



**NORTHWEST
CHRISTIAN**
SCHOOLS, INC.
Est. 1949

Elementary Curriculum

Elementary in Colbert

2024-2025

Updated February 2024



Northwest Christian Elementary Schools (Kindergarten – 6th 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.

Enduring Understandings

Bible

- 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)

Language Arts

- 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)

Math

- 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)

Science

- 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)

History / Social Studies

- 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)

Music

- 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)



Band

- God is the ultimate Composer (Heb. 12:2) God recognizes writing as a powerful tool to influence people to obey Him (Psalms 102:18)
- God is a Communicator (2 Tim. 3:16) God urges us to be equipped to read content deeply with discernment that enables us to prove what is good, acceptable, and perfect (Rom. 12:2)
- God is the Great Arranger/Orchestrator (Gen. 1; 2:1-3) God placed musicians into the body of Christ to be a voice of praise (1 Cor. 12:12-31)

Physical Education

- Our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, honor God with your body by not letting your laziness dictate your choices (1 Cor. 6:19; 1 Cor. 9:24-27)
- We compete to win, but honoring one another above ourselves is of greatest value so we choose to play fair and encourage one another

Learning Center

Northwest Christian provides a unique service to students who have been diagnosed with Dyslexia. Using the Susan Barton System for Dyslexia, students are uniquely trained to decode words and construct meaning in a one-on-one setting. Students are either screened in-house for Dyslexia or referred to the Winston Center for ADHD and Dyslexia.

NWCS' Learning Center performs annual DIBLS screenings for K-2nd grade early reading intervention. Small group and one-on-one support is provided for mild learning delays - including a small group math intervention for students who qualify. Learning center services are provided at an additional fee.

Chapels

Chapel is a time of spiritual enrichment and celebration. Students begin with worship and hear a message aligned with Biblical truth and life relevance. While students gain Biblical literacy through in-class Bible lessons and cross-curricular Biblical Worldview Integration, Chapel is intended to be a community building time including fun special programs and guest speakers.

(Matt. 7:12; 1 Thess. 5:11; Rom. 12:10; Eph. 4:29)

- God made each of us fearfully and wonderfully. We can honor Him by valuing and taking care of our bodies so that we can serve God and others (Ps. 139:14; Col 3:23)

Creative Expressions

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

Technology

- The Bible says "...whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31. It is our desire to use technology in such a way and to help the students achieve literacy in technology through a balanced approach that will help them to communicate, solve problems, access, manage, integrate, evaluate, and create information to improve learning in all subject areas and to acquire lifelong knowledge and skills in the 21st Century.

Kindergarten

Bible

Kindergarten: Learning About God
Positive Action for Christ

Outreach: Partnering with
VA Hospital & Veterans

Character Traits through Bible Stories

Memory Work

- Bible verses

Passover Celebration

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

Language Arts & Literature

Wonders, McGraw Hill, 2023
Foundations, Wilson Language

Reading

Literature and informational text, vocabulary use and functions, language and writing, and foundational skills are essential components of a balanced language arts program.

- 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
- 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 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 3 times per year

Writing

- Daily penmanship
- Sight words
- Weekly writing

Penmanship - Manuscript

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

Math

Eureka, Engage NY

Counting and Ordering/Operations of Algebraic Thinking

- Number sense
- Recognizes, forms and writes numerals 0-100
- Counts objects in sets and identifies the corresponding number
- Addition and Subtraction
- Number pairing up to 10
- Number and operations in Base 10
- 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 count (sort by color, shape, and size)

Graphing and Patterning

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

Calendar

- Know that a calendar shows months, weeks and days
- Learn months/days of the year (odd/even)
- Sing and spells month
- Tally

Science

Mystery Science
Incorporating Stem Practices
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Earth Science

- Weather and Seasons
- Chart and graph weather
- Compare temperatures
- Identify sunny, windy, cloudy, rainy and snowy days

Life Science (*Animals*)

- Categorize animals by similarities
- Recognize the habitats of different animals
- Discuss hibernation and migration
- Kinds of living things

- Identify similarities and differences between plants and animals
- Identify animal groups

Physics

- Work words: push, pull, move, lift, scrub, grind
- Plan, investigate, record data, evaluate outcomes, communicate results
- Make observations and communications

