

First Grade

ACADEMICS

One of the most important parts of first grade is learning how to read for both learning and enjoyment. This is accomplished through extensive phonics and comprehension skills and strategies. It is further emphasized in written work. The John Collins Writing Program is used to enhance writing and generate creativity.

Math concepts concentrate on addition and subtraction up to two digit numbers. Other areas that are covered are Graphing, Place Value, Patterns, Time, Money, Fractions, and Geometry. Different manipulatives are used to create a strong number sense for all students.

Our curriculum covers National Holidays including Presidents' Day and Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Geography includes the United States and the world with emphasis on different cultures, as well as reading and drawing basic maps. Good citizenship, including the importance of how to be a good member of a community, is a main area of instruction.

FAITH

In first grade we concentrate on God and creation. The students continue to say daily morning, afternoon, and before meal prayers, including The Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, and the Act of Contrition. The students learn of the life of Jesus, Mary, the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, and the Seven Sacraments with emphasis on Baptism. The students use role playing to learn the importance of making good moral choices and how to relate them to their own experiences.

SERVICE

The first grade participates in numerous service projects throughout the school year. These include Pennies for Patients, Diabetes Walk, Saint Vincent de Paul, Muscular Dystrophy, Breast Cancer Awareness, Holy Childhood, and Lions Club "Eyes for the World."

Curriculum Overview

Mathematics

Purpose: to develop a mastery of math concepts and skills. The students will learn to apply these skills to real life situations. Problem solving is the central focus.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Addition and Subtraction**
2. **Two Digit Numbers**
3. **Data and Graphing**
4. **Place Value, Number Pattern**
5. **Time Concepts**
6. **Money**
7. **Geometry**
8. **Fractions and Measurement**

Language Arts

Purpose: to develop oral language and literacy skills through literature. These are a foundation for future academic success in reading, writing and speaking so the student may effectively communicate ideas and expand knowledge.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Comprehension and Literature**
2. **Phonics**
3. **Writing and Language**
4. **Oral Communication**

Social Studies

Purpose: to enable students to acquire a body of knowledge that integrates history with geography, citizenship and cultures. This will equip them to become informed citizens.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. Home and Community
2. Maps, Globes and National Parks
3. Rules, Laws, Responsibility
4. National Holidays
5. National Symbols
6. Ethnic Group Traditions

Science

Purpose: to develop inquiry skills needed to acquire science knowledge, such as the ability to ask questions, make predictions, record and discuss observations and data, and learn proper use of scientific equipment.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. Recognize that water, rocks, soil, and living organisms are found on the earth's surface
2. Similarities and differences between living and non-living entities in the environment
3. Understand events with repetitive patterns – seasons, months, weeks, days
4. Describe various ways objects move by attraction and repulsion

Religion

Purpose: to teach about the life of Jesus and the concept of the Trinity, and to grow in their faith development and Catholic heritage through prayer, liturgies, Bible stories, videos and CD's.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. Parish Community
2. Recite Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, Act of Contrition, Grace before meals
3. Eucharist/Mass
4. God, the Creator
5. Jesus, the Son of God
6. The Holy Spirit
7. Baptism
8. Mary
9. Special Feasts and Seasons
10. Saints
11. Missionary Work
12. Peace and Justice
13. Morality

Field Trips

The goal is to include at least one of the following each year:

Apple Picking
Agricultural Farm
Aquarium

Second Grade

ACADEMICS

Second Grade is a year of highly visible progress in reading and language arts and also a year of exploration and discovery. Our goal is to create an environment where students are actively involved in exploring, developing, testing, discussing, and applying all skills.

Much time is spent teaching students to read fluently. Spelling, phonics, grammar, and writing are integrated throughout the reading programs. Daily practice of reading is essential for reinforcement.

Our Math concepts include basic addition and subtraction facts through 18, numbers through 1000, addition and subtraction of two-digit numbers, time, money, fractions, geometry, place value, thinking skills, and simple multiplication and division. Daily practice of reviewing math facts is critical to success in the program.

Students will learn about science inquiry, formation of a question, and gathering data. Through simple tools, observations, drawing conclusions and communicating results, students will learn about Matter, the Solar System, Weather and Personal Health.

