



Est. 1949

NORTHWEST CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Grade Five 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

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)

The Book of James

- Demonstrates understanding of how to conduct a word study and personal application of the Bible
- Bible study of James in children's book, *Boy, Have I got Problems!* By Kay Arthur
- Perseverance
- Faith
- Testing and temptation
- Speech
- Works
- True religion
- Favoritism
- Memory work/entire Book of James

Thematic Study of the Book of Luke

- Review the life of Jesus
- Investigating the gospel message in depth

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

- Reviews nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, pronouns, conjunctions and interjections.
- Recognizes and uses a variety of sentence structures to improve writing.
- Identifies prefixes/suffixes/root words
- Vocabulary – Greek roots
- Comprehensive coverage of foundational skills applied to writing process

Writing

- Uses a five step writing process in formal writing: pre-write, draft, revise, edit and publish
- Generates all aspects of Six Traits Writing in own writing: Voice, Organization, Ideas in Content, Word Choice, Fluency and Conventions
- Integrates these qualities in content area writing with a focus on forms of writing: narrative, descriptive, expository and persuasive styles
- Writes for a specific audience and purpose
- Presentation skills utilizing technology
- "NWC Writes" Writing Rally

Reading

Literature

Mixed up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E.L.

Kongigsburg

Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls

By the Great Horn Spoon

Gladys Aylward by Janet & Geoff Benge

Fever by Laurie Halse Anderson (Girls)

Woodrunner by Gary Paulsen (Boys)

Christian Biographies

Various others

Skills and Strategies - Portrays Christian worldview through virtuous heroes

- Builds reading vocabulary by interpreting context clues and inferring meaning
- Makes predictions and is able to substantiate them
- Applies phonetic principles, word segmentation and language structure
- Identifies and discusses reading strategies for pre-, during and post-reading success
- Self-corrects and adjusts rate of reading
- Uses text organizers and graphic organizers
- Vocabulary development

Comprehension

- Comprehension Tool Kit: Connections, Interference, Summarizing (Stephanie Harvey)
- Demonstrates comprehension of the main idea, supporting details, and summarizing ideas in own words.
- Uses prior knowledge to enhance meaning of text.
- Expands comprehension by finding similarities and differences in stories.

Genre

- Reads to learn new information
- Reads to perform a task for a variety of real-life purposes
- Reads for leisure time enjoyment

Spelling

- Weekly word and definition lists from content areas and Bible verses.
- Teach skills of spelling according to rules of spelling
- Spelling/Vocabulary city

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

1. *God is orderly and precise (Psalm 147:4)*
2. *God is immense (Jeremiah 23:24)*
3. *God is unchanging and consistent (Malachi 3:6, Lamentations 3:23)*
4. *God is wise. He created people in His image to think (Genesis 1:27, Colossians 2:3)*

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Numbers and operations in Base Ten
- Place value, multiplication and expressions
- Deepen skills with dividing whole numbers
- Add and subtract decimals
- Multiply decimals
- Problem Solving

Numbers and Operations - Fractions

- Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators
- Multiply fractions
- Divide fractions
- Proficiency with decimal/fraction/percent/equivalency
- Problem Solving

Measurement and Data

- Convert units of measure
- Geometry and volume
- Problem Solving

Science

Discovery Works, Heath 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)

STEM Discovery days
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
Experiments through Scientific Method

Earth Science

The Study of Rocks

- Rock cycle
- Earth formation
 - Earthquakes
 - Volcanos
 - Plate Tactonics
- Compares creation and evolution

Study of Human Body Systems

- *The Respiratory System*
- *The Circulatory System*
- *The Digestive System*
- *The Nervous System*
- *Skeletal / Muscular System*

Physical Science

- Involves students in “hands-on” experiences
- Explores parts of the Periodical Chart

Molecules and Atoms

- Discusses atomic theory of matter
- Describes how atoms behave and combine
- Compounds and mixtures

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)

The Light and the Glory for Children, Peter Marshall and David Manuel, Fleming H. Revell, 1992

Our Country, Silver Burdett Ginn, 1995

United States History Map Skills, Nystrom, 1999

Map Skills

- Describes kinds of maps: political, physical and special purpose
- Uses a grid system to find a location
- Review states and capitals, geographical regions, rivers
- Identify countries of Europe

