

## Fourth Grade

Reaching double digits in age, St. Peter School fourth graders are able to recognize, establish and act on the many connections between curricular subject areas. As students transition from self-contained homerooms to departmentalized instruction, teachers offer the support and guidance needed to make the transition as smooth as possible. Students solidify basic skills and are challenged to explore personal passions while taking risks both in and outside of the classroom. Through cooperative learning activities, students begin to value their personal contributions to the whole group and recognize the need for others in working towards a common goal. With greater awareness of self and others, fourth graders begin to establish their identity as individuals. At this critical time, they receive support in managing diverse personalities and changing friendships. Highlights for fourth graders include Thanksgiving Feast, a Stationary Mardi Gras Parade and the Living Stations of the Cross.

### Religion

- Builds knowledge of faith through the text, *Jesus Our Guide*, a simple introduction to Bible stories and teachings of the faith.
- Identifies major figures in Sacred Scripture of our salvation history: Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, David, the Blessed Virgin Mary and Jesus Christ.
- Develops a stronger Catholic identity using concrete and personal examples to help enter into a deeper understanding and love of Christ and His Church.
- Illustrates understanding of Gospel with weekly Bible Reflections
- Researches and immerses into the life of a prayerfully chosen Saint throughout school year with various "Saints Understand Virtues" activities
- Performs Living Stations of the Cross during Holy Week



### English Language Arts

- Builds knowledge of the various parts of speech and their purpose in writing
- Applies knowledge of various parts of speech in writing
- Constructs simple, compound and complex sentences using proper grammar and punctuation
- Constructs multi-paragraph essays implementing the writing process (narrative, persuasive and explanatory)
- Inquires and researches various topics of interest for the purpose of writing
- Integrates reading strategies to understand and appreciate literature
- Engages in critical thinking questions on tests
- Engages in deep reading and discussion of class novels, fiction, non-fiction and poetry
- Supports opinions using evidence from text
- Develops oral and written presentations using various media
- Develops increased vocabulary and recognizes how word choice improves writing

- Uses table of contents, title, subtitles, index, dictionary and thesaurus effectively
- Learns techniques for test preparation and goal-setting
- Compares fact versus opinion, context clues, author's purpose, point of view and theme

### Social Studies

- Describes the various landforms found around the US and their purpose in our culture
- Recognizes the impact of immigration and industrialization on the growth of the US
- Discusses the formation of the US government and its effect on modern government
- Investigates unique characteristics and locations of all fifty states
- Compares and contrasts the various regions of the US, including landforms, industries and cultures
- Learns the states and capitols of the U.S.A.

### Math

- Develops confidence in logic, critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Explores place value of whole numbers and decimals
- Adds, subtracts, multiplies and divides whole numbers
- Introduce decimals
- Names and constructs geometric figures
- Applies formulas to find area and perimeter
- Represents data using a variety of tables, diagrams and graphs
- Predicts the probability of outcomes of simple experiments
- Understands, compares, adds and subtracts fractions

### Science

- Explores and uses the Scientific Method
- Identifies patterns of change seen on Earth and on the Moon
- Learns how matter can be measured and compared
- Predicts how energy moves and changes then answers why
- Studies how we use energy, the transformation of mechanical and electrical
- Acquires knowledge on how living things are classified
- Explores how living things interact with their environment, different ecosystems
- Compares and contrasts the structure and form of different living things
- Learns about humans' physical health and nutrition

### Cross Curriculum Skills

- Participates in group research projects
- Is guided to become more honest, dependable and reliable as a group member
- Begins to set individual goals and team goals to accomplish specific tasks
- Appreciates and respects the ideas and differences of others
- Demonstrates good sportsmanship and manners