

5th GRADE HIGHLIGHTS:

- In reading, students demonstrate understanding of higher level critical thinking skills through in-depth analysis of main character's words and actions, plot sequence, main themes, author's purpose, and specific audiences and purposes. They write clear coherent explanations, instructions, and factual reports on a range of issues and topics. Students also deliver simple speeches with expression.
- Vocabulary will be a new addition to their studies. We will spend a lot of time going over this new subject so they get a great foundation and learn how to properly decode and learn new vocabulary.
- In Math, students focus on place value, decimals through ten thousandths, expand notation, greatest common factors, multiples, and least common multiples, geometry, and adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers. Students continue to build on problem solving strategies to evaluate word problems.
- In science and social studies, students are required to analyze and apply new concepts and ideas and apply them to current issues in society. More specifically, fifth graders discuss turning points in history, major ideas, and people from different continents, which affected the formation of the United States. They interpret historical events and issues and describe their impact on people then and now.
- Similarly in science, students apply knowledge, inquiry, and problem solving to better understand scientific processes. Students collect, organize, and display data. They begin to take the initiative to plan, design, and conduct scientific investigations in areas such as physical compositions and processes within a variety of systems.

MATH:

Text: Saxon Math and IXL Online

Our Math text supports and embraces the belief that all students should learn important mathematical concepts and processes with understanding. The objective of each lesson is clearly stated. Instruction and assignments help students gain mastery of concepts and skills.

Curriculum includes:

- Numbers and Operations in Base 10
 - Estimating, Place Value, Operations with Whole Numbers
 - Multiply and Divide, Powers of 10, Divide by 1-digit number

- Decimal Division
- Partial Product & Quotients & Area Models
- Factors and Multiples & Patterns
- Prime and Composite
- Numbers and Operations as Fractions
 - Fractions on a number line, visually comparing and ordering
 - Making Equivalent Fractions & Simplifying
 - Greatest Common Factor (GCF) and Least Common Multiple (LCM)
 - Add/Subtract: Unlike denominators
 - Mixed Number Addition and Subtraction with Renaming
 - Multiply Fractions
 - Dividing Whole Numbers by Fractions
 - Relate Fractions to Decimals o Comparing and Ordering Decimals
- Geometry
 - Polygons: Quadrilaterals, Triangles, Angles
 - Perimeter & Area
 - Volume
 - 3-Dimensional Prisms and Pyramids
- Measurement:
 - Line Plot, Graphing on Coordinate grid
 - Converting Customary Units
 - Converting Metric Units
 - Elapsed Time
- Operations & Algebraic Thinking
 - Solve using a variable, numerical patterns, and analyzing relationship
 - Equations, Order of Operations

The use of flashcards for mastery and accuracy is strongly suggested to be done for practice at home.

READING:

The Diocese of Jefferson City sets rigorous standards for reading and writing. Our focus includes:

- Genres include all Fiction, Literature, and Nonfiction
- 7-8 New Vocabulary Words each week
- Listening Comprehension Skills—Read aloud and model oral fluency
- Focus skills
 - Examples: plot, conflict resolution
- Thinking Comprehension Skills
 - Examples: summarizing, questioning, author's purpose
- Novel studies: reinforces comprehension strategies & focus skills, includes weekly vocabulary
- Scholastic News: Nonfiction informational text and Comprehension Packets to help supplement standards
- Book Reports
- Silent Reading Books: All students are expected to have a silent reading book with them at all times
 - Students will take Accelerated Reader quizzes after finishing novels

LANGUAGE ARTS/READING:

Language Arts include reading, writing, spelling, handwriting, grammar, and listening skills, study skills, punctuation, speech, usage, and mechanics. A very strong emphasis will be placed on the six traits of writing:

- Narrative
- Explanatory
- Persuasive
- Comparison
- Expository
- Fiction
- Various responses to informational texts

Composition Skills:

- Identify main idea and detail
- Writing leads and endings

- Organization
- Writing dialogue
- Revise and editing

Grammar & Mechanics includes:

- Types of sentences
- Nouns
- Verbs
- Adjectives
- Pronouns
- Adverbs
- Prepositions

Building Skills:

- Note taking and summarizing
- Informal outlining
- Vocabulary
- Fact and opinion
- Test taking strategies
- Using reference materials

WRITING:

Students will use writing to convey meaning. They will:

- Use the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading, publishing
- Write effectively using words and pictures to convey thoughts
- Write sentences about a topic (opinion, informative, narrative)
- Apply spelling knowledge
- Apply grammar (nouns, verbs, adjectives, contractions) in writing
- Apply mechanics (capitalization, punctuation, complete sentences) in writing
- Apply neat writing of uppercase and lowercase letters and numbers

SPELLING:

Each week we will teach a spelling lesson, and most weeks there will be a written test on Friday. We will stress the recognition of structural similarities or spelling pattern, as well

as phonetic similarities. Students are asked to study for weekly spelling tests with a parent. Review tests encompassing the past several lessons will be given at times. In our daily work and homework, correct spelling is encouraged. We will teach it in the writing process (prewriting, writing, revising, proofreading, and publishing).

HANDWRITING:

Our emphasis in Fifth Grade is cursive writing. Cursive writing was introduced and taught in Grade 2 and reinforced in Grades 3-4. Handwriting will emphasize the correct strokes in writing the uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet, and connecting these letters to other letters to form words. Assignments are to be done in Cursive Writing whenever possible.

RELIGION:

Religion classes will be taught in the classroom on Mondays and Tuesdays. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday the students will attend Mass. During class, our goals are:

- To develop a person and ongoing relationship with God
- To build reverence for and knowledge of Holy Scripture
- Purposeful emphasis on Catholic practices, images, and models of faith
- Incorporate five forms of prayer in each student's personal devotion
- Encourage family devotion
- Stress Christian values

SCIENCE:

Text: Scholastic News

Our Science text is aligned with national and state standards. It uses an inquiry approach to explore Science concepts through "hands-on" and "minds-on" activities. Many involve close observation.

Curriculum includes:

- Earth Science

- The Changing Earth
- The Earth's Resources
- Climate
- Astronomy
- Life Science
 - Comparing Living Things
 - Reproduction and Change
 - Adaptations
 - Ecology
- Physical Science
 - Classifying Matter
 - Investigating Motion
 - Forms of Energy
 - Electrical Energy

SCHOLASTIC NEWS:

Students will use “Scholastic News” for Current Events. It is a rich source of current issues, and is very enriching for Social Studies and Science.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

- Early Life, East and West
 - Life in the Western Hemisphere
 - Native Americans of North America
 - Life in the Eastern Hemisphere
- Connections Across Continents
 - Spain Builds an Empire
 - The Struggle to Found Colonies
- Colonial Life in North America
 - Life in the English Colonies
 - The Fight for a Continent
- The American Revolution
 - The Road to War
 - Winning the Revolution

- Life in a New Nation
 - Forming a New Nation
 - The Young United States
- A Growing Nation
 - Time of Change
 - People Moving South and West
- War Divides the Nation
 - A Divided Nation
 - War and Reconstruction
- Expansion and Change
 - Crossing the Continent
 - Into the Twenty-First Century

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES:

We attend Music, Art, and Library once a week and Physical Education twice a week. Students have recess twice daily, as well as lunch. Students also perform in the St. Joseph Christmas Concert and the Spring Concert