

St. Valentine School Curriculum Highlights

Grade 3

Students entering Grade 3 will be expected to:

- Complete assignments
- Complete and turn in homework
- Take home and return necessary books and work
- Study for tests
- Be responsible for their words and actions
- Organize assignments through use of a student planner

*Parents will find an update on the school website classroom page each week outlining specific curriculum points that will be addressed throughout that week.

Religion

Students in Grade 3 will study, in accordance with Faith Formation Benchmarks:

- The Ten Commandments
- Act of Contrition
- Study about the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Liturgical Seasons
- Weekly readings for Children's' liturgy
- School wide Faith Formation topics which follow a four year cycle of:
 - The Mass
 - The Saints
 - Old Testament
 - New Testament

Students will also participate in planning liturgies, attend weekly masses and attend prayer services. Third grade students will participate in a nativity play during the Advent/Christmas season.

Reading

Students in Grade 3 will:

- Learn about the enjoyment of independent reading
- Reinforce comprehension tools and strategies
 - Monitoring and clarifying
 - Predict and infer
 - Evaluate
 - Summarize
 - Question
 - Use phonetic decoding
 - Making connections
 - Questioning
 - Inferences
 - Cause / Effect
 - Author's purpose
 - Plot
 - Main Idea
 - Context clues

- Prior Knowledge
- Visualizing
- Engage in guided reading
- Improve vocabulary
- Learn how to use a thesaurus
- Work on a response journal
- Complete comprehension questions
- Learn new spelling words each week
- Literature Circles

Students will work to meet an Accelerated Reader goal each marking period.

Writing/handwriting

Students in Grade 3 will:

- Learn cursive writing
- Perfect the manuscript alphabet
- Write in various genres such as
 1. Fables
 2. Compare / Contrast
 3. Poetry
 4. Research project

English

Students in Grade 3 will learn about:

- Nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs
- Verb tense
- Pronouns
- Capitalization
- Punctuation
- Writing, listening and speaking
- Writing friendly letters
- Plurals
- Possessives
- Contractions
- Synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms
- Dictionary skills

Mathematics

Students in Grade 3 will:

- Perfect addition and subtraction facts

Learn about:

- Place value
- Multiplication facts through 12
- Multiply two and three digit numbers by a one-digit number
- Estimate
- Division facts through 12
- Borrowing and carrying through three digits
- Measurement

- Charts and probability
- Fractions
- Time
- Basic geometry
- Decimals in adding and subtracting
- Memorize math facts using an online program

Social Studies

Students in Grade 3 will study:

- Michigan's first people
- Why people came to Michigan
- How Michigan became a state
- How resources helped Michigan
- Michigan's Government
- What Michigan is like today and what it will be like in the future

Science

Students in Grade 3 will study:

Life Science

- How plants live and grow
- How animals grow and change
- Living things and their environment

Physical Science

- Matter and its properties
- Changes in Matter
- Forces and Motion
- Energy
- Sound

Earth Science

- Water
- Weather
- Rocks and Soil
- Changes on Earth
- Natural Resource

Health

Studies in this area for Grade 3 will give the children information and opportunities to build life-long health habits. They will include:

- Defining what health is
- Healthy friendships
- Making friends
- Healthy influences
- Classifying feelings hand washing
- Overview of six body systems

Library

In the library, students in Grade 3 will:

- Listen to stories

- Read for enjoyment
- Build on basic library skills
- Learn about various popular artists
- Use basic reference tools such as encyclopedias and dictionaries and expand to almanacs, atlases, and specialized encyclopedias
- Continue learning about book care
- Work on library behavior
- Participate in special reading events

Spanish

Students will learn the Spanish language and culture through activities including, but not limited to, reading, writing, speaking, listening, and singing.

Third Grade- Students will continue to build upon their foundation of knowledge of the Spanish language and culture through various activities such as reading, writing, listening, speaking, constructing, and singing.

- Colors
- Numbers 1-50
- Days of the week
- Months of the year
- Holidays
- Food
- Common greetings and closings
- Questions
- Feelings
- Family
- Clothing
- Weather
- Common verbs
- Outdoors
- Household items
- Seasons
- Body
- Characteristics
- Adjectives

Students in Grade 3 will also have classes in Physical Education, Art, Computers and Music once each week and Spanish twice each week. Grade 3 will participate in 2-4 field trips that relate to their studies.