Cooking

- Measuring
- Kitchen chemistry
- Physical and chemical changes

Social Studies

Manners

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

Community

- What are rules and why does God want us to follow them?
- How to ask questions
- Evaluates fairness

Personal Skills

- Shares viewpoints
- Identifies personal events/history

Special Americans/Holidays

- Christopher Columbus
- Veterans Day
- Native Americans/Thanksgiving
- The Christmas Story
- Martin Luther King
- George Washington/Abraham Lincoln
- Memorial Day

Creative Expressions

- Art vocabulary
- Introduction to color, shapes and patterns and how we use them in our artwork
- Students are introduced to multiple art mediums
- Learn how to create texture with paint and tools
- Introduced to elements of art for their age group (line, shape, color and texture)

Music

- Praise and worship in class
- Experience joy through singing and musical movement
- Experience the order of music through keeping a steady beat and contrasts of silence and sound
- Play percussion instruments and bells
- Experience high, medium, and low ranges and pitches through instruments and voice
- Develops auditory awareness
- Experience large motor music activities
- Understand music notation as a universal written language
- Introduction to the Solfege System (do-re-mi)
- Two concerts per year, Christmas and Spring (required performances)

Physical Education

- Participate in free play
- Simple games
- Fitness activities
- Cooperative activities
- Very basic sports skills
- Focus on locomotor movements
- Jump roping

Library

- Gain an appreciation for and love of books
- Practice proper care for books in the Library

Technology

- iPads in the classroom
- Basic computer concepts, operations and navigate various browsers and programs
- Use computers to combine media such as text and graphics with assistance
- Use basic computer drawing tools to illustrate or communicate ideas
- Use teacher-selected Web sites to enhance and support curriculum
- Identify the basic components of the computer: monitor, keyboard, mouse, etc.

Godly Digital Citizenship

- Respect each other's work
- Use resources as directed

Recommended Authors

David Adler
Jan Brett
Eve Bunting
Eric Carle
Barbara Cooney
Doreen Cronin
Tomie dePaola
Mem Fox
Kevin Henkes
Ezra Jack Keats
Steven Kellogg
Leo Leoni
Arnold Lobel
Bill Martin
Laura Numeroff
Patricia Polacco
Margaret & HA Rey
Cynthia Rylant
Dr. Seuss
Marjorie Sharmot
Rosemary Wells
Mo Willems
Caldecott and Newberry Award Winners
Myths and Fairy Tales

First Grade

Bible

*Enjoying God's Gifts,
Positive Action for Christ*

Outreach: *Horizon Hospice*

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

Wonders, McGraw Hill, 2023

Reading

Literature and informational text, vocabulary use and functions, language and writing, and

foundational skills are essential components of a balanced language arts program.

Grammar

- Introduce to nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and prepositions
- Identify complete sentences (subject/predicate)
- Recognize a statement/question
- Use synonyms/antonyms
- Demonstrates understanding of singular/plural nouns, common/proper nouns

Writing

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

- Informative writing
- Narrative writing
- Opinion writing
- P
- oetry

Reading/Phonics

- Balance phonics instruction and literature
- Know the most common sound of each letter
- Identify multiple sounds of c, g, s, y
- Know short vowels, long vowels, vowel pairs
- Know diagraphs
- Know contractions
- Know compound words
- Know base words
- Know suffixes, prefixes
- Know spelling patterns
- Running Records



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

Vocabulary Strategies

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

Spelling

- Phonics based spelling tests

Penmanship / Manuscript

- Correctly forms capital letters
- Correctly form lowercase letters

Math

Eureka, Engage NY

Operations and Algebraic thinking

- Develop an understanding of addition and subtraction within 20
- Problem solving – use a variety of problem solving strategies

Number and Operations in Base Ten

- Develop understanding of whole number relationships and place

value, including grouping in tens and ones to 120

- Compare numbers (greater than, less than, uses symbols to compare) (>, <, =)
- Add and subtract 2 digit numbers
- Problem solving – use a variety of problem solving strategies

