



Est. 1949

NORTHWEST CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Grade Two 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

God's Promises, Christian Schools International

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

- *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)

- Creation and Patriarch eras
- The Prophets speak to Israel and Judah
- God preserves His people in exile and brings them back
- A Savior is born
- Jesus' early ministry
- Who is Jesus?
- The parables
- Jesus' death and resurrection
- The early church
- The Lord's prayer
- Revelation

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 1:1)*

Grammar

- Identifies nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, pronouns
- Identifies regular/irregular verbs
- Recognizes homonyms
- Understands alphabetical order

Writing

- Uses foundational skills for writing process
- Writes complete sentences
- Writes paragraphs
- Writes reports
- "NWC Writes" Writing Rally

Penmanship

D'Nealian Manuscript and Cursive

- Forms letters correctly in all of writing
- Practices cursive letters

Reading

Decoding and Phonetic Skills

- Balance phonetic instruction and literature
- Identifies words with phonograms and blends
- Increases sight vocabulary
- Identifies compound words
- Discerns prefixes/suffixes/base words
- Understands contractions
- Dibels assessment 2X per year

Comprehension

- Makes inferences and predictions
- Understands cause and effect
- Summarizes main idea
- Uses prior knowledge to enhance meaning
- Uses picture and context clues
- Integrates English components to enhance reading comprehension

Fluency

- Reads at an appropriate rate
- Uses voice inflection to interpret text

Math

Go Math, Houghton Mifflin

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)*

Number and Operations in Base Ten (Number concepts)

- Understand place value to 1,000
- Counting patterns within 1,000
- Comparing numbers
- Understand multi-digit addition and subtraction, with and without regrouping
- Problem solving using multi-digit addition and subtraction
- Write equations to represent addition and subtraction
- Solve multistep problems

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Basic addition and subtraction facts
- Relate addition and subtraction
- Problem solving using addition and subtraction

Measurement and Data

- Understand values of coins and bills
- Tell time to hour, half hour, and five minutes
- Understand length in customary units (inches, feet)
- Add and subtract in inches
- Estimate lengths
- Understand length in metric units (centimeters, meters)
- Add and subtract lengths (metric units)
- Estimate lengths in meters
- Measure and compare lengths
- Read picture and bar graphs
- Collect and display data

Geometry

- Understand two-dimensional shapes
- Understand three-dimensional shapes
- Understand angles in two-dimensional shapes
- Show equal parts of a whole

Science

Heath Science, Heath and Company

STEM Discovery days
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

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)*

Earth Science

Weather and Seasons

- Observes characteristics of each season
- Explores effects of seasons on living things
- Identifies changes caused by weather

Night and Day

- Investigates the rotation of the earth

Life Science

Plants and Animals on Land

- Communicates different environments
- Understands physical features of deserts
- Describes animal adaptations

Plants and Animals in Water

- Identifies basic insect characteristics
- Identifies fresh water and salt water inhabitants

Plants and Animals of Long Ago

- Communicates understanding of fossils of dinosaur footprints
- Identifies extinct/endangered animals

Physical Science

Sound

- Explores loud/soft and high/low
- Investigates simple musical instruments
- Describes the function of the ear

Light and Shadow

- Identifies sources of light – natural and artificial
- Explores different sizes and shapes of shadows

Light and Motion

- Observes role of sun as source of heat and light
- Describes 24-hour rotation of earth

Hot and Cold

- Investigates sun as a form of energy
- Describes sources of heat

Magnetism

- Identifies sizes and shapes of magnets
- Understands magnetic poles
- Describes uses of magnets/compasses

Social Studies

Neighborhoods and Communities: The World Around Us, Macmillan

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)*

Neighborhoods

- Describes places in own neighborhood
- Explores routes on a map
- Describes different types of communities

Working Together

- Understands basic economic principles
- Explains purposes of rules and laws that guide people
- Knows that leaders are elected by majority rule
- Understand God ordained family relationships and workings of a community

Geography

- Is able to identify continents on a map
- Locates the USA on a world map

American History

- Identifies the Capitol-Washington D.C.
- Appreciates people from our past
- Identifies American holidays
- Identifies national symbols
- Identifies important first Americans
- Describes the Jamestown settlement
- Describes the fight for freedom from England
- Investigates pioneer life

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)*
- Sing melody with harmony in rounds
- Skills of choral participation
- Creative expression through music
- Experience rhythm through movement, body percussion and rhythm instruments
- Play simple melodic patterns
- Auditory awareness through music and identification of parts of the orchestra
- Develop fluency in musical notation
- Orff Method

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)

- Structured fitness program: cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and flexibility
- Develops sports skills: soccer, basketball, volleyball, tumbling, T-ball, and hockey
- Participate in cooperative activities
- Partakes in simple games

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.

Library

- Demonstrate knowledge of the skills from 1st grade
- Recognize the need for information
- Demonstrate enjoyment of the library by reading, listening, and viewing for personal information and topical study
- Explore entire library while distinguishing fiction and non-fiction books
- Introduction to the Dewey Decimal Classification System
- Alphabetize to the second letter

Standardized Testing

Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP)

- 3X 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

The Learning Center collaborates with Mead Special Services if additional testing is requested by teachers and parents. Additional program fees apply. We may refer families to Winston Center for additional testing.

- DIBELS (Fall, Spring)
- Susan Barton Screening (Fall, Winter, Spring)
- Susan Barton Reading and Spelling Program
- Reading Mastery instruction (small group strategic intervention)
- Direct instruction reading
- Math support

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 Reading

Addy Series (Porter*)
Arthur Series (Hoban*)
Birthday for Frances, A ((Hoban*)
Brave Irene (Steig)
Cam Jensen Series (Adler*)
Caps for Sale (Slobodkina)
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (Barrett)
Clown of God, The (de Paola)
Courage of Sarah Noble, The (Dalglish)
Curious George Series (Rey*)
Drinking Gourd, The (Monjo)
Frederick (Lionni*)
Henry and Mudge (Rylant*)
Hey, Al (Yorinks)
Hole in the Dike, The (Green)
How Many Days to America (Bunting)
Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie (Roop)
Leo the Late Bloomer (Kraus)
Madeline (Bemelmans*)
Mitten, The (Brett*)
Nate the Great Series (Sharmot*)
Pilgrim's First Thanksgiving, The (McGovern*)
Story About Ping, The (Flack)
Story of Ferdinand, The (Leaf)
Ugly Duckling, The (Moore)
Very Busy Spider, The (Carle*)
Wagon, The (Johnston)
When I Was Young in the Mountains (Rylant*)
***Any books by this author**
Beverly Cleary