

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM KINDERGARTEN

STJCS



PRIMARY KINDERGARTEN

This curriculum overview is designed to summarize the major goals of the instructional program for Kindergarten 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

Kindergarten 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.

Use of concrete objects for exploration, investigation and problem-solving, numeral recognition, number concepts, basic addition/subtraction, measurements, including time, calendar, money, geometry and spatial sense, plus algebraic reasoning.

Lessons are taught with a combination of manipulatives, integrated centers, worksheets and computers to accommodate all learning modalities. Students demonstrate the processes of problem solving, reasoning and connections in a math journal.

Social Studies

Understanding seasonal holidays and their characteristics, recognition of physical and cultural characteristics of other nations. Use of simple maps and globes to locate places, qualities of a good citizen, interactions of people and their environment.

Language Arts

Kindergarten 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.

Superkids is phonetic based and focuses on the following skills:

- Phonological awareness
- Comprehension
- Initial and final consonants and blends
- Short vowel sounds
- Fluency / Grammar
- Listening and speaking
- Rhyming and rhythm
- Sight words / Decoding words
- Expanding vocabulary
- Exposure to a variety of literature
- Foundations in handwriting / Beginning story writing
- Shared reading and writing
- Opportunity for verbal presentation
- Learning through integrated centers

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.



Science

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.



Primary

Kindergarten Enrichment Programs



Physical Education

Students are introduced to the basic concepts of movement.

Emphasis is placed on coordination of body parts, large muscle activities, methods of locomotion, basic manipulatives and enjoyment of physical activity.

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 for producing art, care and use of art media, and appreciation for artistic expression.



Library

Book care is stressed as well as learning the routine of checking out a book and returning it on the date due.

Students learn to listen to quality children's literature weekly. Second semester the child checks out a book each week from the picture book section of the library and returns it the following week.

Music

Singing: simple 5 to 7 note range songs.

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

Movement: respond to music with appropriate actions.

Pitch recognition: be able to match pitches correctly to melodies of songs.

Performance: participation in the school Christmas concert and performance opportunity through a play in the Spring.

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.

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