Measurement and Data

- Develop understanding of linear measurement and measuring lengths
- Telling time to the hour and half-hour
- Use a calendar to identify days of the week and months of the year
- Identify and know value of penny, nickel, dime and quarter
- Count money
- Problem solving – use a variety of problem solving strategies

Geometry

- Identify plane shapes i.e., circle, square, triangle and rectangle
- Identify solid shapes i.e., sphere and cube
- Fractions
- Problem solving – use a variety of

Science

Mystery Science

Incorporating Stem Practices

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Earth Science

- Relates daylight to time of year

Life Science

- God's design for living things: Order, structure, function
- Plants and animals are designed to help them grow and survive based on different parts

- Growth and Development of living things
- Animals and plants process information to help them survive
- Traits are inherited from parent plants and animals
- Mammal report

Physical Science

- Waves: Light and sound
- Properties of waves

Space Systems: Patterns and Cycles in God's Universe

- The Universe and Stars
- The earth and planets in the solar system
- Sun, moon, stars

Social Studies

I Am Special

- See self as a wonderful creation of God
- Understand that each person has unique gifts and abilities from God

Families Are Special

- Recognize the family as a special community blessed by God

Famous Americans

- Johnny Appleseed
- Pilgrims and Squanto
- George Washington
- Abraham Lincoln
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Ruby Bridges

Music

- Praise and worship in class
- Experience joy through singing and musical movement
- Make melody on chromatic bars and bells

- Experience the order of music through rhythmic patterns
- Demonstrate phrasing
- Begin to read music
- Auditory awareness through music
- Understand music notation as a universal written language
- Awareness of great composers and compositions through history
- Two concerts per year, Christmas and Spring (required performances)

Physical Education

- Develop and refine motor skills
- Fitness emphasis
- Movement in place and motor skills
- Cooperative activities and sportsmanship
- Simple games
- Basic sports skills
- Focus on locomotor movements
- Jump roping

Creative Expressions

- Art instruction builds upon itself and scaffolds K-6
- Students use multiple art mediums
- Art vocabulary
- Introduction into the color wheel with primary and secondary colors
- Introduction to color mixing and tinting with black and white
- Discover geometric and organic shapes
- Direct instruction drawing
- Use color, shapes and patterns in our artwork
- Expanded art vocabulary
- Learn and apply basic art elements (line, shape, color, texture and space)
- Learn about balance in art (symmetry)

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

Arnold Lobel
Bill Martin
Laura Numeroff
Patricia Polacco
Margaret & HA Rey
Cynthia Rylant
Dr. Seuss
Marjorie Sharmot
Rosemary Wells
Mo Willems
Caldecott and Newberry Award Winners
Myths and Fairy Tales

Technology

- iPads in classroom
- Basic computer concepts and operations
- Use computers to complete a variety of writing involving the use of text and graphics
- Use computers to explore and develop math skills
- Transfer knowledge of basic operations to new applications

Godly Digital Citizenship

- Respect others' account privacy and work; practice safe and responsible use of online resources

Recommended Authors

David Adler
Jan Brett
Eve Bunting
Eric Carle
Barbara Cooney
Doreen Cronin
Tomie dePaola
Mem Fox
Kevin Henkes
Ezra Jack Keats
Steven Kellogg
Leo Leoni
Eric Litwin

Second Grade

Bible

The Children's Bible in 365 Stories
Finding God's Promises, Positive Action for Christ

Outreach: Avalon Care Center

Focus on Creation through Promised Land

- 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?
- Jesus' death and resurrection
- The early church
- The Lord's prayer

Language Arts

Wonders, McGraw Hill, 2023
Raz Kids

Reading

Literature and informational text, vocabulary use and functions, language and writing, and foundational skills are essential components of a balanced language arts program.

