



THIRD GRADE OVERVIEW

Classroom Structure: Self-contained for core subjects and art. Specialists: art, computer, library, music, physical education, and Spanish.

Student/Teacher Ratio: *20:1

School Day 8:45 am – 3:05 pm
Lunch/recess 20 minutes plus 20 minutes
Afternoon recess 15 minutes

BIBLE and CHAPEL

Third Grade

Third Grade BIBLE THEME: Christ and His Church

"Third-graders study the life of Christ, the book of Acts, and missions. As students are personally guided through the Gospels, they learn and apply principles from the messages, parables, miracles, and life events of Jesus. Moving into Acts, students see the building of God's Church as the Gospel spreads through the missionary journeys of Paul and through famous missionaries of history."

LANGUAGE ARTS

Third Grade

Third grade teachers use the A Beka Reading/Language Program.

Phonics/Reading/Spelling:

- Oral Reading Fluency
- Weekly Spelling List-Test
- Vocabulary Words-Definitions & Usage
- Accelerated Reader Quizzes
- Scripture Memorization

Language/Grammar:

- Capitalization
- Punctuation
- Antonyms, Homonyms and Synonyms
- Simple Nouns, Subjects, Verbs & Adjectives
- Complete Sentences
- Word Usage Rules
- Plural and Common Contractions
- Dictionary Skills

Writing:

- Guided Creative Writing
- Writing Journals
- Short Stories, Essays & Letters
- Book Reports & Basic Research Paper
- Formal Paragraphs

MATH

Third Grade

Houghton Mifflin Expressions mathematics program is used for third grade. The program uses a systematic step-by-step approach to developing mathematics concepts and skills. The focus on problem solving and reasoning provides opportunities for students to demonstrate and apply their understanding. This program is specifically in line with the National Math Council's principles and standards for school mathematics. Students receive independent practice for homework and have access to web-based enrichment activities.

Additional Math concept/skill strands:

- Intro to Multiplication and Division Facts
- Review Addition and Subtraction of Three-Digit Numerals
- Place Value
- Fractions and Decimals
- Measurement
- Geometry and Measurement
- Story Problems

SOCIAL STUDIES

Third Grade

Third grade teachers use the A Beka Social Studies series, *Our American Heritage*, as a base to create units based on concepts in the book. Formal studies are complemented by a variety of field trip opportunities.

Students learn and investigate the following integrated units:

- Continents and Oceans
- Land Forms
- American States & Important Landmarks
- Women in History
- Exploration
- United States Presidents
- Map Skills
- African American History

SCIENCE

Third Grade

Third grade teachers use the A Beka Science & Health curriculum as a base to create units based on concepts in books.

Students have a natural, God-given inquisitiveness and curiosity about the universe. Purposeful Design Science capitalizes on that curiosity as it engages students in investigating, observing, and thinking about the world around them. During the inquiry process, students acquire new information, gain understanding of research, and work together with other students to attain valuable skills for scientific study. A sampling of third grade science lab units follows:

- Nervous and Circulatory Systems
- Cleanliness & Manners
- Habitats
- Bones & Muscles
- Simple Machines
- Food Pyramid & Nutrition

SPECIALISTS

Third Grade

Third grade students are taught by specialists in the following areas:

Computer: 30 minutes – once a week

The computer specialist assists students in becoming comfortable with the basic workings of the hardware and software in the ECS computer lab. Third grade students advance their keyboarding with correct hand position and use *Typing Tutor* software. Students also navigate our local network, word process documents, and create media with basic graphic design software.

Music: 30 minutes – twice a week

- Students will respond to music with movement and creativity through dances, games and song
- Rhythm: students will perform simple rhythmic patterns, read and write simple rhythm patterns, introduce half rest and half note
- Melody: accurately sing in tune within the range of an octave, identify treble clef, bass clef, lines and spaces
- Harmony: rounds, 2 or 3 part canons, partner songs
- Timbre: develop techniques necessary to accurately play classroom instruments, identify orchestral instruments
- Music Appreciation: integrated geography/art “The Moldau” by Smetana
- Style: worship/seasonal/patriotic/folk/multicultural
- Group/performance: Weekly chapel, Christmas program

Spanish: 50 minutes – every other week

The exploratory Spanish class introduces students to basic Spanish vocabulary and culture. Students talk, sing, and play learning games to learn vocabulary to use in conversation around themes such as

- Greetings
- Letters and numbers
- The calendar and weather
- Christian faith and Christmas
- Colors, classroom objects, and clothing

- Family and describing people

PE: 30 minutes – twice a week

- Movement and motor skill competency
- Health-related physical fitness and wellness
- Human movement principles
- Social skills and self-concept
- Promotion of lifetime participation in activity

Library: 30 minutes – every other week

Visual Art: 50 minutes – once a week