



Leap Day 2018

First Grade

Thank you for attending Leap Day 2018. We appreciate the opportunity to share with you all the amazing opportunities for your child next year at The Highlands School.

Typical Day

Each day we begin with Prayer, Pledge and Calendar. Calendar involves many of our songs and helps the children refresh the material they have already seen in the past weeks.

The day continues with Religion, Math and then a time for Reading Groups followed by Phonics. Each day changes slightly with the various specials like Music, PE, Art and Library. In the afternoon, we typically have History, Science, or Language Arts and on Fridays we do Centers within the class. Centers are hands-on activities that reinforce the Phonics we are learning throughout the week.

What Should You Expect?

In First Grade, a major part of our year is focused on creating confident, fluent readers. From our rigorous Phonics program to our focused Reading Groups, we are determined to end the year with strong readers.

First Grade is the first year where the children are expected to be independent. The children are responsible for completing all their homework each night. Between Phonics, Math, Math Facts and Reading/ Spelling, the children should spend between 45 minutes to an hour on homework each night, Monday to Thursday. Parents do need to review and sign-off on homework.

Students will be assessed four times a year in Math and Reading to evaluate their progress in each area. These assessments help us formulate our differentiated Reading Groups based on specific needs. The Math assessments help us identify areas of success as well as what may need reviewing in the classroom.

Within the classroom we are determined to help every student grow and develop their various skills. As we move through the year, we watch for students who are excelling across the board as well as those who may need more individualized instruction. From checking their homework to setting up the classroom we identify the best placement and instruction remediation for each student. For those who are excelling, we keep them challenged with higher level reading books in the classroom as well as opportunities to assist and lead where needed.

Each day the children enjoy Recess from 11:00- 11:30am. Lunch is in the cafeteria from 1:00- 1:30 and is supervised by parent volunteers.

Outside of the Classroom

The school offers an Afterschool Care Program which you can sign up for and is very interactive. The children really enjoy going!

Other activities are parent-led sports through the YMCA as well as opportunities around the metroplex.

As part of Catholic Schools Week, we take part in the Spelling Bee and Math Competition.

Why we love First Grade!

- Art Projects: Developmentally Appropriate Classroom Art
- Class Reports: Baptism, Saint, Family and State Reports
- Singing and Learning Sign Language (The Pledge, thank you, your welcome, stop,...)
- Interesting Conversations 😊
- All About Me! / Meet J.W. And Percy!

Setting the World ABLAZE

At The Highlands School, we have the privilege of teaching the children about God's unconditional love for us. Out of all the wonderful things we do in First Grade, formation of the individual is our highest goal.

The children receive formation in the classroom through songs and prayers they can say at every time of the day, and character development through the Honorable Character program. We want to create a love for reading that will drive them to love learning and never be satisfied with the mediocre. Through song and having fun we teach them lessons for life. Lessons like, encouraging one another, celebrating the little things, being thankful for all that we have and that there is never a question too small. These lessons will carry them through life and we are dedicated to teaching them and preparing them for what is to come.

Above all, Jesus Christ is the reason we LOVE what we do and why we look forward to teaching every day. We hope to see your children next year in our Fantastic First Grade program.

May God bless you and Keep you,
Ms. Wrona and Mrs. Cantrell