Grammar

- Identify nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, pronouns
- Identify regular/irregular verbs
- Recognize homonyms
- Understand alphabetical order

Writing

- Use foundational skills for writing process
- Write complete sentences
- Write paragraphs
- Write reports

Penmanship

- Introduction to D'Nealian Cursive
- Forms letters correctly in all of writing

Reading

Decoding and Phonetic Skills

- Balance phonetic instruction and literature
- Identify words with phonograms and blends
- Increase sight vocabulary
- Identify compound words
- Discern prefixes/suffixes/base words
- Understand contractions
- DIBELS assessment 2 times per year

Comprehension

- Make inferences and predictions
- Understand cause and effect
- Summarize main idea
- Use prior knowledge to enhance meaning
- Use picture and context clues
- Integrate English components to enhance reading comprehension

Fluency

- Read at an appropriate rate
- Use voice inflection to interpret text

Math

Eureka, Engage NY

Number and Operations in Base Ten (Number concepts)

- Understand place value to 1,000
- Count patterns within 1,000
- Compare numbers
- Understand multi-digit addition and subtraction with and without regrouping
- Problem solve using multi-digit addition and subtraction
- Write equations to represent addition and subtraction
- Solve multi-step problems



Operations and Algebraic Thinking

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

Measurement and Data

- Understand values of coins and bills
- Count and total varying coin combinations
- 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

Mystery Science
 Incorporating STEM practices
 (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Animal Adventures

- Biodiversity
- Classification

Patterns

- Biodiversity
- Species & Habitats
- Engineering

Plant Adventures

- Seed Dispersal
- Roots, Water & Minerals
- Light, Leaves & Competition
- Adaptations and Habitat

Work of Water

- Mapping
- Earth's Surface & Landforms
- Erosion
- Engineering

Material Magic

- Material Properties
- Engineering
- Classifying Materials
- Material Changes & Phases of Matter
- Material Inventions

Social Studies

Scholastic News 2, Scholastic Unit Studies

Neighborhoods

- Describe places in own neighborhood
- Explore routes on a map
- Describe different types of communities

Working Together

- Understand basic economic principles
- Explain purposes of rules and laws that guide people
- Understand God ordained family relationships and workings of a community

Geography

- Able to identify continents on a map
- Locate the USA on a world map

American History

- Identify the Capitol-Washington D.C.
- Appreciate people from our past

- Identify American holidays
- Identify national symbols

Music

- Praise and worship in class
- Sing melody with harmony in rounds
- Skills of choral participation
- Creative expression through music
- Experience rhythm through movement, body percussion, rhythm and chromatic instruments
- Play melodic patterns on chromatic instruments
- Auditory awareness through music and identification of parts of the orchestra
- Develop fluency in musical notation
- Two concerts per year, Christmas and Spring (required performances)

Physical Education

- Develop sports skills: throwing and catching, soccer, volleyball, basketball, bowling, pickle ball and t-ball
- Participate in cooperative activities
- Partake in simple games for fun and fitness
- Emphasis on sportsmanship
- Focus on locomotor movements
- Jump roping

Creative Expressions

- Art instruction builds upon itself and scaffolds K-6
- Students use multiple art mediums
- Art vocabulary
- Color wheel with Primary and Secondary colors
- Introduction to intermediate colors
- Introduction to color mixing, tinting and shading
- Direct instruction drawing

- Introduction to 3D forms and basic sculpture methods
- Foreground, background and horizon line
- Still life
- Apply elements of art and introduce principles of art

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

Technology

- iPads in the classroom
- Begin to use computers to type stories, poetry or research related to curriculum
- Use teacher-selected Web sites to locate and access information or programs
- Introduce basic keyword search techniques
- Introduce strategies to collect information, solve problems and complete projects
- Login to network and enter password independently with minimal assistance
- Use two hands on the keyboard most of the time. Introduce "home row" position
- Locate, open, print and save files (with appropriate file names) with minimal assistance

Godly Digital Citizenship

- Respect others' account privacy and work; practice safe and responsible use of online resources

Third Grade

Bible

Growth with God

*Outreach: Reading buddies with
Cedar Campus*

God's attributes as Righteous King who has revealed Himself in the Old Testament

- Introduction to Scripture as the Word of God
- Doubt and Faith of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac
- Treacherous life of Jacob
- Trials and mercy of Joseph
- Compassion of Ruth and Boaz
- Integrity and Devotion of Daniel
- Old Testament Festival

Language Arts

*Wonders, McGraw Hill, 2023
Step Up to Writing, Voyager Sopris
Storyworks 3, Scholastic*

Reading

Literature and informational text, vocabulary use and functions, language and writing, and foundational skills are essential components of a balanced language arts program.