Age of Exploration

- Discovers background of classical and medieval history
- Researches European explorers

Revolutionary War

- Gains understanding of colonial and Christian foundation
- Identifies the strengths/weaknesses of a new nation
- Participates in a living museum presentation as a revolutionary war person

Government

- Identifies rights and responsibilities
- Describes the branches of government
- Demonstrates knowledge of Bill of Rights and Amendments

Civil War

- Reads historical fiction and biographies
- Identifies steps leading to civil war
- Post war reconstruction efforts

Library

- Demonstrate knowledge of the skills from 1st-4th grade
- Identify and describe general reference material
- Develop and use intermediate research skills and strategies for locating information
- Expand knowledge of literature; read a wide variety for both pleasure and information
- Distinguish between fact, fiction, opinion, and point of view

Music

Selects Choir or Band option

Choir

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)*
- Become familiar with composers
- Identify the elements of music: melody, harmony, rhythm, form, texture and timbre
- Read 2- and 3-part choral arrangements
- Expanded understanding of theory and music notation

Band

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

- *God is the Talent Giver (Matthew 25:14-30)*
- *God is the Great Educator (Proverbs 22:6)*
- *God's Word is the ultimate composition (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*
- *God is Worthy of Praise (Psalm 150)*
- Introducing basic band instruments
- Expanded Understanding of Theory and Notation, Scale and Rhythm studies
- Very Beginner and Beginner Music Reading Level
- Participation in the Jr. Lilac Parade, Gathering of the Bands, Christmas and Spring concerts

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
- Provide activities that develop and refine motor skills
- Sports skills in football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, hockey, tumbling, pickle ball, and softball
- Cooperative activities

Creative Expressions

Enduring Understandings for God's Glory

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

- Foundational drawing skills
- 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-6.

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.

- 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

- Computers in classroom
- Weekly lab lessons of basic computer concepts and operations as well as academic skills practice
- Demonstrate skills in keyboarding and word processing
- Utilize technology such as Smart Boards and Laptops to enhance learning, increase productivity, and promote creativity
- Presentations using various software programs such as Word, Publisher, Power Point, etc.

Recommended Reading

Across Five Aprils (Hunt)
Amelia Earhart: Pioneer of the Sky (Parlin)
Amos Fortune: Free Man (Yates)
Banner in the Sky (Ullman)
Big Red (Kjelgaard*)
Big Wave, The (Buck)
Boy Who Cried Abba, The (Manning)
Call of the Wild, The (London*)
Carry On, Mr. Bowditch (Latham)
Castle in the Attic, The (Winthrop)
Childtimes: A Three-Generation Memoir (Greenfield)
Chronicles of Narnia Series (Lewis*)
Daniel's Story (Matas*)
Devil's Arithmetic, The (Yolen)
Drummer Boy, The (Weinberg)
Gathering of Days, A (Blos)
Girl Called Boy, A (Hurmence)
Great Little Madison, The (Fritz*)
Jayhawker (Beatty*)
Jip: His Story (Paterson)
Jump Ship to Freedom (Collier*)
Jungle Book, The (Kipling*)
Keeping Room, The (Myers)
Lincoln: A Photobiography (Freedman)
Maniac Magee (Spinelli)
Miracles on Maple Hill (Sorenson)
Old Yeller (Gipson)
Pearl Harbor is Burning (Kudlinski)
Perilous Road, The (Steele)
Pocket Full of Seeds (Sachs)
Pollyanna (Porter)
Pushcart War, The (Merrill)
Rascal (North)
Rebecca's War (Finlayson)
Rifles for Watie (Keith)
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry (Taylor*)
Shades of Gray (Reeder)
Slave Dancer, The (Fox)
Sunder (Armstrong)
Spying on Miss Muller (Bunting)
Summer of the Swans, The (Byars)
Tolivar's Secret (Brady)
Waiting for Anya (Morpurgo)
Which Way Freedom (Hansen)
White Fang (London)
Wind in the Willows, The (Grahame)
Wish Me Luck (Heneghan)

***any books by this author**

Please keep literature titles as listed in Reading section for classroom use only.