

ST. ANNE & ST. JUDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Third Grade Curriculum

Language Arts

Spelling: The *Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop* is used to teach the third grade spelling and vocabulary lessons for the week. In addition, the usage and meaning of the words are utilized throughout the week and in homework.

Writing: The students will write journal reflections as well as employ the five steps of the writing process to write personal narratives, write a story, write to inform, write to express an opinion, and write to persuade.

English Grammar: The *Houghton Mifflin English* book is used to teach the students correct grammar and the usage of the proper English language. The third graders use both the book and practice workbook to effectively master daily language, writing skills, proofreading, and communicating skills.

Reading:

□ *Literature Based Instruction* is used to support mastery of the five components of literacy: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Students read authentic children's literature selections such as those found on the Newbery Honor Award list.

□ *Guided Reading Strategies* help students organize their understanding and learn to summarize important details.

□ *Accelerated Reader* is used to enhance student reading interest and promote comprehension through independent reading selections at the student's reading level. It provides diagnostic data to plan for instruction and intervention and allows for differentiation and goal setting.

□ *SRA Reading Laboratory* offers a balanced collection of high interest, culturally diverse, fiction and nonfiction short stories. It provides individualized skills instruction and permits independent work. The program meets the differing needs of students by providing multileveled learning materials. Each student progresses at his or her own rate according to individual ability.

Handwriting: The students continue to refine their cursive and manuscript penmanship in the *Zaner-Bloser* style. Written work in the third grade is expected to be written in cursive.

Mathematics: The second grade uses the *Pearson Program's en Vision Math*, a success oriented program that enables children to develop a solid foundation in the language and basic concepts of mathematics. The program utilizes a multi-sensory approach to teaching and builds on prior learning. Each lesson is accompanied by in-class guided practice and independent homework practice which mirrors the problems completed in class. Through this program the students will study the following units: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, patterns and relationships, geometry, fractions, decimals and money, measurement, time and temperature, data, graphs, and probability.

Science: The *Scott Foresman Science* series is used to help engage students in innovative and creative ways that drive life-long learning. This is accomplished through lecture, hands-on labs, and

web-based interactive lessons in *Life Science, Earth Science, and Physical Science*. Every child will keep a journal to record labs, vocabulary, and diagrams for study. Each student will participate in the St. Anne Science Fair.

Social Studies: *South Carolina Studies Weekly* publication is used to reinforce the state standards for third grade. Each weekly newspaper contains a social studies lesson on South Carolina state history, geography, culture, or economics; a current event that relates to the lesson being presented; a regional article; a biographical spotlight of a prominent South Carolina citizen; a South Carolina wildlife article; arts and crafts; and activities. Along with classroom lessons, the students will have projects and field trips to enhance the curriculum.

Religion: The students are offered an enriching spiritual environment through religious instruction, prayer, worship, reflection, and service to others. The school day begins with a group prayer during the Morning Assembly. The children recite the “Blessing before Meals” and the “Blessing after Meals” at lunch time. At the closing of the day, they recite a prayer together. The children are expected to memorize the “Our Father,” “Hail Mary,” “Glory Be,” “Act of Contrition” and the “Guardian Angel Prayer.” The textbook, *Faith First*, is used for instruction. It is in conformity with the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The students participate in Mass every Wednesday. Catholic students share in the Sacrament of the Eucharist with Non-Catholic students receive a special blessing. Students are required to weekly recite and write Bible verses that go hand in hand with the lesson taught.

Spanish: Northern Arizona University's Elementary Spanish DVD series is viewed weekly.

Music, Art, Physical Education, Computer and Library: These classes are attended weekly and are taught by specific specialists to each field.