Literature

We incorporate several novel units which may include:

- Poppy by Avi
- The Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson
- Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
- Reading selections are analyzed through a biblical lens

Grammar

- Review of nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, pronouns
- Recognize subject-verb agreement
- Identify direct object, possessive nouns and indirect object
- Identify and write compound sentences
- Identify helping and linking verbs
- Identify pronoun
- Identify and write direct quotations

Writing

- Incorporate foundational skills through writing process
- Appreciate literature samples using the Six Traits of Effective Writing: Voices, Ideas in Content, Organization, Word Choice, Fluency and Conventions
- Incorporate the six traits in own writing
- Scaffold and independent practice in editing and revision skills

Spelling

- Weekly word lists that coordinate with 3rd grade spelling patterns in literature

Penmanship

- D'Nealian Manuscript and Cursive letters upper and lower case

Language

- Focus on studying a variety of reading genres including in-class study, book reports, creating projects and presentations

Math

*Eureka, Engage NY
Moby Max, Rocket Math, Factivation, Zearn*
Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Addition and subtraction within 1,000



- Number patterns, rounding, estimating, place value, and mental math strategies
- Understand multiplication
- Problem solving with models and arrays
- Algebraic equations and solving for an unknown number
- Multiplication facts, multiples, patterns and strategies
- Distributive property, associative property and community property
- Use multiplication facts
- Understand division with bar models and groups
- Division facts and strategies
- Two step problems and order of operations

Numbers and Operations

- Understand fractions with equal parts and parts of a whole
- Compare and order fractions
- Problem solving

Measurement and Data

- Represent and interpret data
- Make and use picture graphs, line plots, bar graphs
- Time, length, liquid volume and mass
- Perimeter and area
- Problem solving

Geometry

- Two dimensional shapes
- Quadrilaterals, polygons, triangles and plane figures

Common math block 3rd – 6th grades

Science

Mystery Science

Incorporating STEM practices

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Earth Science - Stormy Skies

Weather, Climate & Water Cycle

- Water cycle, phases of matter
- Local weather patterns and weather prediction
- Climate and global weather patterns
- Natural hazards and engineering

Life Science - Animals Through Time

Habitats, Heredity & Change

- Fossil evidence and classification
- Creation fossil evidence and behavior, flood and ark evidence
- Patterns in traits

Physical Science - Invisible Forces

Force, Motion & Magnetism

- Forces - pushes and pulls
- Balance of forces - engineering (bridges)
- Balance of forces - friction
- Magnets and engineering

Life Science - Power of Flowers

Life Cycle, Traits & Heredity

- Pollination and seeds
- Plant reproduction
- Traits in plants

Social Studies

Social Studies Weekly

- Civics and Economics
- Geography
- History

Spokane County and Inland Northwest History

- Examine Spokane's history and contributions from diverse viewpoints
- Native Americans – early inhabitants
- Spokane history 1800's to present
- Tour of MAC Museum, and Campbell House, Riverfront Park
- Geography and map skills

Library

- Demonstrate knowledge of the skills from 1st-2nd grade
- Identify Dewey Decimal Classification categories
- Associate non-fiction with the Dewey decimal numbers
- Locate and retrieve, with some assistance, material and information using the library computer catalog
- Alphabetize to the third letter

Physical Education

- Activities that develop and refine motor skills
- Sports skills for throwing and catching, soccer, volleyball, basketball, hockey, bowling, pickle ball, wiffleball, and lacrosse
- Cooperative activities and sportsmanship
- Games that promote fun and fitness
- Jump roping

Music

- Sacred music and worship expression
- Skills of choral participation
- Beginning harmony
- Music theory and notation
- Choral performance and pitch development
- Enjoyment of differing musical genres (folksongs, patriotic and classic songs)
- Beginning sight reading
- Two concerts per year, Christmas and Spring (required performances)

Creative Expressions

- Art instruction builds upon itself and scaffolds K-6
- Students use multiple art mediums

- Color wheel with primary, secondary and intermediate colors
- Introduction to complementary and monochromatic colors
- Color mixing, tinting and shading
- 3D forms and sculpture
- Foreground, background and horizon line
- Introduction to positive and negative space
- Still life
- Introduction to collage
- Basics in sketching
- Apply elements of art and introduce principles of art.

