

Grade 4 Curriculum

English Grammar/Writing

The 4th grade English Grammar and Writing curriculum covers:

- ◆ A review of previous year's skills
- ◆ Integrating grammar, mechanics, spelling, vocabulary and usage in order to provide a thorough development of language skills
- ◆ Developing students' understanding of the mechanics of grammar, parts of speech, punctuation, capitalization, and sentence structure
- ◆ Developing a strong reason for writing
- ◆ Developing the students' mastery of the writing process – pre-write, writing a rough draft, revising, editing, publishing.
- ◆ Promoting students' confidence in effective oral communication
- ◆ Developing listening and speaking skills through oral presentations
- ◆ Creating a portfolio of written pieces, including narrative, persuasive, expository, and creative writing

Reading

The 4th grade reading program is a literature-based curriculum that includes reading from the Harcourt "Trophies" basal series, an award-winning literacy program, and selections of American literature. It continues development in spelling, vocabulary, comprehension, prefixes, suffixes, critical thinking and speaking skills. An appreciation and mastery of independent reading is fostered by weekly visits to the school library and making use of the classroom library.

Specific skills taught in Grade 4 include:

- ◆ Phonics
- ◆ Structural analysis
- ◆ Context clues
- ◆ Vocabulary
- ◆ Listening and speaking
- ◆ Oral reading
- ◆ Writing
- ◆ Comprehension
- ◆ Reading strategies
- ◆ Study skills
- ◆ Learning from graphic organizers
- ◆ Author's point of view
- ◆ Compare/contrast
- ◆ Predicting outcomes
- ◆ Drawing conclusions
- ◆ Figurative language
- ◆ Fact/opinion
- ◆ Story elements
- ◆ Characterization

Math

In the 4th grade, students understand that mathematics continues to be something that is used. We use the Sadlier/Oxford math series. Children are expected to do basic computational functions such as adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. However, children learn to apply their knowledge to real-life situations and develop different strategies to solving problems.

Students will focus on:

- ◆ Place value and money
- ◆ Operations and algebraic reasoning
- ◆ Multiplying and dividing whole numbers
- ◆ Measurement and Graphing
- ◆ Geometry and Measurement
- ◆ Probability
- ◆ Problem Solving
- ◆ Writing in Math

Students will use the textbook, workbook, supplemental worksheets, manipulatives, flash cards and computer.

Religion

Here at All Saints Academy, we attempt to create an atmosphere of Christian values and ideals. We teach students that their Religion is a way of living – a process of developing a lifelong relationship with God. This goal is achieved through many ways, one of which is our Religion textbook, Sadlier’s “We Believe”. In addition to the textbook, we begin our day with prayer. Students learn about Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, the Saints, the Blessed Mother, and the Holy Days of Obligation. In May, students participate in a “Living Rosary” and the crowning of Mary.

In the fourth grade, students focus on the sacrament of Reconciliation and the Ten Commandments. Students prepare to receive God’s mercy and forgiveness. They closely examine each of the Ten Commandments as a guide by which to live their lives.

The students are taught to carry out Corporal and Spiritual works of Mercy by reaching out to others in need through various service projects performed throughout the year. Projects include food drives to benefit the Martin Luther King Center in Newport, Operation Rice Bowl, and other worthwhile charitable events.

The student body participates in liturgies each month throughout the year providing opportunities for the children to develop love and appreciation of the Mass. Each grade is responsible for the preparation and direct participation at the Liturgy through Scripture readings, altar servers, gift bearers, or choir members.

Social Studies

The grade 4 social studies program is organized around five categories – History, Geography, Economics, Government, Citizenship, Culture, Science, Technology and Society, and Social Studies skills. This is a comprehensive program that pays tribute to the values of our country while teaching the importance of freedom and patriotism. The curriculum includes:

- ◆ The United States: Its land and its people
- ◆ The Northeast
- ◆ The Southeast
- ◆ The Midwest
- ◆ The Southwest
- ◆ The West
- ◆ The Northwest

Science

The 4th grade Science curriculum includes 4 areas of study: Life, Earth, Physical, and Space & Technology. Basic science process skills of observation, classification, prediction, experimentation, and communication are

practiced in the many hands-on activities used in the classroom. A basal serves as the basis of each unit, but outside sources and the Internet add information and interest to topics studied. The Fourth Grade class participates in the school Science Fair by providing a class project.