

OUR LADY OF PEACE FOURTH GRADE CURRICULUM

Religion

The religion program focuses on spiritual formation. Through reciting daily prayer, planning, and assisting in liturgy and other forms of worship, engaging in dialogue with our priests and deacons, and participating in various service projects, students build a strong foundation in their faith. Catholic values are discussed and integrated not only in religion classes, but throughout the entire curricula. In fourth grade, focus is on:

- God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit
- Planning and assisting in liturgy and other forms of worship
- The Commandments and Beatitudes
- The sacraments
- Service
- Liturgical seasons
- Morality
- Church structure

Language Arts/Reading

Following Common Core Standards reading fluency and critical thinking will develop and improve as students are presented with the following:

- Identify the genre
- Understand cause and effect
- Understand plot
- Identify figurative language
- Sequence events of a story
- Using context clues and other resources to enhance vocabulary
- Identify characteristics of fiction
- State the author's purpose
- Draw inferences
- Make judgments and decisions
- Summarize
- Self-correct while reading
- Define selection vocabulary including parts of speech

Writing

Fourth grade students use writing to convey meaning. Students will:

- Write legibly using cursive
- Write multiple sequential paragraphs on a given topic
- Apply grammar and mechanics
- Construct an outline
- Use the writing process including prewriting, writing, revising, editing, and final draft
- Write in multiple forms including narrative, expository, descriptive, and persuasive essays
- Respond to journal prompts

Listening/Speaking

Fourth grade students will listen for understanding, follow directions and respond appropriately to the speaker. Students will acquire language and vocabulary to express their opinions. Students will:

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- Present material orally
- Make presentations to individuals and small groups
- Participate in small and large group discussion
- Express ideas clearly when speaking
- Give a “how-to” speech

Mathematics

Fourth grade students acquire a knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills through the implementation of Common Core Standards. Students will:

- Use the four operations with whole numbers to solve problems
- Gain familiarity with factors and multiples
- Generate and analyze patterns
- Use place value understanding and properties of operations to perform multi-digit arithmetic
- Extend understanding of fraction equivalence and ordering
- Build fractions from unit fractions by applying and extending previous understanding of operations on whole numbers
- Understand decimal notation for fractions and compare decimal fractions
- Solve problems involving measurement and conversion of measurement from a larger unit to a smaller unit
- Represent and interpret data
- Geometric measurement: understand concepts of angle and measure angles
- Draw and identify lines and angles, and classify shapes by properties of their lines and angles
- Long division

Science

The science curriculum blends traditional learning with technology and hands-on virtual labs, utilizing Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and STEM activities. Students review such topics as:

- Layers of the Earth
- Plate tectonics with frosting plate boundary lab
- Energy- kinetic/potential
- Natural resources: renewable/non-Renewable
- Waves and sound waves
- Hour of Coding

Social Studies

The social studies curriculum prepares students for informed participation in world events. This comprehensive social studies program presents a mixture of history, geography, economics, citizenship, and culture. The fourth grade text explores themes that focus on:

- Regions of the United States
- Government
- Geography/map skills
- Immigration
- Meeting needs through goods and services

Homework: Fourth grade students are assigned homework as needed for practice and reinforcement as well as completion of special projects. Independent reading and daily practice.