FAITH

Students are taught the precepts of Catholicism - The belief in God, His Son, and the Holy Spirit. In addition, students are instructed in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, in the elements of the Mass, as well as the liturgical calendar, including Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. Students attend Mass monthly, on Holy Days of Obligation, and on special Feast days. The students will receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

SERVICE

The second grade participates in numerous service projects throughout the school year. These include Pennies for Patients, Diabetes Walk, Saint Vincent de Paul, Muscular Dystrophy, Breast Cancer Awareness, Holy Childhood, and Lions Club "Eyes of the World."

Curriculum Overview

Mathematics

Purpose: to recognize and effectively demonstrate the seven principles of Mathematics: Number Sense and Operation, Whole Numbers, Fractions, Algebra, Geometry, Time and Money, and Measurement.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Whole Numbers**
2. **Fractions**
3. **Geometry**
4. **Time and Money**
5. **Measurement**
6. **Problem Solving**
7. **Rounding**

Language Arts

Purpose: to improve and strengthen phonics and decoding skills, reading comprehension, language mechanics, oral communication and study skills. The goal is to encourage students to effectively present the skills and strategies that they have learned in their written and oral work.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Comprehension and Literature**
2. **Phonics**
3. **Writing and Language**
4. **Oral Communication**
5. **Information and Study Skills**

Social Studies

Purpose: to study relationships with family, neighborhood, and local and world community. The focus includes economic and civic learning, while introducing concepts relating to neighborhood life today and long ago.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Culture and Interdependence**
2. **Citizenship and Government**
3. **Economics**
4. **History and Change**
5. **Technological Changes**
6. **Geographic Perspectives**

Science

Purpose: to understand physical science, earth and space, and changes that affect the environment and our own lives.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Earth and Space Science**
2. **Matter and Energy**

Religion

Purpose: to prepare the student for the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation. The program focuses on following Jesus, belonging to the Catholic Church, and appreciating the presence of God's grace and forgiveness in our lives.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Penance/Reconciliation**
2. **Eucharist**
3. **Mass**
4. **Laws of Love**
5. **Mary**
6. **Prayer**

Field Trips

The goal is to include at least one of the following each year:

Smolak Farms

Imax Theater

Aquarium Imax

North Shore Music Theatre

Third Grade

ACADEMICS

Our goal is to help each student realize his/her intellectual potential in a challenging but nurturing environment.

Using *Houghton Mifflin Math for Third Graders*, the focus will be on advancing the students' knowledge of place value with addition and subtraction. The students are also introduced to multiplication, division, algebra concepts, units of measure, data and statistics, fractions, decimals, and geometry.

Our reading program has been developed by Houghton Mifflin. Students will further develop their skills in vocabulary, comprehension, oral reading fluency, as well as their ability to identify complex story structures. Along with the literature series, the use of trade books in the language arts program is seen as an opportunity to encourage critical thinking while actively engaging students to become better readers.

The students will use the John Collins Writing Program. All students will understand the types of writing and expectations. There will be uniformity of editing symbols, and each student will have a cumulative writing folder to track progress. Students are expected to write across the curriculum using the five types of writing. Students will also be using *Exercises in English, Level C*. This book provides help in grammar, parts of speech, correct usage, capitalization and punctuation.

The spelling program is in conjunction with the Reading/Literature selection and includes words from various units of study. The students will be introduced to a new spelling list each week.

We cover mapping skills and terms, explorers, the discovery of the New World, and interaction between Native American

Indians and the European settlers and its results. We focus on details about the geography, history, economics, government and culture of the state of Massachusetts and various countries of the world. Students will learn different customs from around the world associated with Christmas.

The purpose of our science program is to investigate and to inquire about the world through science. Students will be able to exhibit knowledge in understanding biomes, penguins, and bats, as well as species identification and plant growth and development.

FAITH

We Believe is the title of our religion text. The focus of this series is to have students develop a deeper understanding of the sacraments. The students will be shown how to celebrate and deepen their faith through the liturgy.

