixed numbers to fractions and add and subtract them.
- *Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators.
- *Identify shapes and angles and use a protractor to measure an angle.
- * Find area, perimeter, and volume of a shape.
- *Analyze data utilizing mean, median, mode and create line plots.
- *Adding money and using decimals.
- *Review telling time and elapsed time.

Literature:

In fourth grade we use the textbook, Journey's by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

- *Journey's provides a variety of genres including fiction and nonfiction, poetry, descriptive, letters, dialogue, and humor.
- *Use a variety of strategies to comprehend, interpret, and evaluate text.
- * Language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause and effect.

*Assess the author's point of view or purpose.

*Practice writing skills; writing informative/explanatory narratives to demonstrate an understanding of the text they read.

*Develop and strengthen writing by brainstorming, drafting, reviewing, editing, rewriting, publishing, and presenting to peers.

*Summarize and demonstrate understanding by identifying the beginning, middle, and ending of a story in the form of a book report. The book report is then read to his or her peers for peer input.

Vocabulary:

In fourth grade our students use the text; Vocabulary Workshop level orange by Sadlier Students read, write, listen, and speak to increase their vocabulary. Our goal is to have our students recognize high frequency sight words and recognize basic vocabulary words by sight and meaning.

Spelling:

Our fourth graders continue to learn why a word is spelled and pronounced as it is. Our fourth grade students use the text; Spelling and Vocabulary by Houghton Mifflin. Our students will be able to;

* Identify long and short vowels,

*Identify CVC and CVVC words

*Identify silent letters,

* Identify ed, and ing ending words

*Define consonant blends

*Identify Homophones

*Identify sounds by blend.

*Identify base words,

*Identify prefixes and suffixes.

*Identify diphthongs.

*Decode and use multi-syllable words in sentences.

*Use a dictionary and place words in alphabetical order and separate by syllables.

The students are encouraged to improve their spelling through weekly activities and spelling word assessments.

*Students are given 30 words a week to study for assessment.

Grammar/Language Art:

It is important for our fourth graders to understand and use proper grammar and usage conventions in all written expressions Our student use the textbook Grammar Workshop level orange by Sadlier.

* Learn about declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory sentences.

*Recognize and use parts of speech appropriately in sentences; which include nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs

. *Identify and use appropriate past, present, future verb tenses in sentences.

*Identify the subject and predicate in a sentence.

*To write contractions properly

* Identify prepositions and prepositional phrases

*How to write a friendly letter.

* To proofread and correct grammatical mistakes.

*When and how to use proper punctuation and capitalization in sentences. To recognize what titles or words get underlined and what words do not.

Science:

Our students use the **Nancy Larson** hands-on activities program. We are a combined third and fourth grade science class.

* Our students make observations, ask questions, and form hypothesis.

* Identify the basic forms of energy (light, sound, heat, electrical, and magnetic) and recognize that energy is the ability to force motion or cause change.

* Astronomy; to explore and describe what makes up our solar system.

*To name and describe the planets and describe the characteristics of the sun, moon, and stars.

*To describe the Earth's rotation, revolution, and gravity.

* Life Science; discuss plants, animals, organisms, and their habitats.

*To describe how animals depend on plants for food and energy.

*Explain how human activities can cause change in habitats and in their inhabitants.

*Discuss specific behavior that can protect our health and safety in our text; Family Life by RCL Benziger

Social Studies:

In fourth grade we start the year by reviewing our 50 states and capitals. We use the textbook; Social Studies Regions by Scott Foresman We learn to;

*Identify the characteristics of each of the 5 regions of the U.S.

*To learn about citizenship responsibility, rights, and freedoms.

* To describe the hardships faced by the immigrants coming to Ellis Island and Angel Island.

* To create and discuss a Family Tree

*To discuss the function of laws.

*To identify our three branches of government and the responsibility of each.

*To describe the role of the local, state, and federal government.

*To compare and contrast different cultures.

*To identify the early explorers of North America.

*To discuss the principles of economics; wants needs, supply, demand and free enterprise system

Handwriting:

Our fourth graders use the text; Writing Our Catholic Faith by Universal Handwriting

*Goal for our students is to have them produce neat, legible work.

*Encourage the continued correct formation of letters and spacing in all manuscripts and cursive writing.

*All written assignments in fourth grade are expected to be written in cursive.