

# CURRICULUM GOALS

## RELIGION

This series fosters an enthusiasm for living the Catholic faith. Children will participate in liturgies and will learn the appropriate prayers. Our religion book covers four areas:

- Jesus Gives Us His Church
- We Are the Members of the Church
- The Church Leads Us in Worship
- We Are Called to Discipleship

## TEXT

***We Believe***, William H. Sadlier

Students will read Gospel Weeklies which teaches both scripture and doctrine in the Catholic tradition. The magazine provides a child centered explanation of the Sunday's Gospel.

## MAGAZINE

***Good News***, Pflaum Publishing

Students will also learn skills for social and academic success through the program **Second Step**.

## PUBLISHER

***Committee for Children***

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## READING/ LANGUAGE ARTS

We will be using Reading A-Z. This program teaches phonemic awareness, reading comprehension, reading fluency, and is standards based. Other components to the language arts program include:

- Reading Logs**
- Literature Circles**
- Book Reports**
- Accelerated Reading**- Computer quizzes on books read independently.
- Grammar Skills**- types of sentences, parts of

speech, punctuation, capitalization, contractions,

•**Writing Skills**- brainstorming, drafting, revising

**Writing Genres:**

•Narrative: to tell a story

•Expository: to inform or explain

•Persuasive: to construct an argument

•Descriptive: to paint a picture with words

•Imaginative: to create a new way of seeing things

•Letter Writing

•**Spelling**- A new spelling list will be mastered following word skills: suffixes, prefixes, vowels, consonants, digraphs, diphthongs, and syllables.

**TEXT**

**Units of Study by Lucy Calkins & Marjorie Martinelli**

**HANDWRITING**

Manuscript skills will be reviewed, but emphasis will be put on teaching cursive.

**TEXT**

***Zaner-Bloser Handwriting***

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**MATH**

Students focus intensively on the four critical areas for Mathematics in grade three:

- Developing understanding of multiplication and division and strategies for multiplication and division within 100
- Developing understanding of fractions, especially unit fractions (fractions with numerator 1)
- Developing understanding of the structure of rectangular arrays and of area
- Describing and analyzing two-dimensional shapes

Units 1 through 3 reviews addition, subtraction and multiplication.

In Units 4 and 5, students explore measurement, fractions, division, and multiplication of larger numbers.

Unit 6 focuses on geometry and Unit 7 brings together and extends many of the skills and concepts addressed in earlier units.

Unit 8 integrates mathematics and science.



## **Unit on Water and Climate**

The **Water and Climate Module** provides students with opportunities to explore the properties of water, the water cycle and weather, interactions between water and other earth materials, and how humans use water as a natural resource.

## **Unit on Structures of Life**

The **Structures of Life Module** consists of investigations dealing with the big ideas in life science.

### **TEXT**

**FOSS**, *The Lawrence Hall of Science, University of California, Berkeley*

### **ART**

Art is integrated across the curriculum with a variety of media. Mrs. Bennett leads an art appreciation class once a month with our class.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

Technology is taught on Tuesday afternoons collaboratively with Mrs. Kearney.

### **MUSIC**

Music is taught by Mrs. Drouillard twice a week.

### **P.E.**

P.E. is taught by Mr. Mortensen three times a week.

### **SPANISH**

Spanish is taught Ms. Hernandez twice a week.

### **TEACHER ASSISTANT**

Mrs. Karachewski is the third grade teaching assistant.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### HOMEWORK

There will be an average of 30-45 minutes of homework Monday through Thursday. On Monday, the students will receive a homework sheet. Students are responsible for recording their homework at the end of the day. If assignments are not completed during class time, they are expected to be completed at home in addition to the daily homework assignment.

Pretests always need a **parent's signature**. The signature communicates that you have gone over the pretests with your child and reviewed areas of concern.

### WEEKLY WORK ENVELOPES

Each **Monday**, an envelope will be sent home with papers and tests your child has completed during the week. Please take time to review and discuss these papers with your child. Then sign the form on your child's envelope, keep the papers, and return the empty envelope next day. Your signature on the work envelope also indicates that you have read the class newsletter that is sent through email.

### REPORT CARDS

Standards-based grading communicates how students perform on a set of clearly defined learning targets called standards. The purpose of standards-based grading is to identify what a student knows, or is able to do, in relation to those learning targets - as opposed to simply averaging grades/scores over the course of the grading period, which can mask what a student has learned or not learned.

Teachers will grade based on what each student has learned and how that student meets the standards. In no way does a 4, 3, 2, 1 relate to A, B, C, D letter grades.

## **LATE WORK**

If a child frequently turns in late assignments and or does not do the assignments, parents will be notified through the weekly envelope. Late work will receive a lower grade and will eventually affect grades on the report card.

## **ABSENCES**

A student who has been absent is required to present a note stating the date of the absence and the reason for his/her absence, This can be sent in writing or by email.

When your child is absent, please notify the school office by 9:00 a.m. Homework will be placed on the homework table when requested ***through the office*** by 9:00 a.m. If homework is requested, then assignments may be picked up from the homework table after 3:00 p.m. Your child will have as many days to complete his work as was absent. For medical absences, a doctor's note is needed to excuse the absence.

## **TARDIES**

A student is tardy if they arrive after 8:00 a.m. Detention will be issued on the fifth tardy per trimester.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Selected field trips are planned throughout the year to enrich our curriculum. Parents will be notified of dates. School policy does not allow **nonregistered children to attend field trips.**

## **BOOK ORDERS**

Please pay by check made out to *Scholastic Book Clubs*. **NO CASH PLEASE!** Also, for online orders, you can visit [scholastic.com/reading club](http://scholastic.com/reading club) and use the Activation Code **HRG8D**.

