



## NORTHWEST CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

### *Kindergarten Curriculum*

Our Kindergarten program offers full-day and AM kindergarten.

Northwest Christian Elementary school (Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> 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**

#### Complete Character Curriculum Christian School Curriculum

##### 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)*

#### **Biblical Character Traits through Bible Stories**

- Obedience
- Faith
- Thankfulness for home and family
- Orderliness
- Love
- Honesty
- Perseverance
- Friendship
- Kindness
- We honor God and all by demonstrating courtesy, respectful behavior, and encouraging words.

#### **Memory Work**

- Bible verses

#### **Passover Celebration**

- Israelites freedom from Egyptians
- First Passover
- Jesus' life, death and resurrection
- Application for us today

### **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)*

#### **Language Arts and Literature**

- Actively participates in listening to numerous "Read-Alouds"
- Describes the main character
- Describes the setting
- Re-tells the plot in sequence
- Gives a personal response to the selection
- Letter of the week activities
- Communicates ideas clearly and effectively through speaking
- Listening skills
- Display curiosity about print
- Use knowledge of common letter sounds to blend and decode words

### **Beginning Reading Skills**

*Using phonics as well as the whole language approach*

- Recognizes rhyming words/word families
- Demonstrates ability to hear the sounds in words
- Knows the most common sound of each letter
- Blends words with 2 and 3 sounds
- Shows beginning awareness of directionality (i.e., points to where print begins; uses left to right & top to bottom orientation of print)
- Demonstrates one-to-one correspondence between written and spoken word
- Dibels assessment 3X per year

### **Writing**

- Daily penmanship
- Sight words
- Journaling
- “NWC Writes” Writing Rally

### **Penmanship**

*D’Nealian Manuscript*

- Correctly forms letters in first name
- Correctly forms capital letters
- Correctly forms lower case letters

### **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 21<sup>st</sup> 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)*

### **Counting and Ordering/Operations of Algebraic Thinking**

- Number sense
- Recognizes, forms and writes numerals 0-50
- Counts objects in sets and identifies the corresponding number
- Addition and Subtraction
- Number pairing up to 10
- Number and operations in Base 10
- Count and write order to 50
- Count orally to 100 by 1’s, 5’s, 10’s
- Count to 20 by 2’s
- Count backward from 10
- Verbalizes number stories 0-9 using concrete materials

### **Geometry and Positions**

- Identify and draw shapes
- Compare two dimensional shapes
- Identify and describe 3 dimensional shapes
- Identify and describe positions (above & below, beside & next to, in front of & behind)

### **Measurement and Data**

- Compare length, height and weight
- Classify and sort data (Algebra)
- Classify and count (sort) (by color, shape and size)

### **Graphing and Patterning**

- Make and interpret graphs
- Count objects
- Add/Subtract numbers of objects
- Probability: dice roll/graph (addition)
- Record weather/compare and contrast results

### **Calendar/Time Measurement**

- Knows that a calendar shows months, weeks and days
- Learns months/days of the year (odd/even)
- Sings and spells month
- Tallies

### **Money**

- Identifies penny, nickel, dime and quarter
- Knows value of penny, nickel, dime and quarter
- Introduces coins for calendar date

## Science

### AIMS Science Connections

#### 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)

## Earth Science

### *Weather and Seasons*

- Charts and graphs weather
- Compares temperatures
- Identifies sunny, windy, cloudy, rainy and snowy days

## Life Science

### *Five Senses*

- Learns by use of senses
- Predicts and describes using the senses

### *Animals*

- Categorizes animals by similarities
- Recognizes the habitats of different animals (Groundhog Day)
- Discusses hibernation and migration

## Physical Science

### *Floating and Sinking*

- Predicts outcomes of a variety of objects
- Makes observations and communicates understanding of how objects either sink or float
- Categorizes and labels objects on graphs

### *Magnets*

- Makes observations and communications understanding of how magnets work

### *Colors*

- Recognizes colors in nature
- Matches colors
- Reads color words

## Nutrition and Health

### *Cooking and Nutrition*

- Participates in cooking activities that reinforce the letter sounds
- Understands the components of a healthy diet

### *Dental Hygiene*

- Knows the importance of daily care of one's teeth

### *Manners*

- Demonstrates that good manners are a way to show respect
- Reflects an attitude of gratefulness and obedience

## 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)

## Special Americans/Holidays

- Johnny Appleseed
- Native Americans
- Martin Luther King
- Christopher Columbus
- Veteran's Day
- Memorial Day
- Thanksgiving
- The Christmas Story
- George Washington/Abraham Lincoln

## 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.

## 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)*
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- Praise and worship part of daily class
  - Experience joy through singing together and musical movement
  - Experience the order of music through keeping a steady beat and contrasts of silence and sound
  - Plays non-pitched percussion instruments
  - Experience with high, medium, low ranges and pitches through instruments and voice
  - Develops auditory awareness
  - Experience large motor music activities
  - Understand music notation as a universal written language
  - Awareness of great composers and compositions through history
  - 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)*

- Participates in free play
- Simple games
- Fitness activities
- Cooperative activities
- Very basic sports skills

## Library

- Gains an appreciation for and love of books
- Practices proper care for books in the Library

## Standardized Testing

### *Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP)*

- 1X a year at lower campus
- 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, Winter, Spring)

