

St. Margaret Catholic School

1st Grade Curriculum

READING – Harcourt

St. Margaret adopted a new reading series based on the best practices and the latest research based teaching strategies. The students are exposed to a variety of genres with emphasis placed on phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and writing. The program provides ample practice and application of those skills using an array of tools and activities suited to all types of learners. A student workbook is provided for reinforcement. Students use text-dependent questions in order to improve comprehension skills as well as interpreting the purpose of the genre piece read. SMCS uses Accelerated Reader and STAR Reading to motivate students to read and monitor their success.

LANGUAGE

Students identify sentences and sentence structure, capital letters, end marks, subjects, predicates, nouns, verbs, alphabetical order, contractions, calendar skills, abbreviations, and homophones. They also study and participate in creative writing, paragraphs, and letter writing.

SPALDING (Phonics/Handwriting Program)

Spalding is taught in conjunction with our reading program in order to enhance and develop a love of reading, use of a rich vocabulary, and the understanding of the structure of the English language. This program develops a child's reading ability through phonemic awareness, phonics and spelling, vocabulary, fluency, and text comprehension.

MATH – Pearson/Scott Foresman/Addison Wesley – enVision Math

Students learn addition and subtraction of factors to twenty and number patterns to 120, comparing and ordering numbers, adding and subtracting with tens and ones, length, time, geometry, charts/graphs, and fractions.

SCIENCE/SOCIAL LIVING – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

This series includes Life, Earth, and Physical Science. Social living includes Geography, History, Civics, and Economics, Map and Graph skills, and Citizenship.

RELIGION

The theme entails introduction to the Holy Trinity through presentations of God the Father, the life of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, God's plan of Salvation and our part in it. It also acquaints children with Mary, angels, and the saints. Students learn basic prayers.

Chapter 1 – 8: The Old Testament, God our Creator, our home in Heaven lost through original sin, world preparation for the Savior

Chapter 9 – 21: The Incarnation, Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus

Chapter 22 – 28: The Holy Spirit, the Church, and Mary our Mother

ACTIVITIES

- Holiday performances
- Banner presentations
- Important Americans Program
- Park
- Zoo
- class service project
- Easter Hat Parade
- Christmas Program
- school assemblies
- guest speakers

ENRICHMENTS

- Art
- Library
- PE: 2x/week
- Music: Kodály philosophy of music education
 - Complete program of music education that contributes to the emotional, intellectual, aesthetic, and physical development of the child
 - Teaches music literacy through hearing, feeling, and experiencing music through age appropriate folk song material leading children to musical masterpieces.

TECHNOLOGY

Each classroom is equipped with a Promethean ActivBoard, AV station for instruction and learning and a class set of iPads. The iPads have access to Spelling City; Internet 4 Classrooms; Math, reading and language arts websites. The Renaissance Learning Program (Accelerated Reading and STAR Reading) is used to help improve reading across curriculum and grade levels. The students also work on reading and math skills in the Computer Lab. Each classroom is equipped with an amplification system so that each student has the opportunity to hear and process the instruction given by the teacher.