**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 Schoolwide Learning Expectations (SLEs).

### 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.

**CYO Sports and Extracurriculars** Students at Valley Catholic Elementary School are afforded the opportunity to Participate in many different CYO sports. In addition, a variety of after school extracurriculars. Valley Catholic Elementary School

4420 SW St. Mary's Drive Beaverton, Oregon 97078

Main Office Phone 503-718-6501 www.valleycatholic.org







First Grade Curriculum



Language Arts/Reading Readiness We use a combination of two researchbased 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.

#### Health

We focus on whole body health by following the Jump Rope for Heart program. We also support socialemotional 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.



"Valley Catholic Elementary School provides an academically rich faith-filled learning environment, creating a Catholic values-based education."

-Valley Catholic Philosphy

# Spanish

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