

# **St. Valentine School Curriculum Highlights**

## **Grade 4**

**Students entering Grade 4 will be expected to:**

- Have materials needed for class organized and available
- Work independently without disturbing others
- Stay on task
- Follow directions
- Request assistance when needed
- Complete assignments neatly and on time
- Assume responsibility for his/her behavior
- Follow school and classroom rules
- Respect the opinions and property of others
- Develop positive peer relationships
- Promptly return signed papers when required
- Make responsible decisions
- Use appropriate steps to solve social problems
- Make 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 4 will study the Faith Formation Benchmarks which include:

- Beatitudes
- Ten Commandments
- School wide Faith Formation topics which follow a four year cycle of:
  - The Mass
  - The Saints
  - Old Testament
  - New Testament
  - Sunday gospels

Students will also participate in planning liturgies, attending weekly masses and prayer services. Catholic students will receive the sacrament of reconciliation during Advent and Lent.

### **READING**

Inclusive of Reading, Writing, Grammar, Phonics, Spelling, Vocabulary and Handwriting

Students in Grade 4 will learn to:

- Read for enjoyment and understanding
- Build word recognition, fluency, and vocabulary
- Use Guided Reading Groups for small group instruction
- Build comprehension through a variety of new 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
- Self-monitor individual reading
  - Communicate effectively through written, oral, and listening experiences
- Students will work to meet an Accelerated Reader goal each marking period.

## **WRITING/HANDWRITING**

- Utilize the Writing Process
- Use personal style and voice
- Develop various writing pieces, which include narrative pieces, poetry, comparative pieces, and a research project
- Use cursive in their daily work

## **ENGLISH**

- Develop proper usage and mechanics of grammar
- Consistently use complete sentences, with capitalization, punctuation, and proper spelling
- Enhance phonics skills

## **MATHEMATICS**

Students in grade 4 will study:

- Whole numbers, operations and place value
- Multiplication & Division facts
- Time, temperature and data
- Multiplication & division by 1 and 2 digit numbers
- Understanding fractions and decimals
- Adding and subtracting fraction and decimals
- Geometry
- Measurement & probability
- Memorize math facts using an online program

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Students in grade 4 will study Michigan History and learn of its:

- The history of Michigan beyond its statehood
- The geography of various places and regions throughout the United States
- The purpose, structure, and functions of government
- The values and principles of American Democracy, and the role of citizens within it
- The principles that a market, national, and international economy is based upon

## **SCIENCE**

Students in grade 4 will study:

- **LIFE SCIENCE**
  - Classifying Plants and Animals
  - Energy From Plants
  - Ecosystems
  - Changes in Ecosystems
- **EARTH SCIENCE**
  - Fossils
  - Earth's structure
  - Volcanoes and earthquakes
- **PHYSICAL SCIENCE**
  - Properties of Matter
  - Heat
  - Electricity and Magnetism
  - Sound and Light
- **SPACE & TECHNOLOGY**
  - Earth's Cycles
  - Inner and Outer Planets

## **HEALTH**

Studies in this area for Grade 4 will give the children information and opportunities to build life-long health habits. They will include:

- Participate in the Think First Stay Safe program

## **LIBRARY**

In the library, students in Grade 4 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
- Learn about the Dewey decimal system

## **SPANISH**

Fourth 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, singing, and discussing.

- Colors
- Numbers 1-70
- 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
- Sports
- Body
- Characteristics
- Adjectives

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