SERVICE

The students in third grade understand the value of helping those in need and those who just need a friend. They enthusiastically support the following service projects throughout the school year:

- Monthly Collections for The St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry
- Regular visits to New Horizons to meet with the elderly of Woburn
- Pennies for Patients
- Walk for Diabetes
- Thanksgiving Food Basket for Woburn Council of Social Concern
- Lenten Paper Drive
- Coat Drive
- Recycle Program

Curriculum Overview

Mathematics

Purpose: to set a foundation in arithmetic as a step to a higher level of conceptual knowledge and activity.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. Money and Time
2. Place Value
3. Addition and Subtraction
4. Measurement
5. Multiplication Concepts
6. Geometry and Measurement
7. Division Concepts
8. Data and Probability
9. Fractions and Decimals
10. Problem Solving

Language Arts

Purpose: to develop skills in becoming individual readers; understand and appreciate a variety of genres; incorporate skills and strategies to understand text through critical thinking; and uncover meaning through analysis and synthesis. Children will acquire comprehension skills, develop comparing and contrasting skills, continue to develop an understanding of plot, characterization, setting, and sequencing skills, become familiar with author's purpose, and continue to acquire listening skills.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. Reading and Literature
2. Grammar
3. Written Communication
4. Oral Communication
5. Word Learning
6. Penmanship

Social Studies

Purpose: to focus on specific details about the geography, history, economics, government, and culture of the state of Massachusetts.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. Massachusetts History
2. Citizenship and Government
3. Geographical Areas around the World
4. History and Change
5. Cultural Differences
6. Geographic Perspectives

Science

Purpose: to investigate and to inquire about the world through science.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Biomes**
2. **Penguins and Bats**
3. **Species Identification**
4. **Plant Growth and Development**

Religion

Purpose: to help students to grow in their faith by understanding that the Church is One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic, and to understand and live out the mission of the Church.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **The Church**
2. **Mary**
3. **The Sacraments**
4. **Holy Spirit**
5. **The Bible**
6. **Prayers**

Field Trips/In House Presentation

Field Trips:

The goal is to include at least one of the following each year:

Harvard Natural History Museum

Stone Zoo

Shaw's Supermarket

Stoneham Theater

In House Presentations:

Boston Aquarium Penguin Project

Fourth Grade

ACADEMICS

Our goal is to develop a positive, creative learning environment so each student will be a successful and productive citizen for life.

Students read themed stories from different genres of literature in our reading program. It combines the use of specific vocabulary words and comprehension questions to increase the students' understanding of these narratives.

The students are learning to write a four paragraph essay consisting of topic, supporting detail, and concluding sentences and analyzing poetry using literary devices such as alliteration, personification, and simile as part of our Collins Writing Program.

Our math program teaches the students to add, subtract, multiply, and divide whole numbers using word and individual problems.

FAITH

Our new religion series by Sadlier teaches the children to put God first in their lives and how they can be witnesses to Jesus Christ by learning about the Ten Commandments and the sacraments.

SERVICE

The fourth grade participates in numerous service projects throughout the school year. These include Pennies for Patients, Diabetes Walk, Saint Vincent de Paul, Muscular Dystrophy, Breast Cancer Awareness, Holy Childhood, and Lions Club "Eyes for the World."

Curriculum Overview

Mathematics

Purpose: to teach students to understand and practice successfully the following topics: Numeration, Whole Numbers, Decimals and Fractions, Algebra, Geometry, Probability, Statistics and Graphing, and Measurement.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. Numeration
2. Whole Numbers
3. Decimals and Fractions
4. Algebra
5. Geometry
6. Probability
7. Statistics
8. Graphing
9. Measurement

Language Arts

Purpose: to teach students to understand and practice successfully the following concepts: comprehension, study skills, decoding, spelling, vocabulary, writing, grammar uses and mechanics.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. Reading
2. Grammar
3. Spelling/Vocabulary
4. Writing/Essay/Narratives
5. Proofreading/Publishing
6. Book Reports/Genres

Social Studies

Purpose: to teach the students United States history, geography, and map skills.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Geography**
2. **American History**
3. **States, Landforms, Climates**
4. **Government and Environment**
5. **Map Skills**

Science

Purpose: to teach students to understand and practice successfully Motion and Design and Animal Studies.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **Motion and Design**
2. **Animal Studies**

Religion

Purpose: to teach students to understand the goodness of God, the Trinity, the Church, Mary, the saints, and social justice. Students will also celebrate feasts and liturgical seasons, and will gain an appreciation for the Catholic School.

Learning Outcomes

Students will exhibit knowledge and behaviors in the following areas:

1. **The Goodness of God**
2. **The Trinity**
3. **The Commandments**
4. **The Beatitudes**
5. **The Church**
6. **Reconciliation**
7. **Mary and the Saints**
8. **Social Justice**

Field Trips

Stoneham Theatre