

### **Physical Education**

Activities are held outdoors and indoors. They include exercises and stretching, ball skills, floor hockey, soccer, kickball, bowling, running, and rhythm skills - we even try square dancing! Students are encouraged to be creative in their activities. Good health habits are discussed in our classroom. Student participate yearly in a track and field day with other area Lutheran schools. Daily recess gives opportunity to practice cooperative play and social skills.

### **Computer**

Fourth graders are continuing their keyboarding skills using educational software, and gaining knowledge about what the computer can do! Internet sites help review and reinforce skills learned in the classroom for various subjects. Microsoft Publisher, Word and Power Point is used.

### **D.A.R.E.**

Fourth graders participate in the D.A.R.E. program for their age level. This program is conducted by the Maple Grove Police and is supported by the community.

## **St. John's Evangelical Lutheran School**

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### **CURRICULUM REVIEW**

***FOURTH GRADE***

***Teacher: Mrs. Julie Preus***

**Principal  
Gary L. Volberding**

## **Religion**

Portions of the New and Old Testament Bible Stories are presented through the text *Voyages Exploring God's Word*. God's people are discussed from the Old Testament and students learn how they coped with the many struggles they faced as they waited for Christ. New Testament servants teach us how they witnessed the life of Christ and how we, too, can spread God's Word. Students have an opportunity to study the life of Martin Luther and write a report about him.

## **Memory Work**

Students memorize verses from the Bible at home that will help them grow as a Christian and will sustain them as they continue their life's journey. Prayers and hymns are learned together as a class. Most of *Luther's Small Catechism* is reviewed and memorized to nurture them in the Lutheran faith and assist them in their calling to confessing their faith to the world.

## **Reading**

Selected articles, stories, and poems are read through the *SRA Open Court* reading text. Strategies to become a better reader are practiced. Students develop reading skills by reading five trade books together. Individually fourth graders progress by use of the Accelerated Reader program. We read orally, silently, as a class, and independently. Our library is visited weekly.

## **English**

Grammar! Students gain knowledge of the English language and how it is used through the text *Language Arts* from MacMillan/McGraw Hill. Nouns, verbs, pronouns, adverbs, adjectives are explored. The mechanics of capitalization and various punctuation marks are

practiced. These are put together as students write reports, essays, and short stories throughout the year. Daily Oral Language is used to help the students in their editing skills.

## **Spelling**

Words are practiced and studied through the student text *Zaner Bloser*. Students write their words for practice and sentences and in written word tests. Bonus words are given as well as words that are important to our faith and religion.

## **Handwriting**

In fourth grade students will write most of their assignments in cursive. Handwriting is checked through their English and spelling assignments. Students are encouraged to take pride in all assignments they hand to their teachers.

## **Science**

Students learn about science with God in mind. His beautiful creation is examined and how it works! From rocks to weather, oceans and animals, energy and magnetic force ... all these and more! The students study from *Science – A Closer Look* by MacMillan McGraw-Hill. Sex education is taught in alternate years. A Science Fair occurs every three years.

## **Social Studies**

The regions of the United States are studied and the states and capitals are memorized! Students will be tested on this knowledge and will master it!! Landforms and geography skills are examined as well as the culture of people around the world through the text *Harcourt Brace Social Studies – States and Regions*. We look at the past in our nation and at how far we have come. Students participate once every three years in a Social Studies Fair.

## **Current events**

Weekly Reader is used for discussion and learning of current events.

## **Math**

*MacMillan/McGraw-Hill* guides the fourth graders through the world of numbers! Addition and subtraction skills are reviewed and reinforced. Double digit multiplication and division skills are introduced. Multiplication facts are mastered through the table of twelve's. Long division is practiced. We will add and subtract fractions and find the simplest form of a fraction. Time and measurement skills are reinforced. Decimals may be explored, added, and subtracted. Geometry and graphing skills may be developed.

## **Music**

Musicplay curriculum is used. The fourth graders join the fifth graders for choir time. These grades meet twice a week. They are scheduled to sing for Sunday services and for special school concerts and chapels! Hymns are sung in the classroom as well. Rhythm and beat, melody and harmony, posture and breathing techniques are concentrated skills we study. Students also have opportunity to join the school band or learn how to play the recorder. A musical is performed once every three years by the third through fifth grades.

## **Art**

Students draw, create, and design projects using color and various methods. Our classroom displays their art and takes on much beauty and brightness due to holidays and seasons. Famous artwork is studied during an art adventure month through the Minneapolis Institute of Art, and one famous painter, Picasso, through the year. Art class happens once a week. An Art Fair occurs every three years.