## Who We Are

#### **About Us**

Joyful and authentically Catholic school with a curriculum that provides a foundation in what is good, true and beautiful

#### **Contact Us**

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# FIRST GRADE

Curriculum Summary





## Summary of the Year

First graders at St. Francis School are encouraged daily to seek independence in a nurturing and safe environment. Students work cooperatively using hands on and group activities to help them achieve new goals. First graders strive to become independent thinkers and doers that will integrate successfully into our school community.

### **Specials**

Art, Music, Latin, Gym, Library, Natural Sciences

#### **Extracurricular & Clubs:**

Band, Choir, Yearbook, Lego League, Ski Program, Squires

## YEARLY CURRICULUM

## **Language Arts**

#### Reading

Students read with their teacher, volunteers and each other to gain a love for reading. Several works of fiction and nonfiction are explored and enjoyed throughout the year. Students have a half hour of silent reading each day and they are assessed frequently ensure that they read literature at just the right level for them.

#### **Phonics**

First Graders begin to sound out words and learn about word families, high frequency words, rhyming words, onsets and rimes, digraphs, and blends. They will go from being inventive spellers to thinking and knowing why words are spelled the way they are. The class will use foam, magnetic, and tile letters to help build and discover new words.

#### **Penmanship**

The class practices handwriting daily and works on perfecting their letters. Students review their work and perfect their handwriting on their own.

#### Grammar

Students learn about the different sentence types and structures. They will write in their journals daily and learn about the writing process by writing rough drafts and editing their work.

## **Social Studies**

First grade students explore social studies throughout the school year and follow important events and dates on the calendar. Geography is combined with History as the students learn about the seven continents and fifty states. The class talks about what countries and states are, and the students start to explore how government works.

### **Mathematics**

Students learn to develop a strong number sense by practicing counting daily and learn to count up to 250. Students also learn skip counting, their even and odd numbers, and about cardinal numbers. Students play math games to help to reinforce their math facts. Students learn how to add vertically and horizontally and are introduced to fractions, using physical objects to help reinforce the concepts, such as cubes, counting bears, ten frames, counting chips, and rods.

## **Religion**

Students learn to follow the Liturgical calendar and learn about how God watches over everything that they do. They learn about God's unconditional Love and that he sent His only Son to save us. They learn about biblical stories such as the story of Adam and Eve, Noah and the Ark, and the story of Abraham. Students use an activity book to help solidify what is talked about in class.

## **Science**

The three science units explored throughout the year are: Weather, Health and Nutrition, and All Kinds of Living Things. Science experiments are used to enhance learning experiences and students are able to discover and see visually what they are learning. Students learn about the water cycle, different types of clouds, weather patterns, and how to make weather predictions. They learn about healthy eating and the positive impact of proper nutrition and sleep schedules.