

## Second Grade

- **Language Arts –**

Language: In language we will focus on grammar, mechanics, the writing process and speaking skills. Some of the particular skills are complete and incomplete sentences, how to write a good paragraph, nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. We will learn when to use capital letters and ending punctuation. Other skills include compound words, synonyms, antonyms and homophones. We will use the dictionary and alphabetical order. Early study skills will be taught. The writing process will guide students from developing an idea (pre-writing) through the publishing stage.

Reading: In reading we will focus on making predictions, drawing conclusions and cause and effect. Sequence of story events as well as story elements will be developed. Our story elements include character, setting, problem and solution. We will also incorporate phonics skills. We will learn the difference between fiction, non-fiction and fantasy. In order to accomplish all these skills, we will be using our basal reader and various trade books in a guided reading format.

Spelling: Our spelling will involve word lists from our spelling book as well as weekly word wall words to enhance writing skills also.

- **Math** - Addition and subtraction facts will be studied and mastered in second grade. We also will be learning addition and subtraction with larger numbers both with and without regrouping. Other math skills include money, time, measurement, shapes, beginning fraction, and number patterns. Our goal is to have students develop an awareness of how all of these concepts have real-life application in our everyday lives.
- **Religion** - The most eagerly anticipated goals of the second grade Religion program is receiving the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. You will receive more information regarding these from the OLOL parish Religious Education staff. In order to prepare for the sacraments, we will focus our study in class on the life of Jesus (Jesus, My Best Friend) along with learning about the church year, the special times of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter as well as the parts of the mass, the lives of saints, and character education. Students will also have the opportunity to be involved on the planning of some of our school liturgies.

Second Step education continues to help children become socially competent, form healthy relationships, and develop strong bonds in school.

- **Science** – All three areas of science are covered in the second grade curriculum. Life Science includes the study of living things (plants and animals). Physical Science involves matter and energy. Changes on the earth, and the sun and its family will comprise the main topics of our Earth Science unit.

In all content areas, students will enjoy varied projects and activities, which will enhance their understanding of the concepts presented.

- **Social Studies** – This area of study includes geography and the interaction of people locally and globally. We will learn about some famous people and places in America, how our government works, and the working world (goods, services, wants and needs).
- **Art** - Students will review and build on the foundations of art theory, the elements of art (line, shape, color, texture, form) and applying that knowledge to projects and activities. They will continue to also build on the principles of design (balance, pattern, contrast). The projects will reflect cultures some of which are Mexican, Chinese, Tibetan, and American.
- **Physical Education** - The focus in Physical Education for the primary level is on basic skills: locomotor movements (running, skipping, hopping galloping and sliding), non-locomotor skills (bending, twisting, stretching, turning, and lifting), basic skills (throwing, catching, hand & foot dribble, kick and strike), movement activities and balance activities. We center in on the benefits of physical activity and the use of good sportsmanship
- **Vocal Music** – Students will review and expand on all notes, rests, rhythms musical terms, and sol-feg previously learned. We will learn the posture and vocal habits of a correct singer. We will learn the letters of the treble staff and study different styles of writing/performing music. We will explore the connection between music and math through simple note addition and we will learn sign language (the alphabet and some words) and perform a few songs in that way. As always, we will sing a wide variety of songs and listen to a wide variety of music.
- **Spanish** - As a second grader, your son or daughter has already learned greetings, weather, colors, days of the week, some classroom commands, school vocabulary, body parts, and family. This year we will review all of those areas and getting more into classroom commands, body parts, and family. We will be adding more vocabulary in the areas of months of the year, clothing, animals, the house, and some foods.
- **Technology** – Technology for the kids at Lourdes is part of the daily curriculum in the classrooms and computer lab with a variety of activities, lessons and software programs. All classrooms have personal computers for use in small group and individual activities. The computer lab is used for large group instruction, research and independent study. The lab is reserved by classroom teachers as required by their lesson plans.

Second grade utilizes technology by: Kidware software to practice spelling words; word processing using Microsoft Word; Key Skills software for phonics and spelling; and Riverdeep software for math concepts.