#### *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 the classroom
- Weekly lab lessons for technology and academic skills practice
- Basic computer concepts and operations

## Recommended Reading

A Bear Called Paddington (Michael Bond)  
A Birthday for Francis (Russell Hoban)  
A Chair for My Mother (Vera B. Williams)  
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day  
(Judith Viorst & Ray Cruz)  
Alphabet Books  
Amazing Grace (Mary Hoffman & Caroline Binch)  
Anansi the Spider (Gerald McDermott)  
Are You My Mother? (P.D. Eastman)  
Big Red Barn (Margaret Wise Brown)  
Billy and Blaze Series (\*Anderson)  
Biscuit (Capucilli)  
Blackout (Rocco)  
Blueberries For Sal (Robert McCloskey)  
Bremen Town Musicians, The (The Brothers Grimm)  
Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? (Martin)  
Caps for Sale (Esphyr Slobodkina)  
Cars and Trucks and Things that Go (Richard Scary)  
Cat on the Hat (Wildsmith)  
Cat in the Hat, The (\*Seuss)  
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom (Martin)  
Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type (Doreen Cronin & Betsy Lewin)  
Corduroy (Don Freeman)  
Curious George (Margret Rey & H.A. Rey)  
Dear Zoo (Rod Campbell)  
Fireflies (Brinkloe)  
Frederick (Leo Lionni)  
Freight Train (Donald Crews)  
Frog and Toad Are Friends (Arnold Lobel)  
George and Martha (James Marshall)  
Go, Dog. Go! (P.D. Eastman)  
Goldilocks and the Three Bears (Brothers Grimm)  
Goodnight Gorilla (Peggy Rathmann)  
Goodnight Moon (Brown)  
Green Eggs and Ham (Dr. Seuss)  
Grouchy Ladybug, The (\*Carle)  
Guess How Much I Love You (Sam McBrantney)  
Hare and the Tortoise, The (Castle)  
Harold and the Purple Crayon (Crockett Johnson)  
Harry and the Dirty Dog (Gene Zion)  
Horton Hatches the Egg (\*Seuss)  
I Want My Hat Back (Klassen)  
If You Give a Mouse a Cookie (Laura Joffe Numeroff)  
Interrupting Chicken (Stein)  
Knuffle Bunny (Mo Willems)  
Little White Rabbit (Henkes)\*  
Lion and the Mouse, The (Aesop's Fable)

Little Bear (Else Holmelund Minarik)

Madeline (Ludwig Bemelmans)  
Make Way for Ducklings (Robert McCloskey)  
Me...Jane (McDonnell)  
Mike Mulligan and his Steam Shovel (Burton)  
Millions of Cats (Gag)  
Mouse and Lion (Burkert)  
Nursery Rhymes  
Olivia (Ian Falconer)  
One is One (Tasha Tudor)  
One Morning in Maine (Robert McCloskey)  
Pat the Bunny (Dorothy Kunhardt)  
Pete the Cat\* I Love My White Shoes (Litwin)  
Pokey Little Puppy (Janette Sebring Lowrey & Gustaf Tenggren)  
Put Me in the Zoo (Robert Lopshire)  
Sammy the Seal (Hoff)  
Rainbow Fish, The (Phister)  
Riddle Books  
Snowy Day, The (Keats)  
Stone Soup: An Old Tale (Brown)  
Story of Ferdinand, The (Leaf)  
Story of Johnny Appleseed, The (Alikik)  
Strega Nona (Tomie dePaola)  
Swimmy (Leo Lionni)  
Sylvester and the Magic Pebble (William Steig)  
Tale of Peter Rabbit, The (Potter)  
The Carrot Seed (Ruth Krauss)  
The Emperor's New Clothes (Hans Christian Anderson)  
The Gingerbread Man (The Fairy Tale)  
The Giving Tree (Shel Silverstein)  
The Horse in Harry's Room (Hoff)  
The House on East 88<sup>th</sup> Street (Bernard Waber)  
The Little Engine That Could (Watty Piper)  
The Little Red Hen  
The Owl and the Pussy Cat (Edward Lear & Jan Brett)  
The Quiet Book (Underwood)  
The Rainbow Fish (Marcus Pfister)  
The Runaway Bunny (Margaret Wise Brown)  
The Snowy Day (Ezra Jack Keats)  
The Story About Ping (Marjorie Flack)  
The Story of Babar (Jean De Brunhoff)  
The Story of Ferdinand (Munro Leaf)  
The Three Billy Goats Gruff (Paul Galdone)  
The Three Little Pigs (Paul Galdone)  
The Ugly Duckling (Hans Christian Andersen)  
The Velveteen Rabbit (Margery Williams & William Nicholson)  
The Very Hungry Caterpillar (Eric Carle)  
There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly (Simms Taback)

There's a Nightmare in my Closet (Mercer Mayer)

Thumbelina (Hans Christian Andersen)

Tikki Tikki Tembo (Arlene Mosel & Blair Lent)

Time for Bed (Mem Fox & Jane Dyer)

Tongue Twisters

Tootle (Gertrude Crampton & Tibor Gergely)

Where the Wild Things Are (Maurice Sendak)

Winnie the Pooh (A.A. Milne)

Who Will Be My Friends? (Hoff)

\*Max Lucado Stories

\*Patricia Polacco Stories

***\*any books by this author***