

FOURTH GRADE AT ST. PAUL

Curriculum Summary

Welcome to St. Paul's Fourth Grade

Welcome to St. Paul Elementary School! Our elementary students are offered an exciting, engaging curriculum that lays a solid foundation in all subject areas. Student explore and discover as they develop a love and passion for learning. Elementary students also engage in a variety of additional classes including technology, art, music, gym and library. The following sheets describe the curriculum for fourth grade. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like more information.

Bible Study

In Bible Study, we walk through Old and New Testament stories of the Bible, using the ESV Bible and the CPS series, *One In Christ*.

Memory - Students receive a Memory schedule at the beginning of each quarter. All memory verses are taken from the lessons in the Bible study book. Students also memorize Luther's morning and evening prayers, the 10 commandments and the Close of the Commandments and their meanings, The three articles of the Apostles creed and their meanings.

Chapel - We have chapel every Wednesday morning.

Math

In Math are using *enVision Math* which meets the Common Core Standards, and uses the internet program to help teach the lessons. The core standards assume students in Grade 4 have mastered their facts and so we practice those all the facts: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts in school as well as at home. With *enVision Math*, not only is the student book available on line, but also instructional resources. We work on multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction with multiple digits. 4th graders also study fractions; equivalence and ordering, adding, subtracting, multiplying fractions. We identify 2 and 3 dimensional shapes in geometry, as well as lines and angles. We also study place value, patterns, and measurement units. Throughout the program, we encounter many problem solving problems and learn how to explain what we are doing.



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Language Arts

Language Arts consists of Reading , Spelling, Grammar, and Writing.

Reading consists of Guided Reading, skills and vocabulary, oral reading, and Independent Reading. We use Storytown by Harcourt. We explore many different genres in our reading. Our skills include: compare and contrast; character traits and motivation; drawing conclusions; cause and effect; sequencing; character, setting and plot; main idea and details; figurative language; fact and opinion; author's purpose and perspective; conflict and resolution of the plot; and while always working on comprehension. We also read and discuss class books: Frindle, Because of Winn-Dixie, Bicycle Rider, and Stone Fox.

Independent Reading includes reading books on your own, recording them in a logbook, and doing a book report on different genres. Students are challenged to read independently, at least 4 books/quarter. We used Accelerated Reader Program in our school, and students meet a point goals for each quarter.

Spelling is taught with a phonetic approach. Weekly spelling tests are given. We use the lists and workbook from Storytown. The word lists can also be found on spelling city.com.

Writing incorporates the 6 Traits of Writing and we write a variety of selections including; descriptive paragraphs, short stories with plots, poetry, letters, and narratives. Writings are collected for the year and compiled into a booklet.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics is taught using a Storytown workbook and is reinforced in our writings.

Social Studies - Michigan History/ U.S. Regions

4th Graders begin the year with Michigan History after statehood, concentrating on the government and the many economic changes. We have a field trip to the capital and historical museum in Lansing, to help us learn about Michigan government and our history. We also use various chapters from Macmillan, McGraw-Hill's textbook, Michigan.

Science

We will take adventures through Life Science, Physical Science, and Earth Science, Macmillan/McGraw-Hill's *Science: A Closer Look* text. We do a lot of "investigations." We begin the year with living things. Students create a Power Point presentation on an Ecosystem. In physical science, we study matter and how it changes, changing motion, simple machines, magnetism and electricity. In Earth Science, we study earth's resources, weathering and erosion, minerals, soil and pollution.

Music

Music and Chorus are taught by Mrs. Massey. She teaches recorders after Christmas. They perform in the Christmas Service every year, and the K-4 musical, every other year, where 4th graders are the actors. Every other year, Mrs. Massey also teaches an orchestra unit that climaxes with a performance by the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra.

Spanish

This year 4th graders will learn Spanish, which is taught by Mrs. Nieman. Students expand their knowledge of Spanish from previous years, do a report on a well-known Spanish person, increase their vocabulary, and learn The Lord's Prayer in Spanish.

Library and Computers

We have a computer teacher, Mr. Hayes, once a week to help us learn skills on the computer. We learn how to do a power point presentation, work on keyboarding skills, and learn the different aspects of the Word program. We will check out books at least once a week.

Sex Education

Fourth graders go through the CPH book, *How You Are Changing*, in two groups; boys and girls. The girls have a "I Am Special" class on maturation with their mothers, led by Mrs. Schafer.

