

Celebrating over 50 Years of Excellence!

St. Rocco School

Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ!

What Your Child Learns



A Parent's Guide to the *Grade Three Curriculum*

CHRIST is the reason for this school.
~in our minds, on our lips, and always in our hearts~

At St. Rocco School, we promote a Catholic Education providing a rich spiritual, academic and social development of each child. We do this through a stimulating environment and a broad based and balanced core standard curriculum for each subject area in every grade level. Our curriculum will continuously undergo evaluation and updating.

Included but not limited to:

Empowering Writing Grades K-8

Foss Kits Grades K-8

STAR assessments are used regularly throughout the year as formative and interim testing to screen for reading and math achievement levels. They will be used once a year in April as nationally normed summative assessments. The assessments are computer based either being taken on a laptop, PC or tablet. The reports yield data in both disciplines in order for the teachers to identify differentiated classroom instructional strategies for individualized student progress in grades 2-8.

Next Generation Science Standards Grades 5-8

St. Rocco School is accredited by the New England Association for Schools and Colleges.

Please note that these curriculum guides provide only an overview of what your child will be learning and that the actual written curriculum is much more comprehensive.

What Your Child Learns GRADE THREE CURRICULUM

Religion

Students will become aware that God made and loves us. They will appreciate themselves as gifts of God. They will examine what Catholics believe, how Catholics celebrate, live, and pray. As part of the Religion Program, the Circle of Grace Program will help students to understand that as Children of God, they are treasured and filled with grace. They will understand what to do when a boundary is crossed and they will know that God is always with them.

A few of the objectives to be covered are:

- ♥ Explain that the Bible is organized into books, chapters, and verses and we meet Jesus in the Word of God.
- ♥ Explain that Jesus began His new Church on Earth, the Apostles were twelve followers whom Jesus chose to help him begin his Church, the season of Advent prepares us for Christmas and for the second coming of Christ, and Lent is a special time for praying, sacrificing and sharing because of Jesus' suffering.
- ♥ Recognize that through the parables, Jesus tells us to love ourselves and one another.
- ♥ Appreciate that whatever we do for people in need, we do for Jesus.
- ♥ Understand that the Ten Commandments help us live good lives.
- ♥ Recognize human families are important to God.
- ♥ Understand that mothers and fathers share with God in creating new life.
- ♥ Understand creation is a sign of God's love and that all living things grow, develop, and reproduce.

Health

The students will study a variety of topics relating to personal and mental health, nutrition and fitness, harmful substances, human growth, disease and injury prevention, the importance of safety and community resources, and strategies for conflict resolution and stress management:

A few of the objectives are listed below:

- ♥ Demonstrate responsibility for personal hygiene.
- ♥ Recognize the value and benefits of being active and physically fit.
- ♥ Identify and describe the food pyramid and plan a well-balanced meal.
- ♥ Understand proper uses of medicines.
- ♥ Identify harmful substances in the home.
- ♥ Demonstrate strategies for saying “no” to drugs.
- ♥ Identify major body organs and understand their functions.
- ♥ Recognize the various ways of contracting communicable diseases.
- ♥ Demonstrate proper dental and body hygiene.
- ♥ Understand weapon safety.
- ♥ Demonstrate procedures for reporting and responding to emergency situations.
- ♥ Learn skills and attitudes that are useful for coping with being home alone.
- ♥ Demonstrate appropriate interpersonal problem-solving skills.
- ♥ Design a personal plan to handle conflict.
- ♥ Identify stressful situations and list possible ways to resolve them.
- ♥ Recognize the uniqueness of each person.

Math

Students will understand numbers and ways of representing numbers. They will demonstrate an understanding of classification, patterning and sequence. Students will recognize ways to measure objects, time, and money. Students will begin to demonstrate an understanding of data collection, display, and interpretation.

A few of the objectives are listed below:

- ♥ Read, model, write, and interpret whole numbers to at least 100,000 and demonstrate an understanding of the values of the digits.
- ♥ Add and subtract 2- and 3-digit numbers with regrouping,
- ♥ Estimate to the nearest tens, hundreds, and thousands using rounding and truncating strategies.
- ♥ Memorize multiplication tables (0 through 10)
- ♥ Describe, extend, and create a wide variety of patterns to symbols using concrete models.
- ♥ Analyze patterns and use them to make predictions and solve problems.
- ♥ Sort and classify three dimensional shapes.
- ♥ Draw and classify polygons and polyhedrons (solid figures) using appropriate vocabulary -- faces, angles, edges.
- ♥ Estimate and measure length (inches, feet, yards, centimeters, meters), weight (grams, ounces, pounds), and capacity (cups, pints, quarts, gallons, liters) using appropriate tools and units.
- ♥ Compute the cost and make change for items up to \$20.00.
- ♥ Tell time to the nearest minute with analog and digital clocks.
- ♥ Correctly use and interpret a.m. and p.m.
- ♥ Read and interpret graphs and charts (bar, picture, circle, line) as sources of information.
- ♥ Display data using appropriate bar graphs, line graphs, pictographs and pie graphs with and without technology.

Language Arts

Listening

- ♥ Follow multi-step oral directions.
- ♥ Restate what was heard and answer questions about stories and informational presentations.
- ♥ Identify a speaker's purpose, feelings, and point of view.

Speaking

- ♥ Read out loud smoothly and expressively with proper phrasing.
- ♥ Use tone and expression.
- ♥ Speak in complete sentences.

Reading

Literal Comprehension

- ♥ Use context clues to determine meaning.
- ♥ Identify title, story characters, setting, and plot to summarize a story.
- ♥ Ask questions of themselves and the authors they encounter in the texts they read.
- ♥ Identify and understand explicitly stated main idea.

