

STJCS



PRIMARY 1ST GRADE

This curriculum overview is designed to summarize the major goals of the instructional program for First Grade at St. James Cathedral School.

Although the curriculum is presented in this document by different subject areas, the skills and competencies from each area are often integrated during daily instruction.

The curriculum of St. James has been designed to follow the recommendations of the Diocese of Orlando and meets and/or exceeds the expectations set forth in the Florida State Standards.

The curriculum is enhanced or modified yearly to meet the needs of our student population.

SJCS

Academic excellence and spiritual enrichment since 1928.

Our Mission

St. James Cathedral School is an educational ministry of St. James Cathedral Church. A Catholic school committed to outstanding academic and spiritual development of all students, St. James Cathedral School provides varied opportunities for students to discover and develop their unique God-given gifts in a safe and stimulating learning environment. The love and stewardship of Jesus is our inspiration. We come to learn; we leave to serve.

Our Beliefs

We believe it is our mission as Catholic educators to model the values and beliefs we teach in a faith-based community that fosters self-respect and respect for others.

We believe it is our role to develop and foster each child's unique, God-given gifts by encouraging students to do all they are capable of doing by themselves in child-centered classrooms where teachers act as facilitators.

We believe that Catholic schools should provide children with a spiritual and academic foundation that will lead to the development of creative and ethical problem solvers who will make a positive contribution to our world.

We believe that a St. James education should include intellectual, spiritual, moral and emotional formation that reflects the values we hold most dearly... integrity, honesty, moral courage, discipline and initiative.

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Primary

1st Grade Academics



Mathematics

GO Math! at both the elementary and middle school levels combines 21st-century educational technology with modern content, dynamic interactivities, and a variety of instructional videos to engage today's digital natives.

Every student is supported through the universal access features of the program as they learn to think critically and apply their math knowledge. Whether using the innovative Online Student Edition or Write-in Student Edition, students have all the resources they need to succeed.

The focus of first grade mathematics includes:

- Number sense, concepts and operations
- Measurement, which includes time and a calendar
- Money
- Learning addition and subtraction facts
- Geometry and spatial sense
- Reasoning and probability

Writing

The first grade curriculum introduces formal essay writing. Paragraph writing is introduced, developed and reinforced throughout the year. By the end of first grade year, all students are able to compose a simple five paragraph essay.

Science & Social Studies

ScienceFusion, by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, is a state-of-the-art science program designed for building inquiry and STEM skills and optimized for learning in the classroom or at home, on a laptop, tablet, or using a science textbook.

The STEM program in ScienceFusion provides real-world challenges, hands-on activities, and Video-based Projects that develop important critical-thinking skills that will prepare students for success in the workplace and in life.

Social Studies is integrated into the Language Arts Program through thematic units.

Language Arts

First Grade has adopted the SuperKids Reading Program. The Superkids® Reading program is a core literacy curriculum for kindergarten through second grade that teaches all aspects of reading seamlessly integrated with the language arts.

Built on scientific research and proven pedagogy, it combines rigorous instruction with highly motivating materials.

Religion

Christ Our Life encourages faith knowledge that helps children articulate their Catholic faith. Written by the Sisters of Notre Dame, the new 2016 edition of Christ Our Life fosters children's love of God and a rich knowledge of our Catholic faith so they can proudly go out into the world and proclaim it.

With its thorough presentation of the authentic teachings of the Catholic Church, its comprehensive approach, and its variety of teaching methods, Christ Our Life is the only program that is aligned with the Church's mission for a New Evangelization, the NCEA: IFG ACRE assessments, and the Six Tasks of Catechesis.



Primary

1st Grade Enrichment Programs



Art

The focus of the primary level visual arts program is to develop an awareness of the creative process. Students will learn the basic techniques of producing art, care and use of art media, and appreciation for artistic expression.

Music

Singing: simple 5 to 7 note range songs, and other songs which coordinate with 1st grade curriculum

Beat: maintain a steady beat while singing, dancing, or playing rhythm instruments

Movement: respond to music with appropriate actions

Pitch: be able to match pitches to melodies of songs

Instruments: introduce instruments of the orchestra

Library

In first grade, the goal is to reinforce proper library behavior as well as review book care. Skills needed to locate books are taught, as well as identifying books at their ability level.

Parts of the book are introduced: title, author, illustrator, title page, and table of contents. Different types of literature are pointed out to them: easy/fiction, rhymes, fairy tales, biography, and poetry.

Book awards such as the Caldecott Medal are introduced and good literature is shared.

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Spanish

Through Sonrisas Spanish, students acquire Spanish with a combination of music, lesson activities, games, authentic children's Spanish literature, art, and drama.

The Sonrisas Spanish curriculum is effective because it is pedagogically sound, and it engages students in a fun, natural, and age-appropriate way. Students practice language concepts with partner time and portfolio activities.

The end result is that students learn how to communicate effectively with lots of age-appropriate, practical Spanish.

Physical Education

Students enhance their understanding of movement within a variety of spaces. They begin to understand and experience activities utilizing various speeds, forces, manipulatives and levels of movement.

Curriculum Scope

GRADE	RELIGION	MATH	READING	LANGUAGE ARTS	SCIENCE	SOCIAL STUDIES	HANDWRITING	SPANISH
Kindergarten	Loyola Press 2016 Christ Our Life	Go Math 2016	SuperKids 2015		Science Fusion/ HMH 2016	Self made units to match standards using resources such as: Teachers-pay-Teachers and Pinterest	SuperKids 2015	Sonrisas
1st Grade	Loyola Press 2016 Christ Our Life	Go Math 2016	SuperKids 2015		Science Fusion/ HMH 2016	Self made units to match standards using resources such as: Teachers-pay-Teachers and Pinterest	Zanar Bloser 2012	Sonrisas
2nd Grade	Loyola Press 2016 Christ Our Life	Go Math 2016	Scott Foresman 2011		Science Fusion/ HMH 2016	Self made units to match standards using resources such as: Teachers-pay-Teachers and Pinterest	Zanar Bloser 2012	Sonrisas

