



TRINITY EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Second Grade Program

Instruction in the second grade supports the student development goals and objectives of the Trinity program by providing opportunities for students to grow through successful intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual experiences and activities, guided by skillful teachers.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Each morning is started with prayers and a bible reading from the Daily Lectionary. Discussions are lead to bring God into our lives. Students assemble on Wednesday mornings for Chapel services and once a month Eucharist is celebrated. We use the ACSI elementary Bible series.

READING is phonics based. Word attack skills are fully developed, and oral and silent reading becomes fluent. Students are encouraged to maintain, extend, and strive to master the skills introduced in the first grade. All students complete basal readers of several levels and various literary selections. Independence in reading is developed through the SRA program. Multifaceted activities stress reading comprehension. A love of reading is the ultimate goal. The Junior Great Books program is lead by parents to extend the critical thinking and literary skills. Students participate individually in the accelerated reading program.

LISTENING SKILLS are directly taught in second grade. Students participate in activities concentrating on following directions, summarizing information, recalling sequences, and interpreting main ideas.

SPEAKING instruction guidance includes furthering the development of effective communication skills with peers and adults, extending the ability to formulate and express specific ideas, and experience varied activities to develop verbal skills. This will include dramatization, choral reading, show and tell, and write and share.

COMPOSITION AND GRAMMAR are a systematic process focusing on the sentence and the paragraph. Students practice application of punctuation and capitalization. They identify five parts of speech, four kinds of sentences, and name the subject and predicate of a sentence. Writing becomes more refined through the generation of stories, journals, reports, and friendly letters. Grammar is taught through the use of the Daily Oral Language program and The Shurley Method.

SPELLING is taught using the McGraw-Hill Spelling and the Scientific Spelling programs. It is a system by which students can learn to spell words they do not know by using the reliable patterns and rules of the English language. Students learn to analyze words and group them for ease in learning. The ability to analyze and categorize words according to three types-- regular, rule and irregular--not only facilitates the learning of the words, but aids the retention of the words and reinforces basic spelling information.

MATHEMATICS: In the Everyday Mathematics curriculum, students continue to develop as problem solvers and explorers of mathematics. Mathematics is linked to other subjects and includes a rich variety of instructional techniques. Areas of learning include: Numeration and Counting, Operations and Relations, Problem Solving and Number Models, Measures and Reference Frames (includes money and time), Exploring Data, Geometry, Rules and Patterns, Calculator Mathematics, and Algebra and Uses of Variables. The students are encouraged to think, reason, predict, and draw conclusions in solving problems of every kind as they see the relevance of mathematical accuracy in daily life.

HANDWRITING instruction in the manuscript form is continued in second grade. Emphasis is placed on letter formation, correct grip of pencil, and slant of paper. Cursive writing is taught.

SCIENCE focuses on giving students an understanding of, an interest in, and an appreciation of the world in which they live. Opportunities are provided for nurturing the student's natural curiosity. The content of the program is balanced to include life science, earth science, and physical science. Students progress through a sequence of exploration, invention, and discovery activities that increase comprehension and retention.

SOCIAL STUDIES helps students relate themselves to people and places in their neighborhood and beyond. The concepts presented emphasize human values as well as the rights and responsibilities of effective citizens.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION instruction is on each individual student's development of concepts and skills in four areas of ability: physical fitness, group games, rhythms, listening skills, and individual activities. For example, physical fitness activities are focused toward conditioning, endurance, strengthening, flexibility, coordination, and body management.

SPANISH Review of previously learned vocabulary continues and introduced are: family, farm animals, clothing, foods, shapes, expressions, days of the week, months of the year, zoo animals, household items, greetings, courtesy expressions and names needed for daily life situations, classroom objects and states of being, simple commands, tener (verb) expressions, weather expressions, school rooms, school personnel, and vowel sounds. Conversational skills are practiced using puppets. Hispanic cultural knowledge is introduced. Concepts are learned through drills, songs, and various activities.

MUSIC In grade 2, the voice is used as the main instrument of learning. Second grade children read songs with simple rhythms and melodies. Singing games and folk songs are used to teach concepts because they are simple and fun. Percussion and barred instruments are used to accompany songs. The moods of music are studied as well as how to "see" pictures in the mind when some kinds of music is heard.

ART instruction at the primary level includes two-dimensional projects of drawing/design, painting, printmaking, and three-dimensional projects including clay and weaving. Students begin to understand the effect of objects overlapping on a two-dimensional surface and the importance of size relationships. Students are recognized randomly through the Artist of the Week program.

LIBRARY: Library teaches students to appreciate books, select books they are able to read, know the parts of a book, and discuss the motive of the story. These are accomplished through discussion of Caldecott winners and books that have been read, and learning library science skills and participation in the Accelerated Reader program.

TECHNOLOGY: Students learn the computer as a tool with classes twice a week throughout the year. They learn keyboarding techniques and acceptable user policies. Students acquire information about computer hardware from a variety of formats and use appropriate software programs with audio, video, and graphics to enhance learning experiences. These programs include the use of word processing and multimedia so students can express ideas and solve problems.