

**Math**

Third graders use the *MacMillan/McGraw-Hill* program. Students will add and subtract two, three, and four digit numbers, learn place value through the 100,000's, learn multiplication and division facts through ten, tell time, use standard measurements, chart data, and recognize space and plane figures. Students practice their basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts by taking speed tests.

**Music**

Third graders use Musicplay curriculum. Students will tap, play, and move to a steady beat (2,3,4 beats) and perform/notate rhythm patterns from repertorie. They will work with melody, harmony, and musical expression. Students will learn to identify orchestral instrument families. With their musical skills, third graders will participate in the Christmas concert, graduation service, singing in chapel and worship services, and a concert performance. Every three years grades three through five will perform a musical.

**Art**

Students will study the artwork of Vincent Van Gogh and copy his style through various art assignments. Children will use different media, refine drawing and painting skills, and use highlights and shadows to create dimension. They will learn the differences between crafts and art and explore their God given talent in the art genre. Students create a three-dimensional book report as part of the English curriculum. Every three years students will

participate in a school wide Art Fair. To celebrate art appreciation month in November, parents who have been trained by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, lead a special Art Adventure program in our classroom.

**Physical Education**

Students participate in group warm-ups, group games, follow good sportsmanship rules, dribble, jump rope, throw, bowl, dance, and do aerobic activities. Children review and practice these basic skills and concepts; teamwork, fair play, compassion for others, and good leadership skills. They learn how wonderfully God has created them through physical activity. Third graders also participate yearly in a track meet with area Lutheran schools. There they individually compete in a variety of physical skills. Daily recess allows time for students to work on cooperative play and social skills.

**Computer**

Children will review the proper use of the computer and skills taught in first and second grade. Keyboarding, Excel, Microsoft Publisher, Word, and Power Point will be introduced and practiced in third grade. Internet safety and vocabulary associated with computer use are taught.

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran  
School****9141 CO RD 101****Maple Grove, MN 55311****763-420-2426**[www.stjohnsmg.org](http://www.stjohnsmg.org)**CURRICULUM REVIEW*****THIRD GRADE******Teacher: Mrs. Ruth Droogsma*****Principal****Gary L. Volberding**

## **Religion**

Our religion program is based on the CPH *Voyages-Exploring God's Word* curriculum. Students are nurtured in their understanding and living of the Christian faith as they hear stories from the Old and New Testaments. These stories cover the concepts of Law, Gospel, Confession, repentance, forgiveness, and grace. Students participate and lead the daily classroom devotions, which include Bible readings, hymns, and prayers.

## **Memory**

Students orally recite memory work three times a week to support the Biblical truths taught in our religion class. Tests are given on the catechism portions of their memory work. Students learn Scripture verses, hymns, books of the Bible, the Ten Commandments and meanings, the First, Second, and Third Articles and meanings, and a portion of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism which are found in *Luther's Small Catechism*.

## **Reading**

The curriculum used in Reading is *SRA Open Court Reading*. This is a research-based curriculum grounded in systematic, explicit instruction of phonemic awareness, phonics, word knowledge, comprehension skills and strategies, and inquiry skills and strategies. Student's practice oral reading at home using the decodable books that go with our stories. An assessment is given at the end of each story and unit. Our units cover Friendship, City Wildlife,

Imagination, Money, Storytelling, and Country Life. Students read silently, orally, and as a class. While reading, students practice strategies that have been taught in class. Individually students read for the Accelerated Reader program and take comprehension tests on the computer. The weekly use of the school library also fosters good reading habits.

## **English**

English is based on the McGraw Hill *Language Arts* curriculum. Students learn sentence structure, nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and pronouns. Students use what they have learned to properly write a personal narrative, create an explanatory writing, a comparative writing, an expository writing, and a short story. Students review grammar daily using D.O.L. (Daily Oral Language). Three book reports are done each year.

## **Spelling**

Zaner-Bloser's *Spelling Connections* is our text. These word lists are chosen on structural and visual patterns and relationships of letters within the words. Two religious words and dictation sentences are included in the weekly test.

## **Handwriting**

Third graders review all the lower and upper case letters in the *D'Nealian* handwriting program at the beginning of the year. After all letters have been reviewed, cursive is used in all our spelling and English work.

## **Science**

The science program is based on the MacMillan/McGraw-Hill "A Closer Look" curriculum. In life science students study God's amazing creation by observing life cycles and their place in the ecosystem. Earth science features God's marvelous Earth's features, resources, and weather, and the planets, moons, and stars. Physical science features observing matter and its changes, forces and motion, and forms of energy. Every three years students participate in a Science Fair. Sex education is taught every other year.

## **Social Studies**

Third graders use the Harcourt Brace *Communities* social studies book. Students study various communities around the world, reasons people start their communities, how they choose the location, causes for change and growth, how people work together, and the people in each community. Map and globe skills are introduced and charting and graphing skills are reviewed. Every three years students participate in Social Studies Fair.

## **Current Events**

Students follow current events using "Time For Kids" leaflets once a week.