



Valley Catholic First Grade Curriculum Overview

Catholic Religious Instruction

Following the guidance of the Archdiocese, we offer students the opportunity to grow their faith through scripture, prayers, service, Mass participation, and living according to the Church's teaching through our SLEs.

Spanish

Students engage in age-appropriate Spanish language concepts and culture through music, movement, and meaningful connections with their classmates twice a week.

Health

We focus on whole body health by following the Jump Rope for Heart program. We also support social-emotional growth by incorporating Second Step program lessons and daily routines such as community circles.

Art

Students learn about many styles of art and explore personal expression as they draw, paint, sculpt, move, act, and dance.

Physical Education

Students develop their gross motor skills as they build strong bodies during PE classes.

Language Arts/Reading Readiness

We use a combination of two research-based programs to help students grow in their phonemic understanding. The use of cross curricular texts allows students to build comprehension skills, reading fluency, and accuracy while incorporating their unique interests. We support students as they work to become strong writers by teaching grammar and spelling rules. First graders practice writing narrative, informational, and opinion pieces along with poetry.

Math Readiness

Students work to develop strong problem solving and algebraic thinking skills as they practice addition, subtraction, and place value. Later they will work on defining attributes and symmetry in geometry.

Science

Students question, explore, observe, construct, and research throughout the year. We learn about plant and animal life cycles, inherited traits, shadows and the sun, the phases of the moon, and why the stars are not visible during the day.

Social Studies

We explore cultural traditions and celebrations, national symbols and holidays, and government and leadership. Students will develop map skills and learn basic financial literacy. We will work to honor each other's unique gifts by celebrating one student each week.

Music

Students participate in age-appropriate music theory, instrument exploration, and singing twice each week.

Library

Students will visit the library each week. This valuable experience allows them to develop knowledge of library procedures, grow their reading comprehension, and practice personal responsibility as they borrow books to take home to read.

Technology

Weekly classes enhance core content and help develop responsible use of tools.