

Social Studies

Third grade students will develop an awareness of themselves and people around them. The focus is on:

- Community government
- Urban, rural, and suburban communities
- Geography/map skills
- Meeting needs through goods and services

Physical Education

Third grade students will learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle. The focus is on:

- Maintaining personal fitness
- Developing and demonstrating gross motor skills
- Following more complex sequences and movement in games and activities
- Participating in cooperative group games

Music

Third grade students will have the opportunity to participate in musical activities and to develop an appreciation for music. The focus is on:

- Singing in groups
- Reading basic musical notes
- Distinguishing various types of musical instruments and elements

Art

Third grade students will have the opportunity to express themselves in various art forms. The focus is on:

- Communicating through art using a variety of media and tools
- Appreciating various art works
- Learning how art reflects and shapes society and life

Evaluation

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter.

Parent-Teacher conferences will be scheduled in November, but can be requested at anytime.

Homework

Third grade students will be assigned homework as needed for practice and reinforcement as well as for the completion of special projects.

Parents can help by:

- Modeling active participation in weekly liturgy, daily prayer, and service
- Showing an interest in homework and school activities
- Providing a quiet place and sufficient uninterrupted time to do school work
- Encouraging good nutrition, rest and exercise
- Staying in touch with the school

ST. MATTHEW PARISH SCHOOL

CURRICULUM GUIDE

THIRD GRADE

A POSITIVE INVESTMENT IN YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE

This curriculum guide provides a glimpse of goals and activities.

For more comprehensive information, please contact the school principal.

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Religion

Third graders will learn through stories, activities, Scripture, prayer, discussion and reflection about their Catholic faith. Catholic values are discussed and integrated in all subject areas. The focus is on:

- God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit
- Planning & assisting in liturgy & worship with emphasis on the liturgical seasons
- Sacraments
- Service through WWJD activities
- Parables and Old Testament stories
- Church as a community
- Lives of the Saints

Language Arts/Reading

The Language Arts program includes reading, writing, speaking, listening and the study of literature. The components of the program emphasizes the development of those skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, communicate well and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired and understood are applied and reinforced in all content areas.

Reading/Literature

Through the series, children experience literature in the form of poetry, folktales, nonfiction, fiction, fantasy and plays. Reading fluency will develop and improve. The focus is on:

- Using phonetic and structural analysis
- Using word identification strategies
- Developing vocabulary
- Drawing conclusions and making predictions
- Understanding character and setting
- Sequencing events of a story and identifying main ideas and details
- Distinguishing fact from fantasy
- Making predictions
- Self-appraising and self-correct while reading
- Using a dictionary

Writing

Third grade students will use writing to convey meaning. The focus is on:

- Writing legibly using cursive
- Writing multiple sequential sentences on a given topic
- Applying spelling knowledge
- Applying grammar and mechanics (basic parts of speech, simple tenses, writing forms, and punctuation)
- Using the writing process including: pre-writing, writing, revising, editing, and final draft
- Writing in multiple forms (guided writing, creative writing, friendly letter, descriptive and narrative paragraphs, and book reviews)
- Vocabulary

Listening/Speaking

Third grade students will listen for understanding, follow directions and respond appropriately to the speaker. Students will use acquired language and vocabulary to express opinions. The focus is on:

- Presenting material orally
- Making presentations to individuals and small groups
- Demonstrating listening skills by asking questions, paraphrasing and restating

Technology

St. Matthew follows the National Educational Technology Standards for Students. We believe that students must have regular opportunities to use technology to develop skills that encourage personal productivity, creativity, critical thinking and collaboration in the classroom and in daily life. The focus is on:

- Use digital-imaging technology to modify or create works of art for use in a digital presentation
- Recognize bias in digital resources while researching issues with guidance from the teacher
- Select and apply digital tools to collect, organize and analyze data to evaluate theories or test hypotheses
- Conceptualize, guide and manage individual or group learning projects using digital planning tools with teacher support
- Gather data, examine patterns and apply information

Mathematics

Third grade students acquire a knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills to solve problems through the use of envision Math common core by Scott Foresman-Addison Wesley, extended activities and hands on experience. The focus is on four critical areas:

- Developing understanding of multiplication & division & strategies for multiplication & division within 100
- Developing understanding of fractions, especially unit fractions
- Developing understanding of the structure of rectangular arrays and of area
- Describing and analyzing two dimensional shapes

Science

Third grade students will use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They will learn through the scientific method of inquiry. The focus is on:

- Collecting and charting data
- Describing simple life cycles of plants & animals
- Recognizing relationships of living organisms and their environment
- Identifying physical properties of matter
- Describing features and processes of the Earth and its resources
- Identifying force, motion, and simple machines
- Water cycle
- Planets