

# Third Grade



*“The transition from second grade to third grade is monumental in many ways: new school wing, new lockers, new adventures. This transformational year is centered on Christ and spiritual growth. As third grade educators, we lovingly guide, nurture, and facilitate this transformation into working independence, growing a reading life, developing problem solving skills, and creating servants of Christ with eyes focused on Him.”*

~Mrs. Radue and Mrs. Clemens

## RELIGION

We study God’s Word through Bible lessons and memory work. We learn about Old Testament stories from Adam and Eve through Jonah. We then learn New Testament stories about Jesus’ birth, death, and resurrection. We end the year talking about the beginning of the Christian church and the missionary journeys of Paul.

## TECHNOLOGY

**EasyTech** is the web-based curriculum we use. Students are introduced to visual mapping software to plan and outline projects. They learn basic Email skills, presentation software and continue to improve keyboarding skills

## FIELD TRIPS

- ◆ Mequon Nature Center
- ◆ Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
- ◆ Community Play
- ◆ Wade House/Jelly Belly Factory
- ◆ Milwaukee Art Museum

## MATH

**Saxon Math** is an integrated approach to learning math. We begin the year reviewing basic addition and subtraction facts followed by rounding, counting money, telling time, comparing numbers, measurement, and problem solving. We learn multiplication and division throughout the year.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

Communities are the topics of our **Mc-Graw Hill TimeLinks** series. Topics include:

- ◆ Communities and Geography
- ◆ Communities Change
- ◆ Many Cultures, One Country
- ◆ Communities at Work
- ◆ Communities and Government

## SCIENCE

**Houghton Mifflin Harcourt’s Science Fusion** is our text. Topics covered include Investigating Questions, The Engineering Process, Plants and Animals, Ecosystems, Changes to Earth’s Surface, Natural Resources, Water and Weather, Earth and Moons, Matter and Simple and Compound Machines. There is also a digital curriculum to enhance learning.

## READING

Units of Study by Lucy Calkins is our main resource. There are five units covered in third grade: **Building a Reading Life** (Fiction), **Reading to Learn** (Non-fiction), **Mystery, Character Studies**, and **Research Clubs** (Non-fiction). We support the crucial transition children make from learning to read to reading to learn. Students utilize with-in reach fiction books to work on word solving, vocabulary development, observing closely, making predictions, and sharpening their interpretation skills. In addressing essential skills in non-fiction, students focus on thinking critically, comparing texts, determining importance, organizing and synthesizing information for solving real-world problems.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

**Strategies for Writers** focuses on the six traits of effective writing. These include ideas, organization, voice, word choices, sentence fluency, and conventions. Each trait will be explained and applied to each genre of writing. The genres are narrative writing, informative and explanatory writing and opinion writing.

## ART

Students are exposed to elements of art through various projects and activities.

**Focused on Excellence † Centered on Christ**