Technology

- Northwest Christian School utilizes the Microsoft Office 365 Suite which includes Word, PowerPoint, Publisher, Excel and OneNote.
- Computers in the classroom
- Use various graphics, styles, and layouts to enhance expression/communicate information
- Select and use appropriate images; begin to use electronic spell check
- Use computers for creative writing using basic formatting techniques and tools
- Develop strategies to locate information from appropriate Internet sources and navigate websites with assistance and supervision
- Begin to cite information and image sources
- Continue to locate, open, save and print files independently and understand and use the Group Shared / Individual folder
- Grades 3-6 build on the keyboarding exploration skills developed in primary grades

- Grade 3 - Learn the home row and standard fingering and begin developing consistent "home row" position
- Proper technique and posture are emphasized at all grade levels

Godly Digital Citizenship

- Respect others' account privacy and work; practice safe and responsible use of online resources

Fourth Grade

Bible

The Life and Ministry of Jesus,
Positive Action for Christ

Outreach: *Union Gospel Mission*

- The work of the Holy Spirit in believers
- Explanations and examples of Godly character from Old and New Testaments
- The life and ministry of Paul
- Memorization of selected passages for application

Language Arts

Wonders, McGraw Hill, 2023

Storyworks, Scholastic

Step Up to Writing, Voyager Sopris

Reading

Literature and informational text, vocabulary use and functions, language and writing, and foundational skills are essential components of a balanced language arts program.

Grammar

- Review nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, pronouns, conjunctions and interjections
- Identify transitive verb, tenses of helping verbs and changing tenses of verbs in paragraphs
- Identify types of sentences
- Comprehensively cover and integrate with the writing process

Writing

- Use a five step writing process in formal writing: pre-write, draft, revise, edit and publish
- Generate all aspects of Six Traits Writing in own writing: Voice,

Organization, Ideas in Content, Word Choice, Fluency and Conventions

- Integrate these qualities in content area writing with a focus on forms of writing: narrative, descriptive, expository and persuasive styles
- Write for a specific audience and purpose
- Presentation skills utilizing technology

Reading - is a powerful tool empowering one with information and broadening one's knowledge base

Literature - Portrays Christian worldview through virtuous heroes

- *Stout-Hearted Seven* by Neta Frazier
- *The Lion, Witch and Wardrobe, C.S. Lewis' Chronicles of Narnia*

Skills and Strategies - Read familiar text confidently and retells major content

- Build reading vocabulary by interpreting context clues and using dictionary and other sources
- Make predictions and is able to substantiate them
- Demonstrate usage of pre-, during and post-reading strategies

Comprehension

- Demonstrate understanding of a variety of texts
- Use prior knowledge to make meaning
- Expand comprehension by finding similarities and differences in stories
- Use inference and cause/effect to understand characters and story elements

Variety of Genre

- Read to learn new information (signs, labels, instructions)
- Read selected genre and present monthly written and project-style book reports



Spelling

- Differentiated weekly spelling lists
- Analyze spelling patterns & rules

Penmanship

- D'Nealian Cursive

Math

*Eureka, Engage NY
Moby Max*

Numbers and Operations in Base Ten

- Place value addition and subtraction to one million
- Multiply by one digit numbers
- Multiply by two digit numbers
- Divide by one digit numbers
- Fraction equivalence and comparison
- Add and subtract fractions
- Multiply fractions by whole numbers
- Relate fractions and decimals
- Problem solving

Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- Multiply by one digit numbers
- Multiply by two digit numbers
- Divide by one digit numbers
- Factors, multiples and patterns
- Two dimensional figures
- Problem solving

Measurement and Data

- Relate fractions and decimals
- Angles
- Relative sizes of measurement units
- Algebra: perimeter and area
- Problem solving

Geometry

- Two dimensional figures
- Problem solving
- Fact fluency

Common math block differentiation 3rd – 6th

Social Studies

Washington, Our Home, Gibbs Smith

- The Land of Washington
- WA Native Americans
- Exploring Washington
- Lewis and Clark/The Oregon Trail
- Territory to Statehood
- Marketplace
- Living in Washington
- Investigate a variety of maps

