

SECOND GRADE CURRICULUM GUIDE

CATHOLIC FORMATION

- Spirit of Truth program is used in religion class. Students focus on how much children are loved by Jesus Christ, and how His death and Resurrection has opened the way to Heaven.
 - The parts of the Mass.
 - Lives and lessons of the saints.
 - More ways to pray by learning the Marian traditions of the Catholic faith, the Rosary, Feast Days.
 - A special focus on the Sacraments of Confession and Eucharist.
- Cover the four principal components of catechesis: The Creed, the Commandments, the Sacraments and Liturgy, Prayer and Scripture.
- Sacramental preparation for first reception of Reconciliation and Holy Communion with the law of God and salvation history as background. Begin to prepare for life in Heaven by reception of Jesus in the Eucharist and focus on their life in the Church.
- Learn and memorize several traditional prayers to aid in the sacramental life: St. Michael the Archangel Prayer, Act of Contrition, Anima Christi, etc.

READING

- Master basic decoding skills using phonics
- Master oral fluency when reading aloud
- Develop and apply reading strategies for comprehension
- Use context clues
- Make a mental picture
- Summarize the main idea
- Retell the story in your own words
- Retain specific details
- Sequence events in a story
- Make predictions
- Make inferences; interpret and evaluate reading selections
- Focus on the development of story elements: characters, setting, plot, climax, resolution, compare and contrast
- Identify various literature genres, such as fiction, non-fiction, classics, and poetry
- Participate in the Jr. Great Books Program to develop critical thinking, writing, and interpretive reading



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- Develop listening skills as the teacher reads selected books to the class

WRITING

- Write 1-2 paragraphs using correct grammar and punctuation
- Understand the basics of the writing process
- Practice using more complex and compound sentences in their writing
- Write legibly in both manuscript and cursive

LANGUAGE ARTS - Logic of English Program

- Learn phonograms and spelling rules
- Use phonemic awareness in reading and spelling
- Learn grammar and basic composition
- Create and use flashcards of phonograms
- Play games that reinforce phonograms and spelling rules

LISTENING, VIEWING, AND SPEAKING

- Maintain sustained attention for 30-40 minutes
- Exhibit good listening skills
- Appropriately ask and answer questions
- Memorize poetry and selected passages from scripture
- Use proper etiquette when speaking

MATH

- Further develop understanding of patterning, fact families, estimating, place value, even and odd numbers, money, measurement, and fractions
- Develop math vocabulary (sum, differences, etc.)
- Master (quickly and with accuracy) addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts up to 10
- Add and subtract with and without regrouping
- Have a basic understanding of division
- Tell time to the minute
- Understand grade level concepts of measurement and geometry



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- Observe, collect, classify, organize, and compare data using charts and graphs
- Have a basic understanding of Roman Numerals
- Practice mental math; enhance skills in mental computation, speed math, problem solving, and mathematical reasoning and inquiry

SCIENCE, Nancy Larson Science Program

- Explore topics of study including physics, geology, and ornithology
- Delve into the world of science and learn the physical properties of matter, investigate forces and work, examine simple machines, explore sound and light, and investigate birds.
- Practice the scientific procedure including observing, describing, comparing, measuring, classifying, predicting, inferring, hypothesizing, and experimenting to better understand the world around us.

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Continue to develop chronological thinking, changes over time, and communities
- Focus on Ancient Civilizations (China, Greece, India, and Rome)
- Review leaders, way of life, traditions, religion, values, culture, achievements, inventions, rise and fall, historical figures from these time periods, national and local historical event celebrations and holidays, national and local patriotic symbols (U.S. flag, Statue of Liberty, U.S. Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Lincoln Memorial, Bald Eagle)
- Focus on basic topography: landforms, waterways, cities (of Ancient Civilizations)
- Study maps and globes: keys/legends, symbols, compass rose, cardinal directions, hemispheres, equator, poles, types of maps, continents, oceans

STUDY SKILLS AND HOMEWORK

In Second Grade, students will continue to develop study habits. They will further expand their note taking skills. Homework is given Monday through Thursday in Reading, Spelling and Math. Students should study spelling words and math facts nightly and in addition, parents should read with their child every night. Occasionally book reports, projects, and other types of reports will be assigned. Parents should supervise homework and help his/her child correct any errors. Parents should also review all work sent home in the blue folders on Tuesday and go over graded papers with the child.

- Stay on task 30-40 minutes.



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- Write assignments in their assignment book and gather necessary homework materials with some guidance.
- Turn in homework on the day it is due.
- Review math facts, phonograms, reading vocabulary on a nightly basis.
- The length of time spent on homework is heavily dependent on the individual child. Expect a minimum on most nights of 30-45 minutes, plus additional time reviewing math facts and outside reading.
- Establish a routine at home as to when and where homework is to be done every day, away from distractions and interruptions, but with supervision.
- It is important that when homework time begins, students have all the necessary tools at hand to minimize interruptions and time off-task.

SPECIALS

- Library – 1 time per week
- Media Arts– 1 time per week
- PE – 2 times per week
- Music – 2 time per week
- Art – 1 time per week

2nd GRADE PUBLIC SPEAKING EVENTS

- 2nd Grade Living Museum

TIPS FOR PARENTS

The following tips may be helpful as your child transitions into second grade:

- Class begins promptly at 8:05 a.m. Arrive at least 15 minutes early to provide adequate time for your child to prepare for their day (unpack backpack and lunch, organize books, turn in homework, copy assignments, complete morning seatwork, etc.).
- Allow your child to take on responsibilities and to accept the rewards and consequences of their actions.
- Remind your child that you and the teacher know he/she can do well in school.
- Do not walk your child to the classroom after the first week of school unless something heavy or awkward must be delivered to the classroom.
- Tell your child that you know they are capable of doing well in class.
- In terms of discipline, support the efforts of the teacher. If you disagree with the teacher's discipline measure, please discuss this with the teacher. Do not undermine the teacher's authority by disagreeing with the teacher in front of your child.



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- Tell your child of their teacher's love them and that she will help them with lessons and situations that arise at school.
- Every child should be able to tie his/her shoelaces, zip up a zipper, and button a sweater with some degree of success.
- Above and beyond homework, it is extremely important to drill math facts with your child until over-learning takes place and answers are accurate and automatic.
- When reading to or with your child, stop and ask questions about what has been read, and ask him/her to predict what they think will happen. Ask about lessons learned from the stories you read; this is to promote active thinkers not passive listeners.
- Minimize television viewing and computer games on school days, promote active outdoor play, promote arts and crafts for a creative outlet, encourage use of their imagination in their play with others.
- Be very selective in TV viewing. Be mindful of the time in front of the television, and the subject matter your child is viewing.
- Have set structure in your morning and evening routines to help your child. For example, lay out entire uniform for school before bedtime, lunch prepared the night before, backpack in the same location, set their own alarm.
- Communicate with your child's teacher any questions or concerns you may have. You are your child's first educator and his/her teacher will always support you in that role.