Inferential Comprehension

- ♥ Determine cause/effect relationships and author's purpose.
- ♥ Connect to personal experience.
- ♥ Verify responses with supporting details.

Critical/Evaluative Thinking

- ♥ Interpret character's motives, feelings and goals.
- ♥ Develop their own informed opinion and responses.
- ♥ Determine Author's Big Idea/Theme.
- ♥ Think critically about the problem and develop alternative courses of action.

Fluency

Word Recognition

- ♥ Recognize correct spelling.
- ♥ Use context clues to identify words.

Phonetic Analysis

- ♥ Use long and short vowels, vowel combinations, and r-controlled vowels.
- ♥ Blend sounds to form words.
- ♥ Begin to use syllabication rules.

Structural Analysis

- ♥ Use compound words, contractions, base words, and apostrophes.
- ♥ Identify word parts as syllables.
- ♥ Use possessives.

Word Meaning

- ♥ Understand multiple-meaning words.
- ♥ Understand antonyms, synonyms and homonyms.
- ♥ Self-monitor and self-correct by rereading to understand text.

Study/Organizational Skills

- ♥ Follow directions in a sequential order.
- ♥ Scan an article and highlight important information.
- ♥ Use time in an effective manner.
- ♥ Record/dictate own knowledge of a topic in various ways.

Writing

Prewriting

- ♥ Organize ideas using graphic organizers.
- ♥ Consider audience/purpose.
- ♥ Recognize personal experience as a springboard for writing.

Drafting

- ♥ Develop a first draft on paper; write without making corrections—on alternate lines.
- ♥ Write paragraphs with topic sentence, details, and clincher.

- ♥ Recognize and utilize basic parts of speech.
- ♥ Stay on topic and include relevant information.

Editing/ Mechanics

- ♥ Correct incomplete sentences and punctuate properly.
- ♥ Use commas in series, dates, and places.
- ♥ Appropriately use quotation marks.

Revising

- ♥ Work with a partner to increase objectivity and foster cooperative learning/discuss reactions to the starter sentence, the order of events, and the amount of vivid details.
- ♥ Add descriptive words to develop detailed sentences.
- ♥ Apply scoring rubric to writing.

Publishing

- ♥ Produce finished writing in a variety of forms.
- ♥ Produce writing that is stylistically consistent.
- ♥ Illustrate writing.
- ♥ Include bibliography for expository writing.

Social Studies

The study of towns and cities focuses on their civic, geographic, economic, and political features. The program promotes understanding of local government, regional geographic factors, and historical background for present day life and work. This focus includes a study of towns and cities in various parts of the world, now and long ago, with emphasis on the students' own city or town.

Science

Specific areas to be covered

Life Science

- ♥ Animals
- ♥ Plants

Earth Science

- ♥ The Sun and the Solar System
- ♥ The Earth- Water, Rocks and Soil

Physical Science

- ♥ Machines and their Uses
- ♥ Matter and Energy
- ♥ Sound

Technology

The students will be able to respond to simple questions using the keyboard. They will be able to log on using their username. They will be introduced to the printing function and how to save a document to the network, CD, and desktop.

Students will know how to type in www.-website to do research. Also, they will work on their typing, finger position, accuracy and speed on the keyboard. Technology is integrated into daily activities through the use of iPads and interactive instruction with the use of the "whiteboard" (Mimio).

Instructional Software Use: not limited to ~ *Brain Pop, Kidspiration, etc.*

Art

Each student will be provided with an introduction to artists (their works, their techniques, their mediums, their struggles, and their perseverance) in an environment that encourages self-discovery and self-expression through artistic experimentation.

THEME: Art Tells a Story -- Words and stories inspire art

Focus of Lessons:

- ♥ Original editions – the art of bookmaking
- ♥ Silly sentences make intriguing images
- ♥ Inventing imaginary environments
- ♥ Cooperative storytelling and illustration
- ♥ Special memories become moments
- ♥ Building pictures with small strokes
- ♥ Artworks and inventions start with great ideas
- ♥ Native American pattern and design inspires artwork
- ♥ Cooperative creation of a baseball themed mural/ self-portraits
- ♥ Seasonal projects/art work

Music

All students in Grades 1 through 8 have general music once each week. The general music program introduces students to the following basic musical concepts: rhythm, melody, harmony, tone color, form, and expression. Students experience these concepts through singing, moving, and listening and apply them through performing and creating, both in the classroom and in liturgical settings throughout the school year.

Students explore various styles of music and recognize music from different historical periods. Music instruction is complemented by music learning software for Kindergarten through Grade Eight.

Our adopted music curriculum is *Making Music*, published by Silver-Burdett/Ginn, supplemented by *Music Alive*, a monthly magazine published by Cherry Lane for the Middle School.

Introduction to Spanish

Students will learn simple lessons in:

- ♥ grammar
 - ♥ spelling
 - ♥ pronunciation
 - ♥ vocabulary
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Physical Education

All students at St. Rocco School have a balanced Physical Education program that gives them opportunities for vigorous activity, teaches skills, and stresses the importance of life-long fitness. Our Physical Education program reinforces our Christian values and social skills by providing opportunities for collaboration and good sportsmanship. Third grade students have the opportunity throughout the year to work in both large and small group activities as well as individually and with a partner. Some of the units the students participate in are movement exploration, locomotor and non-locomotor skills, manipulative activities, stunts and tumbling, races and relays, tag and simple games, and rhythm and dance. The students also participate in the President's Challenge Physical Fitness Test each spring. Students at this level begin to lead the stretches, explore game strategies and take part in team games. The emphasis at this level, however, is still on cooperation and participation.
