

Third Grade Curriculum

Religion

Third Graders will learn and grow in their faith through active participation in prayer, written activities, daily devotions, and worship. The religion curriculum is integrated throughout the entire school day.

Topics of study will include:

- Bible Stories and Characters
- The Law and Gospel
- Martin Luther
- The Life of Jesus
- Prayer
- Weekly Chapel Services
- The Catechism
- Parts of Worship Services
- Sex Education (*Where Do Babies Come From?*)

Language Arts

Grammar:

Third Graders continue to strengthen their reading, writing, speaking, spelling, and listening skills. They are encouraged to apply these communication skills throughout all subject areas.

Students will study:

- Complete Sentences
- Nouns (Common/Proper/Possessive)
- Verbs (Action/Linking/Main/Helping/Irregular)
- Adjectives (Comparative/Superlative)
- Adverbs
- Pronouns (Subject/Object)
- Contractions
- Subjects/Predicates
- Punctuation/Capitalization
- Proofreading
- Daily Language Review

Reading:

Students experience the world of literature. Many genres are studied including Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Plays, Fantasies, Biographies, and Realistic Fiction. Novel studies are

incorporated at least once a quarter.

Students will study:

- Theme Studies – *Dollars and Sense, Smart Solutions, People and Nature, One of a Kind, Cultures, and Freedom*
- Comprehension
- Critical Thinking
- Cause and Effect
- Listening
- Oral Expression and Fluency
- Compare and Contrast

Listening and Speaking:

Students will listen for understanding, follow directions, and participate in discussions.

Students will study:

- Small and large group discussion skills
- Oral reading skills
- Oral presentations
- Storytelling
- Literature Circles

Spelling:

Students will use the Rebecca Sitton curriculum which emphasizes learning how to spell and use the high-frequency words for life. They will use writing to communicate in a meaningful way.

Students will study:

- Letter sounds
- Review short/long vowels
- Synonyms/Antonyms/Homophones
- Prefixes/Suffixes
- Consonant Blends/Spelling Patterns
- Review of Short/Long Vowels

Mathematics

Third Graders acquire knowledge of Mathematics and its relationship to daily living. Students are encouraged to apply Math skills in a variety of ways and strengthen their problem-solving skills. Hands-on activities and manipulatives are utilized.

Students will study:

- Place Value
- Money and Time
- Addition and Subtraction Basic Facts (Add/Subtract greater numbers up to digits)

- Problem Solving Skills and Strategies
- Measurement
- Basic Multiplication and Division Problems
- Geometry
- Perimeter and Area
- Data and Probability
- Fractions and Decimals
- Introduction of Multiplying and Dividing Larger Numbers (up to 3 digits)

Science

Students will explore the world around them. They will learn through observing, predicting, questioning, and explaining.

Students will explore:

- Sound
- Rainforest
- Finding Shelter
- Gardening
- The Body
- Weather

Social Studies

Third Graders will strive to be good, responsible citizens in their community. They will study the past to build a better future.

Students will study:

- Map Skills
- Communities
- Inventors/Presidents
- Government
- Cultures
- Citizenship
- Daily Geography
- Economics through Jr. Achievement Program

Fine Arts

Art:

Students will improve fine motor skills through detailed drawing, painting, and sculpture

Students will:

- Participate in Art class one period per week
- Be introduced to artists and their styles and create artwork based on their style
- Study proper use of techniques in various mediums
- Be taught proper care of Art equipment and personal Art supplies
- Listen and follow several step directions independently
- Participate in class discussion on artistic style and use of elements
- Be introduced to composition and use of shape and color

Music:

Third Graders will learn songs and liturgical music to assist in leading the liturgy at BLCS.

Students will:

- Sing hymns from the Hymn of the Month Curriculum
- Repeat sung rhythms on neutral syllables
- Identify and sing quarter and eighth notes in 2/4 and 4/4 time
- Sing simple melodies on solfege
- Listen to played or sung rhythms and echo them back
- Execute vocal warm-ups
- Learn songs, psalms, and liturgical music to assist in leading the liturgy at BLCS
- Perform at regularly scheduled church and chapel services throughout the year
- Memorize and perform music that will be sung at our school Christmas Program and Musical

Spanish

Students participate in Language Stars Spanish Program once a week. They will focus on vocabulary such as colors, animals, greetings, etc. Students will also be able to comprehend and speak in small complete sentences/questions.

Second Step

Our school utilizes the Second Step program to introduce and develop social/emotional skills in students of all grades. These skills will help students to be successful in school and in life, as well.

Students will learn:

- Skills for Learning

- Empathy
- Emotion Management
- Problem Solving

Technology

Technology is used in all curricular areas. Students will be comfortable completing assignments and taking assessments on the computer, as needed. A set of Chrome books will be utilized by students in each grade. Teachers will use the Promethean Board for classroom instruction and interactive learning.

Students will:

- Perform basic word processing skills (enter and delete, copy and paste, save and open, etc.)
- Perform basic PowerPoint skills
- Present a PowerPoint presentation
- Perform basic iPad skills
- Utilize a flash drive to save, open, and present projects
- Understand the basics of computer ethics and etiquette
- Identify and use simple search engines

Physical Education

Physical Education is provided twice each week. In addition students are involved in the 26.2 Marathon Program throughout the year. At the end of the year, students participate in the Royal Run/Walk and Field Day activities. We begin the year with an introductory unit that establishes class environment, behavioral expectations and management/organizational protocols.

Students will:

- Learn body and spatial awareness
- Enhance their social and personal development
- Learn to cooperate, take turns and experience personal success through movement
- Be given substantial opportunities to actively engage in moving and learning sport, dance and fitness skills
- Learn the importance of being physically fit

Extra-Curricular Activities

Third Graders are able to participate in Schola Choir and our After School STEM Program. In addition, our school conducts summer basketball camp.

Field Trips and Service Projects

In Third Grade, the students will participate in multiple field trips to reinforce classroom learning.

- Students will experience an opera production of “The Nutcracker” and appreciate different types of music and performances.
- Students will have the opportunity to explore God’s amazing sea creatures at Shedd Aquarium. The class will also participate in a hands-on lab activity there, as well.
- Students will experience a symphony at Wheaton College.
- Students will deliver chili and cards to the Naperville Fire Station

Homework

Homework is necessary because it reviews lessons and reinforces students’ skills. It also helps in teaching responsibility. A general rule of thumb is ten minutes per grade level per night. In Third Grade an average amount of homework would be 30 minutes.

Parents Can Help By:

- If your child needs help with homework, please help him/her. If it requires working through the whole assignment until you practically give him/her the answer, it is sometimes necessary. Sometimes all it takes is having them reread the directions out loud.
- Encourage independence, and you will be pleased with the results.
- Provide a quiet work area and provide your child with necessary supplies.
- Set a certain time for homework to be completed.
- Praise and support your child as reinforcement for good study habits
- Model active participation in daily prayer, worship, and family devotions.
- Please carefully read the weekly “Third Grade News.” I will always email it over the weekend. It will contain important information for the upcoming week.