



ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1st Grade Profile

Classes Available	Two
Teachers	Mrs. Elisa Aguirre Mrs. Amber Corneil
Class Size	Maximum 25 students
Teacher Notes	<p>The transition to first grade begins the process of independence and added responsibility. Students will now be responsible for taking care of their own supplies and textbooks and for keeping up with their own work. Teachers assist students in developing these responsibilities in a nurturing and secure environment.</p> <p>Students entering first grade should have a strong background in letter identification and sounds and be able to read 3 letter words.</p>
Core Curriculum	Religion, Handwriting, Language Arts (composition), English (grammar), Literature (reading), Phonics, Math, Science, Social Studies, Enhanced Curriculum(specials)
Religion	Students become aware of God's presence and goodness in their lives, in others, in the world, and in His Church. They learn to respond to God's goodness by loving Him and others. Traditional prayers are "Morning Offering", "Glory Be", "Our Father", "Hail Mary", "Angel of God", and "Act of Contrition". The Stations of the Cross are introduced. The sacrament of Baptism is a major focus.
Handwriting	Letter formation and legibility are emphasized using manuscript lettering.
Language Arts	<p>The Language Arts Block consists of Composition, English (grammar), Literature (reading), Phonics, Spelling and Vocabulary.</p> <p>Fluency and improved reading skills are developed. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, and pronouns are introduced. Sentence structure, main idea, and sequencing are used to improve writing skills. Spelling words based on the weekly literature selections are mastered.</p> <p>In Phonics, we review initial, medial, and final consonants, short and long vowels, consonant blends, compound words, contractions and word endings. Additionally vowel pairs, vowel digraphs and diphthongs, suffixes, prefixes, synonyms, antonyms and homonyms are studied in depth. Students also gain exposure to Latin and Greek Roots which are the basis of our English language.</p>



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Math	Basic skills of addition and subtraction through the number eighteen are studied along with a basic understanding of time, money, solid geometry, place value, set comparisons, measurement, fractions, and addition and subtraction of two digit numbers without regrouping (borrowing). Each concept also includes 1 to 3 step word problems to enhance the student's problem solving skills. Promethean Boards and iPads support our curriculum.
Science	In Science we have several units of study. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life Science – plants, animals and habitats• Earth Science – land, water, air and weather• Physical Science – matter, movement and sound• Space and Technology – day and night sky; science in our world First graders engage in many hands-on science experiments throughout the year.
Social Studies	Map and globe skills are developed. Areas studied include communities, geography, government, history, and basic economics. In addition, our students are assigned several projects for learning enrichment including building a city and landforms out of clay.
Enhanced Curriculum	Spanish, Computer Lab, Music, Physical Education, Library and Art
Field Trips	First grade attends a performance at Bass Hall every year. They also experience various trips to museums and other interesting places.