

Fourth Grade Curriculum

Bible – *Purposeful Design by ACSI*

Students will examine the character of God and how His character impacts the relationship between God and man. Students will also examine the names of Jesus, the Easter story and its meaning and significance to the Christian life. Additionally, the 4th graders will discuss the plan of salvation, the importance of the Christian life and the value of pursuing a relationship with Jesus. The general themes are centered on tools to use in Bible study as they study the Scriptures which support, expand, and build their understanding of the foundations of Biblical doctrine.

Student Goals:

- Understand the Bible as God's inspired Word and absolute truth
- Recognize God's nature, character, and plan as revealed in Scripture
- Apply Biblical principles in relationships and service to others
- Memorize weekly Scripture verses, pray daily, and attend weekly chapel service

Math – *Math in Focus: Singapore Math*

The Singapore Math approach has a strong base of foundational research and is highly recognized for producing remarkable results both in the US and internationally. The program emphasizes problem solving, promotes positive attitudes toward math, and focuses on developing skills, concepts, processes, and metacognition through its concrete \rightarrow pictorial \rightarrow abstract learning progression. Learning is designed to encourage students to reflect on their thinking and provide real-world, hands-on experiences through the implementation of manipulatives, as well as engaging and differentiated instructional methods.

Student Goals:

- Master number sense and understanding of place value, estimation and number theory
- Apply mathematical problem solving skills and mental math strategies
- Demonstrate expansion of the following acquired skills through the year: whole number multiplication & division, tables and line graphs, data & probability, fractions and decimals (addition & subtraction), angles, area & perimeter, perpendicular & parallel line segments, and squares & rectangles

Reading/Language Arts – *Flying Start, Zaner Bloser, Shurley Grammar, Vocabulary Workshop, Learning A-Z, Novels - Who was Amelia Earhart?, Mighty Mustang, Sarah Plain and Tall, Charlotte's Web and various grammar, phonics, writing and reading Daily 5 resources*

Our language arts program is multifaceted and comprehensive, built on sound research-based pedagogies. All language arts components are integrated: reading, phonics, vocabulary, spelling, handwriting, grammar, and writing. Students are assessed to determine instructional reading level, and individual student progress is monitored. Skills and strategies are taught using a whole/small group blended instructional approach to support decoding, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Phonics is taught along with spelling and vocabulary to reinforce overall proficiency. Grammar and writing are taught in a separate block, and editing skills, punctuation, and the writing process are all taught along with grammatical conventions of English language. Handwriting is also taught to support the foundational skills required for students to become proficient readers and writers.

Student Goals:

- Develop skills and strategies to become independent and proficient readers, spellers, and writers
- Participate in the Accelerated Reader Program
- Create thinking maps to demonstrate development of reading comprehension and writing concepts
- Participate in collaborative conversations, present information with supporting evidence, and respond & ask questions to express understanding in Socratic seminars and Harkness discussions
- Read literary text with purpose & understanding while developing mastery of fluency skills, speed, and proper expression
- Analyze and interpret informational text structures and content to determine or infer meaning and point of view
- Form all letters of the alphabet using cursive strokes with mastery
- Classify sentences, identify parts of speech through singing/application of grammar jingles in writing and speaking
- Produce various written pieces by the end of the year reflecting proper conventions, correct punctuation, and content (arguments to support claims with evidence of support, explanatory/informative paragraphs with support, research paper, and narratives)

Science – Science Fusion

The Science Fusion program is a state-of-the-art digital science curriculum built on inquiry, STEM, hands-on interactive labs and activities, and student centered textbooks which all promote the critical thinking skills necessary for developing scientific reasoning and understanding. This holistic science experience allows students to inquire, think, predict, analyze, and apply scientific thinking as they interact with content. Biblical worldview principles will be integrated within all content presented. The fourth grade content includes: scientific method, motion, engineering process, energy & ecosystems, and properties of matter & changes of matter, weather, and electricity.

Student Goals:

- Participate in weekly science lab
- Understand and apply the scientific process
- Describe Biblical Worldview principles as they relate to scientific content presented

Social Studies – Studies Weekly Magazine, Wall Builders, Liberty Kids, News o Matic, Drive thru History, and various other digital resources

Students will exceed the common learning objectives and standards for third grade social studies as outlined by the state of Florida. The Studies Weekly Magazine presents age-appropriate content and activities designed to engage young children and introduce them to historical, civic and economic concepts. The fourth grade topics include: Florida History (geography, exploration & colonization, early people & history, people, economy & government through modern times.) Additionally, they will participate in field trips and other activities which will reinforce their understanding of Florida history.

Weekly Special Classes

Spanish - Students continue to develop their listening and speaking skills of the Spanish language through review, repetition, and practice. Students will be introduced to vocabulary and grammar through a story telling language approach, and an emphasis will also be placed on pronunciation and real-life conversational phrases. The topics for fourth grade include: sports, exercise, being healthy (parts of the body,) and my school classes.

Music – The program is designed to teach music from a Scriptural basis, and students will use music as a tool for worship and outreach. The course is divided into four parts each, containing various elements of music with an emphasis on vocal techniques, performance practices, musical history, and exposure to a selection of music which connects to Florida History. Fourth graders will participate in two school-wide performances. Additionally, they will be assessed on proper vocal, performance and movement techniques.

Art – The fourth grade art program will build upon skill level and media. Students will learn design elements using a variety of media (paint, chalk, colored pencils, paper, clay, etc.). Fourth grade will learn about balance, proportion, patterns, and lines/shapes and color. The artists highlighted are Vincent Van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, and Andy Warhol. As a result, they will produce a self-portrait, textured projects, and paper & clay sculptures (including a Nativity character). Students will also compare their own God-given unique style to examples of famous artists' work.

Library Science - The Media Center will serve to expand and increase reading and comprehension as students are exposed to a variety of non-fiction collections. The fourth grade students will expand their understanding of non-fiction text, reference books, and discuss proper ways to gather research. Students will also interact with technology to build their research skills through electronic reference sites, gathering information and properly citing it within text as they complete a cumulative end of year project.

Physical Education – The program is designed to emphasize lifetime health & fitness, as well as begin to develop individual and team sport skills. Students will be tested to determine fitness level throughout the year. Fourth graders will learn the rules, skills and strategies necessary to play a variety of team sports ranging from football, hockey, and baseball/softball to other court sports such as basketball and volleyball. Students will also continue to develop their coordination, athletic skills and importance of communication in team sports by participating in a variety of other cooperative court and field games while demonstrating Godly sportsmanship.

Technology Integration - Students will continue to expand their keyboarding skills and techniques. Students will produce documents using word processing features, Power Points, and spreadsheets applying more complex features. They will also be introduced to coding languages. Fourth graders will also continue to discuss the importance of good digital citizenship and proper usage of technology.