



Est. 1949

NORTHWEST CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Grade One Curriculum

Northwest Christian Elementary school (Kindergarten – 5th grade) offers a Christ-centered education with a balanced approach to teaching and learning. We are passionate about preparing students through a distinctively **biblical, relational, and vibrant education** facilitated by caring, Christian teachers who are leaders for the next generation of young people. Our school is committed to meet the needs of students by providing dynamic learning experiences and equipping children with Scriptural truth. We encourage our students to find their unique areas of giftedness, think critically and solve problems while mastering basic skills through a variety of rich educational and extra-curricular opportunities.

Bible

Enjoying God's Gifts, Positive Action for Christ

- *God's Word is truth (Psalm 119:105)*
- *Jesus Christ is the Living Word of God and Our Redeemer (John 1:1)*
- *God wants us to know Him through His Word and Holy Spirit (John 14:16)*
- *The Plan of Salvation for man is revealed through scripture (Jude 3, Ephesians 2:5-8)*

God's Gift: Himself

- Triune God

God's Gift: The World

- The Story of Creation

God's Gift: Special Promises

- Noah
- Abraham
- Jacob
- Joseph

God's Gift: Worship

- The Stories of Josiah and Joash

God's Gift: A Savior

- The Story of Jesus from birth through Crucifixion and Resurrection

God's Gift: Children

- The Story of Samuel

God's Gift: Friends

- The Story of David

God's Gift: Special Blessings

- The Story of Elijah

Language Arts

Journeys, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

- *God is the ultimate Author. Writing is a powerful tool to influence people for His glory (Psalm 102:18)*
- *God is the Purposeful Communicator (2Timothy 2:15, 2 Timothy 3:16, Hebrews 4:12, Romans 12:2)*
- *God is gracious (Ephesians 2:8, 9). God asks us to listen to others (James 1:19) and speak with purpose, kindness, truth and grace (Ephesians 4:29, Proverbs 3:3, 1Peter 1:15)*

Grammar

- Introduced to nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and prepositions
- Identifies complete subject/predicate
- Recognizes a statement/question
- Uses synonyms/antonyms
- Demonstrates understanding of singular/plural nouns, common/proper nouns

Writing

Developing voice, organization, word choice, fluency, conventions, and ideas in content:

- Writing to describe
- Writing to inform
- Writing to narrate
- Writing to express
- Writing to respond
- "NWC Writes" Writing Rally

Math

Go Math, Houghton Mifflin

Reading/Phonics

- Balance phonics instruction and literature
- Knows the most common sound of each letter
- Identifies multiple sounds of c, g, s, y
- Knows short vowels, long vowels, vowels pairs
- Knows diagraphs
- Knows contractions
- Knows compound words
- Knows base words
- Knows suffixes, prefixes
- Knows spelling patterns
- Dibels assessment 3X per year

Comprehension

- Main idea/summarize
- Infer/predict
- Sequence of events
- Text and graphic features
- Story structure/characters
- Summarize
- Cause and effect

Fluency

- Accuracy, phrasing intonation, self-correct, expression, stress, rate

Vocabulary Strategies

- Classify and categorize
- Context clues
- Multiple meaning words
- A, B, C order
- Antonyms/synonyms
- Using a glossary
- Homophones/homographs
- Suffixes/prefixes
- Compare and contrast
- Main idea/details
- Question, visualize, summarize, author's purpose
- Compound words

Spelling

- Phonics based spelling tests

Penmanship

- D'Nealian Manuscript

Northwest Christian Schools aims to provide a balanced approach to math instruction with a focus on critical thinking through problem solving according to 21st century standards alongside of mastery of basic facts and skills at each grade level.

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

- *God is orderly (Psalm 147:4)*
- *God is bigger than anything (Jeremiah 23:24)*
- *God is unchanging (Malachi 3:6, Lamentations 3:23)*
- *God is wise He created people in His image to think (Genesis 1:27, Colossians 2:3)*

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Developing and understanding of addition and subtraction within 20
- Problem solving – uses a variety of problem solving strategies

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Developing understanding of whole number relationships and place value, including grouping in tens and ones to 120
- Comparing numbers (greater than, less than, uses symbols to compare) (>, <, =).
- Add and subtract 2 digit numbers
- Problem solving – uses a variety of problem solving strategies

Measurement and Data

- Developing understanding of linear measurement and measuring lengths
- Telling time to the hour and half-hour
- Uses a calendar to identify days of the week and months of the year
- Identifies and knows value of penny, nickel, dime, and quarter
- Counting money
- Problem solving – uses a variety of problem solving strategies

Geometry

- Identifies plane shapes i.e., circle, square, triangle, and rectangle
- Identifies solid shapes i.e., sphere and cube
- Fractions
- Problem solving – uses a variety of problem solving strategies

Science

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

- God is Creator (Hebrews 11:3, Psalm 33:6)
- God is creative and orderly (Psalm 8:3-4)
- God is Revealer (Romans 1:20, Psalm 19:1-4, 1 Corinthians 14:12)
- God is our Provider (Matt 6:25-30, Genesis 1:29-30)

Various topics from Scholastic News
STEM Discovery days
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Earth Science

Weather and Seasons

- Communicates the factors that affect weather.
- Understands the four seasons and their characteristics

