

Second Grade Curriculum

Catholic Formation

Students will:

- Focus on the basic premises of moral law as a foundation for conscience and obedience to God's law through love
- Develop a basic understanding of the elements of the Mass including vessels and vestments
- Learn about the covenant with Moses and the Ten Commandments
- Sacramental preparation for first reception of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion
- Continue to learn the Marian traditions of the Catholic faith: the Rosary and Feast Days

Reading

Students will:

- Master basic decoding skills using phonics
- Master oral fluency when reading aloud
- Develop reading comprehension skills
- Summarize the main idea; continue using cause and effect, author's point of view, comparing and contrasting, sequencing of events, and identifying fact and opinion, retelling
- Retain specific details
- Make a mental picture
- Use context clues
- Make inferences; interpret and evaluate reading selections; make predictions
- Identify various literature genres, such as fiction, non-fiction, classics, contemporary works and poetry
- Participate in the Jr. Great Books Program to develop critical thinking, writing and interpretive reading

Phonics

Students will:

- Continue to reinforce the decoding skills learned in previous grades (the program works with the spelling program to ensure students receive a balanced amount of decoding and encoding practice)

Spelling

Students will:

- Correctly spell frequently used and common words
- Practice encoding; learn spelling rules and apply them through a variety of activities such as spelling games and spelling dictation

Writing

Students will:

- Write 1 paragraph using correct grammar and punctuation
- Understand basics of the writing process
- Write legibly in both manuscript and cursive
- Plan, draft, revise and edit short stories, letters, poems, essays, and short reports
- Organize, develop key word outlines, and expand on ideas
- Practice using more complex and compound sentences in their writing

Handwriting

Students will:

- Continue to build a solid mastery of proper handwriting in manuscript and cursive

Listening, Viewing and Speaking

Students will:

- Maintain sustained attention for a minimum of 35-40 minutes
- Exhibit good listening skills
- Appropriately ask and answer questions
- Recite poems and passages from memory

- Use proper etiquette when speaking
- Participate in 2nd Grade Public Speaking Events: Lower School Poetry and Prose Contest; 2nd Grade Living Museum

Math

Students will:

- Further develop addition and subtraction skills
- Practice math timed tests of basic facts
- Further develop understanding of patterning, fact families, estimating, place value even and odd numbers, time, money, measurement, fractions, and geometrical figures and concepts
- Solve word problems
- Interpret graphs and tables
- Practice mental math; enhance skills in mental computation, speed math, problem solving, and mathematical reasoning and inquiry
- Develop understanding of Roman numerals
- Memorize multiplication tables (specifically, 1-5, 10)
- Develop understanding of simple division

Science

Students will:

- Explore topics of study including life cycles of plants and animals, energy and motion, Earth science, and the human body and its systems
- Practice the scientific procedure including observing, describing, comparing, measuring, classifying, predicting, inferring, hypothesizing, and experimenting to better understand the world around us
- Appreciate how life on Earth is a balance that is often shifted by our actions or lack of action

Social Studies

Students will:

- Continue to develop chronological thinking, changes over time, and communities
- Focus on Ancient Civilizations (Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece 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

Second grade students also attend classes in Art, Computers, Music, Physical Education and Library