

Team B



Grades 3, 4, & 5

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Team B

Third through Fifth Grades

Goals

- Develop knowledge of Christian principles and their application to everyday life
- Provide a well rounded curriculum and a warm environment for learning
- Provide ongoing opportunities to develop confidence and self-worth
- Develop problem solving skills throughout the curriculum
- Provide students with study skills and organizational skills to use throughout their educational experiences
- Encourage independent study skills for each child

Strengths

- Emphasis on reading and math skills
- Parent/student/teacher communication
- Goal setting
- Christian values integrated into all areas of curriculum
- Student participation in liturgy and other prayer experiences
- Smaller class sizes for greater individualized attention
- Service projects to enhance necessary life skills
- Parental support through volunteering in the classroom
- Continual assessment through a variety of methods

Religion

- Enrich the understanding of the Ten Commandments, Beatitudes, Sacraments, the Catholic Doctrine, New Testament, Jesus, and the Church
- Share daily prayer using various forms
- Plan and participate in all-school liturgies and prayer services

Guidance

Guidance skills are so integrated into our program that it is an on-going process of development. We strive to help the children achieve maturity in their relationship with God, with themselves and with others.

- Self-evaluation and participation in parent-student-teacher conferences
- Develop dignity for human life and human sexuality
- Continue HIV/AIDS awareness
- Learn how harassment and violence affect ourselves and others
- Encourage respect for self and others
- Continue to develop responsibility and decision-making skills

Mathematics

- Develop and review basic operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers
- Operations with fractions and decimals are emphasized at the 5th grade level
- Enhance problem solving skills and critical thinking skills to develop mathematical thinkers
- Understand and apply the concepts of
 - measurement, time, geometry, and money
 - place value
 - fractions and decimals
 - patterns, statistics, probability
- Reinforce basic facts for speed and accuracy
- Use of calculators in 5th grade

Language Arts

- Resource teacher for 3rd and 4th grade students with reading, writing, speaking, listening needs
- Implement quality literature with a variety of genres
- Enrich oral communication through opportunities for small and large group presentations
- Introduce students to different writing styles (essay, short stories, poetry, research reports)
- Teach sequential writing processes from brainstorming to publish with an emphasis on originality and creativity
- Reinforce note taking and organizational skills
- Handwriting skills—D’Nealian style cursive writing
- Introduce basic research skills
- Active listening and speaking skills are continually practiced by students
- Use the Read Naturally program to increase accuracy and fluency of individual reading rates
- Using basal readers, students continue to develop vocabulary and comprehension skills
- Focus on study skills
- Study a list of related spelling words each week
- Encourage correct spelling on all assignments
- Participate in library classes weekly
 - learning library skills
 - book selection and checkout

Study Skills

Reinforce skills in

- organization
- effective use of assignment notebook
- active listening and participation
- following oral and written instructions
- research and problem solving skills
- Become independent thinkers
- Improve time management
- Express clear and complete thoughts and ideas
- Learn how to take different kinds of tests

Communication Skills

- Participate in individual and group presentations
- Focus on the communication process
- Emphasize the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication
- Develop the elements of planning a presentation
- Focus on audience interest and involvement
- Practice good listening skills
- Give oral presentations on a variety of topics
- Learn how to be a positive audience member

Social Studies

Social Studies helps students understand the world around them and the way it affects their own lives. It builds the knowledge, skills, and Christian values essential to responsible citizenship and respecting individual and cultural differences.

3rd grade – Communities

- Maps/globes
- Explore types of communities
- Timelines, graphing
- Research skills

4th grade – Regions of the United States

- Focus on map/globe skills and reading maps accurately
- Explore five themes of geography

5th grade – Iowa History, American History

- Map/globe skills
- History and government of the United States
- Iowa History
- Outlining and research skills
- Current events

Science

Science classes enable students to explore and investigate in cooperative lab groups, develop and apply critical thinking skills, and practice skills in observation, measurement, recording, and predicting.

- 3rd grade – exploring matter, magnetism and electricity, the water cycle, physics of sound, energy in motion, inventions and ideas and earth's place in the solar system
- 4th grade – life science, earth science, matter and its properties
- 5th grade – living systems, systems and interaction in nature, processes that change the earth, energy and motion

Physical Education

- Sequential, instructional program which develops an individual's mind and body for healthy living
- Learn to move skillfully and effectively through exercise, lifetime activities, and cooperative activities
 - sports, dance, movement exploration
- Develop Christian values through physical activity that promotes self-discipline, cooperation, positive self-concept, and sportsmanship
- Develop and understanding for the elements of total wellness including mind, body, and spirit.

General Music

Rhythm

- show a steady beat in listening
- practice reading and writing various rhythms

Melody

- improve reading skills of notes by using solfege syllables
- evaluate if a melody moves by steps, leaps, or repeats

Harmony

- sing 2/3 part music as rounds or partner songs
- explore different styles of accompaniment such as ostinatos and arpeggios

Form

- discover and examine AB, ABA, and call response songs

Expressive Quality

- use instruments to promote musical independence
- use electric keyboard lab to explore melody and harmony

Performances

- Christmas program
- Opus Honor Choir – 5th grade
- Spring Arts Festival

Analysis

- study musical backgrounds of a variety of cultures

-evaluate various elements of music by listening and studying

Art

Students will understand that art is a means of communicating ideas and feelings

- Define, recognize and use the elements and principles of art
- Recognize, distinguish and appreciate art influences of differing cultures and historical periods
- Develop and awareness of art in all environments

Medium, principles and elements used:

- Pastels, watercolor, tempera, acrylic, clay, pencils, printmaking and line, value, texture, shape, space, color, rhythm, movement, proportion, unity
- Develop self expression and creativity

Instrumental Music

Fourth grade students begin study on one of twelve musical instruments, learning basic fundamentals of music and technique while playing by oneself and as a group. Literature will include lesson materials and basic beginning band compositions.

Fifth grade students will continue study on their primary musical instrument, learning more fundamentals of music and technique. Basic music theory and history will be explored in both individual lessons as well as in ensemble rehearsals. Literature will expand to include marches, overtures, symphonic works, and 20th century music.

Students enrolled in instrumental music participate in:

- Individual lessons
- Elementary Band

Technology

Students will receive yearlong classes in computer use with a focus on Catholic values (ethics, responsible use of tools) and a focus on learning skills (critical thinking, communication, creativity, craftsmanship). In particular, they will:

- Gain skills in editing word processed documents and in formatting their text, paragraphs, and layouts
- Create slide shows that integrate text, graphics, sounds, and transitions
- Create, seek, select, and modify various types of graphics, moving them from one document or source to another document
- Use key words, name and phrases to navigate, browse, and search electronic encyclopedias and educational data bases and web sites
- Plan, create, and edit a database, and interpret results found
- Improve keyboarding speed and accuracy
- Create spreadsheets and bar, pie, and line graphs
- Improve drawing and painting skills on the computer
- Utilize online resources for research

Musical Activities

3rd through 5th grade Choir
6/7/8 Choir
Ensemble & Lab
Pep Band
Pit Orchestra
Wind Ensemble
Chamber Ensembles
Coe College Elementary & Junior Honor Band

Academic Activities

Junior Achievement
America Reads Day
Field trips to cultural and historical local resources
Guest artists/authors
4th grade – Hoover Museum & Library
4th/5th – Geography Bee
5th grade – D.A.R.E.
5th grade – LEGO League
5th grade – Tar Wars

Sports Activities

4th/5th - Wrestling
4th/5th – Basketball
5th - Football