



Christ Episcopal School

First Grade Overview

Reading is taught through a phonics-based program. Accelerated reading activities are added for those students who are advanced readers when school begins.

Concepts and activities taught include but are not limited to:

Reading/English



- Explicit teaching of sounds
- Blending of sounds into words
- Phonemic awareness and oral blending
- Dictation and spelling
- Using this knowledge for reading & writing
 - Develops reading fluency
 - Journals

- Written communication skills
- Oral communication skills
- Thinking and problem-solving skills
- Acquaintance with outstanding literary selections
- Learning strategies for accessing information and exploring concepts

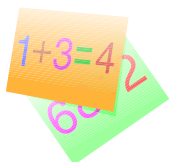
*Review or accelerated reading activities are included as indicated by a student's progress.

Library—Students visit the school library once a week for 30 minutes.

- Learn basic organization of the easy fiction section of the library.
- Develop awareness of spine labels to determine the location of a book in the library.
- Determine the difference between fiction and non-fiction.
- Recognize non-fiction as a source of information.
- Introduce Caldecott Award for the current year's picture books with exceptional illustrations.

Math

- Counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's
- Addition and subtraction problems with single & double digits
- Standard & metric measurement
- Classifying and Tallying
- Fractions
- Number patterns, odd and even numbers
- Place values (ones, tens, & hundreds)
- Comparing numbers: largest & smallest; quantities using $<$, $>$, and $=$
- Mental arithmetic—addition and subtraction of one-digit numbers
 - Geometry
 - Picture patterns using color, size, shape, or rotation
 - Exchanging money using pennies, nickels, dimes, & quarters
 - Graphing (more, less, equal)
 - Seasons & calendar
- Telling time to the half-hour
- Estimation



Science—The science program uses hands-on experiences as often as possible.

- Life Science
 - Study and observation of plants and animals and their needs
 - Living and non-living things
 - Observation of the life cycles of the butterfly and frog
 - Learn about bio-systems
- Physical and Earth Science
 - Land, air, and water
 - Seasons
 - Magnets
 - Matter, energy, and forces
 - Weather
 - Water cycle
- Review of the senses
- Pollution and recycling
- The human body
 - Skeletal system
 - Teeth

Social Studies

- Concepts of neighborhood and community helpers
- Concept of top/bottom, above/below, next to/between
- Map key and directions of N, S, E, and W
- Locating places on the earth's surface
- Continents and major land features of the Earth
- How people grow and change over time; the way families lived long ago, emphasis on Pilgrims & Native Americans
- Learn about American leaders in history
- Learn about great events in our country
- American holidays
- Christmas traditions around the world



First Grade Overview continued



Art—Students attend art class once a week. Concepts and skills presented in Kindergarten continue to be refined. Additionally, students will :

- understand the terms landscape, cityscape, still-life and portrait
- classify artworks as landscapes, cityscapes, still-lives, or portraits
- cut and glue basic geometric shapes from paper
- combine shapes to make more complex images
- draw and paint lines, shapes, or colors that repeat to make a pattern
- draw and paint visual textures
- incise lines in clay or other modeling media for actual texture
- print with gadgets.

Music—Students attend music class twice a week. Exploration of pitch and matching tones

- Ability to repeat a musical phrase after hearing it
- Continue singing simple songs by rote
- Recognize staccato and legato phrases by listening
- Recognize solo instruments heard in a recording
- Listen to a variety of musical genres
- Discuss proper etiquette for musical performance
- Recognize musical symbols



Spanish—Students meet twice weekly for a 30 minute class with the Spanish teacher. They are taught orally and aurally through songs, interactive speech, games, activities, and occasional videos.

- Respond to simple greetings
- Colors and numbers, 1-20
- Classroom words
- Expand on body parts
- Farm animals
- Expand knowledge of holiday words
- Describe holiday traditions of Spanish-speaking countries
- Recognize and recite weather words
- Foods



Christian Education—Christianity and its moral precepts are incorporated into the daily life of students and teachers at Christ Episcopal School.

- Daily, teachers read a Bible story.
- Daily, teachers lead children in prayers before snacks and meals.
- Once a week, students participate in a Chapel service led by the rector of Christ Church or the Head of School.
- Students learn and recite the Lord's Prayer and study a Bible story.
- Students learn to pray prayers of thanksgiving and to pray for others.
- Weekly, students attend a Christian Education class which includes Old Testament & New Testament stories and how faith is lived in today's world.

Physical Education—Students attend physical education class daily and receive instruction from a physical education teacher. Various skills are learned to:

- develop strength, endurance, and flexibility
- perform fundamental loco-motor and manipulative skills daily
- demonstrate social development and sportsmanship
- demonstrate effective communication, consideration, and respect of others during physical activities.



Computer Technology—First grade students meet with the computer teacher for 40 minutes once weekly in the computer lab. Technology concepts to be covered during the first grade year include, but are not limited to:

- Basic Computer Literacy
- Introduction to Keyboarding: Ergonomics and Finger Practice
- Introduction to Word Processing using MS Word
- Introduction to Computer Graphics using MS Power Point
- Internet: Navigation and Safety