



# Eastside Christian School

## ECS CURRICULUM GUIDE

### THIRD GRADE OVERVIEW

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

**Student/Teacher Ratio:** \*18:1

**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."

Chapel program includes weekly worship, exposure to Christian beliefs, and a focus on monthly character traits. Monthly participation in our ACTS program provides additional understanding of the character traits and a wonderful multi-age team-building experience.

### LANGUAGE ARTS

### Third Grade

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

Phonics/Reading/Spelling:

- Oral Reading Fluency
- 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 & Capitals
- Women in History
- Exploration / Explorers – Christopher Columbus
- United States Presidents, Elections
- 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:

- Skeletal System, Bones & Muscles
- Cleanliness & Manners
- Sun, Stars and Moon
- Electricity
- Food Pyramid & Nutrition

## SPECIALISTS

## Third Grade

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

### **Computer- 30 minutes/week**

Students develop technology skills through online tutorials and projects using KidPix and MS Word

- Computer hardware and software basics
- Touch keyboarding
- Basic word processing, graphics, and presentation projects
- Web browsing skills, research and Netiquette
- Creating file folders and managing files
- Introduction to basic coding skills

### **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 by reading and writing all notes in sequence with a group.
- Melody and Form: accurately sing in tune within the range of an octave, identify treble clef, bass clef, measures and bars, lines and spaces, recognize rhythmic and melodic Ostinato, and the further organization of musical phrases.
- Harmony: rounds/ 2-3 part canons, echo and partner songs
- Timbre: Understand the use of the body and voice as an instrument through breathing and projection and listening, creating and expression.
- Theory and Instruments: vocabulary, solfege alphabet, sound, dynamics, notes, beat and rhythm, rounds, composers, musical history/style/genre, orchestra and instrument study

- Style: worship/seasonal/patriotic/short action and singing games/warm up and performance songs/thematic songs, and drama.
- Group/Performance and Culture: Weekly chapel worship, patriotic program, Spring musical, special projects, Christmas program, plus literary and story /poem curriculum integration.

**Spanish - 25 minutes every week**

This 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

**Art: 50 minutes – every other week**

Emphasis is on participating in various art mediums and developing an appreciation for God's beauty and design. Students practice art appreciation, communication, and critical thinking skills through Visual Thinking Strategies. Art projects are integrated within the Social Studies/Science/Bible/Writing curriculum. Students explore the following concepts and skills:

- Elements of visual art
- Principles of visual art
- Purposes for art-making
- Artistic thinking