



Christ Episcopal School

Fourth Grade Overview

Concepts and activities include but are not limited to the following:

Reading/Language Arts



- Phonemic studies: consonant and vowel sounds, consonant digraphs, silent letters, diphthongs: oi, oy
- Nouns: plurals, possessive, proper, and predicate
- Direct object
- Pronouns: antecedents, object, personal, possessive, subject, used as adjectives
- Irregular verbs and root words
- Punctuation—continue capitalization, colons, semi-colons, and apostrophes
- Dictionary use
- Writing in first, second, & third person
- Letter writing: business, friendly, invitations, thank-you notes
- Survey of writing: descriptive, personal narratives, expository, persuasive, and how-to articles
- Topic sentences and paragraph construction
- Realistic fiction, fables, and folktales
- Poetry, metaphors, personification, simile
- Drawing inferences and conclusions
- Story elements: main idea, setting, character, plot, ending

Library—Students visit the library once a week.

- Introduce Dewey Decimal System to classify books and to locate specified subject areas in the non-fiction section of the library.
- Introduce the Newbery Medal awarded the year's most distinguished American children's book and explore previous and present winners.
- Expand book searching skills, using the online catalog, to include title, author, and subject searches.
- Introduce current year's Texas Bluebonnet books.
- Evaluate books to determine personal preferences.
- Measure comprehension skills through computerized tests on the Bluebonnet books.
- Culminate Bluebonnet program with Battle of the Bluebonnet Books competition for grades 3-6.

Math—The math program systematically distributes instruction, practice, and assessment throughout the academic year.

- Whole number concepts & computation
- Estimation
- Problem solving strategies
- Patterns and sequences
- Fractions, decimals, and mixed numbers
- Negative numbers
- Properties of operations
- Expanded notation

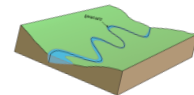


Math continued:

- Square roots of perfect squares
- Addition, subtraction, multiplication, & division operations with whole numbers, fractions, & decimals
- Fractions and mixed numbers (ordering, equivalent, comparing, reducing)
- Powers (base and exponent)
- Mental math
- Regrouping and pre-algebra notation
- Improper fractions, least common denominators
- Decimals: comparing, ordering, converting
- Percent, rates
- Solving multi-step equations
- Mathematical reasoning
- Measurement tools: ruler, protractor, thermometer, balance scale, stopwatch
- Circles and arcs: radius, diameter, center
- Volume, area, symmetry, congruence, & similarity
- Algebra: patterns, story-problems, coding & decoding
- Variables
- Functions (formulas, input-output tables, graphs).

Science

- Earth Science
 - models and maps
 - solar system and beyond
- Scientific method
- Models scientists use
- Scientific tools
- Living things
 - changes in the ecosystem
 - plants: parts, growth reproduction
 - animals: development, reproduction, survival, adaptations
- Atmosphere
 - water cycle
 - oceans
 - water conservation
 - groundwater
 - air, wind, and the atmosphere
- Matter
 - properties and states of matter
 - measuring matter
- Energy
 - motion, force, and energy
 - energy and tools
 - heat, light, and sound
 - electricity and magnetism



Fourth Grade Overview continued



Social Studies—

- Geography and geographic terms: globes and world/Texas geography
- topographic maps and techniques used to create them
- contour and elevation
- Maps and landforms of the four regions of Texas
- Spanish & French explorers & influence in Texas
- Mexican Independence & rule
- Role of Spanish missions and missionaries in Texas history
- Texas Revolution & battles
- The Republic of Texas
- Texas Constitution
- Native Americans in Texas
- Flags, symbols, & song of Texas
- Oil industry & boom towns
- Texas in the 21st century

Physical Education—Students attend physical education class daily and receive instruction from a physical education teacher. Various sports are learned to:

- develop strength, endurance, and flexibility
- perform fundamental loco-motor and manipulative skills daily
- demonstrate social development and sportsmanship
- demonstrate effective communication, consideration, and respect of others during physical activities.

Spanish—Students attend Spanish class twice a week.

- Converse using classroom expressions
- Begin regular verb conjugations
- Definite and indefinite articles
- Conjugate and use the verb Tener
- Use question words in Spanish
- Tell what you like and dislike in Spanish and question others
- Sing and pray in Spanish
- Continue practicing the Pledge of Allegiance
- Expand on the Spanish culture.



Music—Student attend music class twice a week. Activities and skills include:

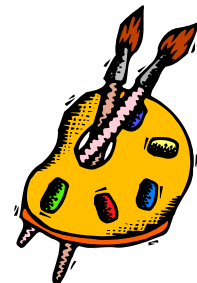
- Correct breathing for singing
- Listen to and identify musical forms AB, ABA, AABA
- Sing simple two-part harmony
- Clap a simple rhythm pattern
- Recognize names and music of composers studied in class
- Recall major events from the lives of composers studied
- Echo melodic patterns after hearing
- Recognize solo instruments in recordings
- Discuss proper etiquette for musical performance
- Play recorders
- Recognize major musical works

Music continued

- Simple rhythmic and melodic dictation
- Recognize letter names of notes on the staff
- Sing a major scale on solfege with hand signs
- Orff instruments-play simple harmonic accompaniment.

Art—Students attend art class once a week.

- Identify grayscale
- Knows warm and cool colors
- Identify complimentary colors; use complimentary colors to create simultaneous contrast
- Distinguish between negative and positive space; create a design in which negative and positive space is balanced
- Point of view—eye level, bird's eye view, worm's eye view
- Use lines to express mood, convey emotions
- Use contour and outlines in artworks
- Invent ways to produce artworks using a variety of art media and materials
- Create pattern motifs that vary



Christian Education—Christianity and moral precepts are incorporated into the daily life of students and teachers at Christ Episcopal School. Teachers read and discuss a daily Bible story and lead the children in prayers before snacks and meals. On Wednesdays, students participate in a Chapel service, held in the sanctuary of the church, and led by the rector of Christ Church or the Head of School. Weekly, students attend a Christian Education class which includes Old Testament & New Testament stories and how to live faith in today's world.



Students read and study Bible stories. They learn to pray prayers of thanksgiving and to pray for others.

Computer Technology—Fourth grade students meet with the computer teacher 40 minutes twice weekly in the computer lab. Teachers are encouraged to enrich the computer curriculum with technology-based projects based on skills learned in the lab. The classroom has a center for review and enrichment activities.

- Computer literacy—hardware vs. software, bits and bytes, data storage, Windows Desktop, computer care and safety
- Online testing of computer literacy
- Advanced keyboarding—ergonomics, accuracy, memorization, finger practice, recording words-per-minute
- Word Processing—terms, toolbars, applications using Microsoft Word
- Spreadsheets: terms, toolbars, applications using Microsoft Excel
- Introduction to graphs using Microsoft Excel
- Multimedia Presentations: terms, toolbars, applications using Microsoft PowerPoint
- Internet: navigation, research and safety
- Technology use to access, analyze, and evaluate information