

# St. Margaret Catholic School

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## 4<sup>th</sup> 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. Spelling is embedded into this reading series. SMCS uses Accelerated Reader and STAR Reading to motivate students to read and monitor their success.

### ENGLISH – Harcourt

This series includes types of nouns and uses, action/linking verbs and tenses, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, sentence structure, phrases and clauses, and the writing process with an emphasis on analytical (expository) writing. Cursive writing is taught using the Spalding handwriting practices.

### SPELLING – McGraw Hill Wonders

The students spell grade-appropriate words that are embedded into the reading series. These words include: word families, syllable patterns, inflectional endings, contractions, compound words, prefixes and suffixes, root or base words, comparatives and superlatives, and Greek and Latin roots.

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

- addition & subtraction to 5 and 6 digits with regrouping
- data & graphing
- placing value to the millions
- time (elapsed)
- problem solving skills
- geometry
- multiplication & division whole numbers
- decimals
- probability
- standard & metric measurement

### SOCIAL STUDIES – Pearson

- Geography of US lands and regions
- US regions' resources
- US History
- US Government
- US Economy
- Map skills throughout each chapter

### SCIENCE – Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

- Plant & animal survival, growth, behavior, & reproduction
- Human body & systems
- Matter & Energy
- Energy transfer by sound, light, heat, & electric current
- Waves in relation to amplitude, wavelength, & light reflection
- Earth's systems & place in the universe
- Renewable & non-renewable resources & environmental impact

## RELIGION

The theme entails God's plan to save his people from sin (Salvation History), how we participate in that plan, and the many ways God helps us in our pilgrimage on Earth to Heaven through his word, his law, and his Church.

### **Before Christ**

Chapter 1 - 14: The fall and the first murder; the sin and suffering of mankind; God chooses his people and their leaders

### **A.D. (Anno Domini) in the Year of Our Lord**

Chapter 15 - 30: History changes when Jesus the King comes; through grace, especially in the sacraments, we receive the strength to do good deeds

Chapter 26 - 30: Our part in the Church born of the Holy Spirit; our relationship with Mary and the Communion of Saints

## ACTIVITIES

- Veteran's Day Program
- Living Rosary
- Field Trips
- Classroom & school-wide service projects
- Banner Series presentations

## ENRICHMENTS

- Library
- Art: 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.
- Computer: 2x/week
- PE: 3x/week

## TECHNOLOGY

Students attend computer instruction twice weekly for 30-minute periods. They learn keyboarding through the Type to Learn program, computer terminology and how the computer works. Up-to-date computers are used in the classroom on a daily basis. Promethean ActivBoard and AV station are a part of daily instruction. There is an elementary computer lab available to students and teachers on an as need basis. The school has a mobile computer lab available to teachers and students to help with research and instruction.