## **LUNCHES**

Please bring forgotten or late lunches to table outside the office, not to the classroom. All visitors must enter the school through the office.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Students may wear free dress on a designated day during their birthday month. You will be informed of the date through the school monthly calendars. Our

school policy states no food treats for birthdays. If you wish, your child can present the class with a book of their choice or a nonedible treat for each classmate; ***however, this is not mandatory.***

## **BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS**

As a class, we discuss what rules will keep us safe and help us learn. The rules and consequences are to help each student to be responsible with their behavior. Throughout the day, students make certain choices and their choices come with certain consequences.

## **CONSEQUENCES**

After being warned about a behavior that is affecting the learning or social environment, a student will earn a ***Reflection Card*** on their third warning. This card can also be earned for serious inappropriate behaviors without any warnings. On the card, a student will be given an opportunity to think of strategies to improve their behavior. If the behavior continues after their goal setting, the card will go home to be returned the next day with a parent's signature. This provides an opportunity to discuss with your child why they received the card and what they will do to solve the problem.

If a student does not receive a ***Reflection Card*** during the week, then students will receive a certificate recognizing their efforts in behavior in their ***Work Envelopes***. If the student does not receive a ***Reflection Card*** for the whole month, then they will earn a ***Munch and Crunch Coupon***, which allows the student to enjoy a healthy snack during class time.

In addition, students will do a quick daily self-reflection behavior chart which will come home in the Work Envelope.

A ***Behavior Incident Report*** is given for behavior that does not demonstrate respect for authority and behavior that affects the well-being of other children. Students are expected to use respectful

language with each other. The conduct referral is sent home on the day the behavior has taken place and on the ***Behavior Incident Report*** there are recommended consequences. A student may earn a detention For third grade, detention is 20 minutes with the classroom teacher.

Please review the discipline plan in the ***Parent Handbook*** with your child. I will go over the school discipline plan with the students in class but it is also important for the students to hear it from you.

## **COMMUNICATION**

You can always find my e-mail listed on the homework sheet underneath the student's name. Please do not hesitate to ask questions. You can send a note, call or e-mail me. My e-mail is: ***jmillette@cndo.org***. **Your call or email will be returned within 24 to 48 hours. Please note that I will check emails before school and after school. Emails after 8:05 a.m. will be viewed afterschool.**

## OUTLINE OF SPANISH CURRICULUM FOR GRADES 1 to 4 ST. MARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

The main goal for primary students is that they communicate effectively. The emphasis will be on what a student can do with the Spanish that he or she knows. For example, the recognition of Spanish nouns is an important curriculum goal for all grades; however, the communicative goal is that students ask or answer questions or form sentences with nouns. Some years the word recognition may be oral recognition, building with reading and writing the following years. Students will build a vocabulary that will enhance their abilities and provide a smooth transition to the curriculum used in the *Ya Veras!* Gold book that is begun in the sixth grade.

Sincerely,  
Senora Sonia Hernandez

### SPANISH CURRICULUM

#### First Grade

- Numbers
- Colors
- Pets
- Family
- Classroom objects

#### Second Grade

- Days
- Months
- Seasons
- Vowels
- Recycling of first grade material

#### Third Grade

- Parts of the body
- Transportation
- Recycling of second grade material

#### Fourth Grade

- Adjective agreement
- Article agreement
- Reading and writing simple sentences with emphasis on clothing and classroom objects
- Recycling of third grade material

**Curriculum Materials:** Props, Flash cards, Games, Worksheets, and Music

**Methods:** Total Physical Response, Oral Questions and Answers, Reading and Writing

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE DO NOT  
HESITATE TO CONTACT ME AT [soniahernandez@csdo.org](mailto:soniahernandez@csdo.org)  
MATH WEBSITES**

**Math Flashcards**

<http://www.mathmastery.com/cyberchallenge/index.cfm?CFID=78835096>

[www.allmath.com](http://www.allmath.com)

**Basic Math Problems (Student Practice Problems)**

<http://www.math.com/homeworkhelp/BasicMath.html>

[www.factmonster.com](http://www.factmonster.com)

[www.citycreek.com](http://www.citycreek.com)

**Dave's MathTables** [www.sisweb.com/math/tables](http://www.sisweb.com/math/tables) (memorizing facts)

**Education for kids** [www.edu4kids.com](http://www.edu4kids.com) (math drills)

[mathfactcafe.com](http://mathfactcafe.com)

**Math Problems**

<http://www.teachrkids.com/>

[www.Mathstories.com](http://www.Mathstories.com)

**Math Puzzles**

[www.coolmath4kids.com](http://www.coolmath4kids.com)

**Brainteaser**

[www.eduplace.com/math/brain/index/html](http://www.eduplace.com/math/brain/index/html)

**Practicing Math Skills**

[www.mathzapper.com](http://www.mathzapper.com)

**Ask Dr. Math**

<http://forum.swarthmore.edu/dr.math>

**Math Manipulates**

[www.matti.usu.edu/nlvm/nav/vlibrary](http://www.matti.usu.edu/nlvm/nav/vlibrary)

**Wide Math Topics**

[www.figurethis.org/about\\_ft.htm](http://www.figurethis.org/about_ft.htm)