Life Science

Kinds of Living Things

- Identifies similarities and differences between plants and animals
- Discovers the life cycles of plants and animals
- Identifies animal groups
- Researches, writes and presents a report on an animal of his/her choice

Dental Hygiene

- Understands the importance of daily care of the teeth

Safety

- Understands the need for fire safety
- Recognizes the importance of personal safety (strangers)

Social Studies

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

- God is the Source. He is our Provider (Colossians 1:6, Romans 8:28)
- God is Sovereign. He rules over all things (Romans 8:28)
- God is just. He does what is best (Romans 1:18, Psalm 111:7)

Various topics in Scholastic News

I Am Special

- Sees self as a wonderful creation of God.
- Understands that each person has unique gifts and abilities from God

Families Are Special

- Recognizes the family as a special community blessed by God

Communities

- Sees role as called to love, forgive and care for others
- Understands our city and its unique qualities.
- Learns to pray for our city leaders

Citizenship

- Understands the role of schools, cities, states and countries
- Sees self as a part of a global community and of God's kingdom

Famous Americans

- Johnny Appleseed
- Pilgrims and Squanto
- Christopher Columbus
- George Washington
- Abraham Lincoln
- Martin Luther King and Ruby Bridges

Map Skills

- Explores concepts of continents, oceans and equator
- Understands compass directions

Music

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

- *Music is a gift from our creative God (Book of Psalms)*
- *Music reflects the beauty and order of God's creation (Isaiah 55:12, Psalm 98:8)*
- *Music is an eternal language (Rev. 15:3)*
- *Music tells the story of God's people (Book of Psalms)*
- *Our bodies are a musical instrument (Psalm 95:1-7)*
- *With music we will worship and enjoy God forever (Rev. 5:8-13)*
- Praise and worship part of daily class
- Experience joy through singing together and musical movement
- Judge direction of melody (upward, downward, stays the same)
- Experience the order of music through rhythmic patterns
- Demonstrate phrasing
- Begin to read music
- Realize that music is a gift to us from God
- Auditory awareness through music and identification of Rondo elements
- Understand music notation as a universal written language
- Awareness of great composers and compositions through history

Physical Education

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Therefore honor God with your body (1 Cor. 6:19)

- Develops and refines motor skills
- Structured fitness program: movement in place and motor skills
- Cooperative activities and sportsmanship
- Simple games
- Sports Skills

Creative Expressions

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

We were created to create (Exodus 35:31-32)

- Art instruction compliments what is being taught in the classroom.
- Students learn to manipulate a variety of media in the creative expression process.
- Art instruction builds upon itself or scaffolds K-5

Library

- Learn proper care of library materials
- Select a book of interest using a shelf marker and return to proper place as necessary
- Listen and respond to a variety of media
- Understand the parts of a book and the purpose of the author and illustrator
- Alphabetize by first letter

Standardized Testing

Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP)

- 2X a year at lower campus (K-8)
- At NWC, we strive to promote a balanced view of student testing. We recognize that standardized scores are only one piece of information that can show a picture of student growth. Daily work, classroom assessments, and teacher observation are additional pieces of information that teachers use as well to monitor student progress.
- MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) is a computerized, standardized test that students in grades K-8 take in order to measure growth and learning in reading, math, and language. Data is shared with parents and individual goals are set in order for students to achieve growth in these core areas. Results are reported in percentiles and RIT range scores based on national norms. This assessment tool is an effective way to measure student progress over time and a planning tool for differentiating instruction to both support and challenge all students in their learning.

Special Services

Learning Center

- DIBELS (Fall, Spring)
- Susan Barton Screening (Winter, Spring)
- Reading Mastery instruction (small group strategic intervention)

Chapels

- Chapels are 2-3 times a month.
- The Gospel message is continually shared.
- Chapels afford students to gain experience and understanding in: *worship, Biblical Truth, and application of truth.*
- *Reflection:* After Chapel students go back to class and discuss what was taught with their teacher.
- Local pastors are invited on occasion to teach at Chapel with administrative approval.

Technology

- Weekly lab lessons for technology and academic skills practice
- Basic computer concepts and operations

Recommended Read Alouds

Are You My Mother? (Eastman)

Crippled Lamb, The (Lucado)

Dr. Seuss Books

Frog and Toad Series (Lobel)

House that Jack Built, The (Stevens)

Imogene's Antlers (Small)

Inch by Inch (Lionni*)

Little Bear Series (Minarik)

Make Way for Ducklings (McCloskey)

Mitten, The (Brett*)

New Coat for Anna, A (Ziefert)

Owl at Home (Lobel)

Owl Moon (Yolen)

Ox Cart Man (Hall)

*Amelia Bedelia (Parish)

Story of Ruby Bridges, The (Coles)

Tale of Peter Rabbit, The (Potter)

Three in One: A Picture of God (Marxhausen)

The Quiltmaker's Gift (Brumbeau)

*Henry and Mudge (Rylant)/ Puppy Mudge

The Patchwork Quilt (Valerie Flournoy)

*Poppleton (Rylant)

**Any book by this author*

Recommended Authors

Jan Brett

Eric Carle

Doreen Cronin

Barbara Cooney

Patricia Polacco

Rosemary Wells

Cynthia Rylant

Eve Bunting

Arnold Lobel

Kevin Henkes

Mem Fox

Ezra Jack Keats

Tomie dePaola

Bill Martin

Laura Numeroff

Caldecott and Newberry Award Winners