Science

*Mystery Science
Incorporating STEM practices
(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
Experiments through Scientific Method*

Physical Science - Energy

- Identify potential and kinetic energy
- Describe transfer of energy
- Describe how electricity travels in circuits

Life Science - Body, Senses and the Brain

- Describe the function of muscles and skeleton
- Describe the basic function of the eye
- Identify parts of the eyes and their functions
- Study the brain's role in receiving and information from the senses

Sound Waves

- Observe the relationship between sound and vibration

Invention Convention project in Spring

Music

- Understanding of theory and music notation
- More advanced sight reading
- Introduction to simple instruments

Concerts

- Ultimately to Glorify God with the talents He has blessed us with
- To showcase students success and growth
- Two per year, Christmas and Spring (required performances)

Physical Education

- Participates in activities that develop and refine motor skills
- Learns sports skills for throwing and catching, soccer, volleyball, basketball, hockey, bowling, pickle ball, wiffleball, and lacrosse
- Participates in cooperative activities and sportsmanship
- Jump roping

Creative Expressions

- Art instruction builds upon itself and scaffolds K-6
- Students use multiple art mediums
- Color wheel with Primary, secondary and intermediate colors
- Color mixing, tinting and shading
- Introduction to color schemes and theory
- Use complementary and monochromatic in our artwork
- 3D and sculpture
- Collaborative art (murals) and collage
- Introduction to brush techniques
- Introduction to proportion within the human figure and facial features
- Elements and Principles of art
- Research famous artists
- Identify art careers
- Identify famous artists and their work
- Sketch
- Introduction to Impressionism, surrealism, cubism

Library

- Demonstrate knowledge of the skills from 1st-3rd grade
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the Dewey Decimal System to use a call number to independently locate fiction and non-fiction material within the library
- Use reference materials with basic understanding of their various purposes
- Understand and explore a variety of genres

Technology

Northwest Christian School utilizes the Microsoft Office 365 suite, which includes Word, PowerPoint, Publisher, Excel and OneNote.

- Computers in classroom
- Create interactive multimedia presentations using text, images, audio, and
- Develop computer skills for a variety of writing tasks using tools to import graphics from various applications
- Develop strategies for evaluating and citing sources appropriately
- Begin to use a variety of shortcut keystroke
- Grades 3-6 build on the keyboarding exploration skills developed in primary grades:
- Grade 4 - Use the home row and standard fingering
- Proper technique and posture are emphasized at all grade levels
- Be aware of basic file management techniques (organize, rename, delete files)

Godly Digital Citizenship

- Use resources in a manner that is safe, mindful of acceptable student conduct, respectful of the privacy of other users, and brings glory to God

Fifth Grade

Bible

Positive Action for Christ

Outreach: *Serve Spokane*

Thematic Study of the Old Testament

The Book of James

- Demonstrate understanding of how to conduct a word study and personal application of the Bible

Language Arts

Wonders, McGraw Hill, 2023
Step Up to Writing, Voyager Sopris

Reading

- Portray Biblical-Worldview through every text and every study.
- Use a variety of genres as essential components to build real-life purposes.
- Build vocabulary by interpreting context clues to infer meaning.
- Make educated predictions that can be substantiated.
- Use graphic organizers to identify important parts of the text.
- Identify the main idea and supporting details.
- Use prior knowledge to enhancement meaning of text.
- Use text evidence to support different points of view.
- Determine themes in literature.
- Summarize all genres concisely.
- Compare and contrast stories, characters, settings, events, or structure.

Literature Studies

- Sophia's War by Avi
- Escape: Adventures of a Loyalist Family by Mary Beacock Fryer
- By the Great Horn Spoon by Sid Fleischman

Writing

- Write opinion pieces supporting a point of view with reasons and information.
- Write informative pieces to examine a topic and convey ideas clearly.
- Write detailed real or imagined narratives with a clear sequence of events.
- Conduct research by gathering information and drawing evidence from several sources.
- Demonstrate appropriate use of conventions when writing.

Language

- Grammar used appropriately when writing or speaking by reviewing nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, pronouns, conjunctions and interjections.
- Vocabulary developed by knowledge of prefixes, suffixes, root words, and Greek/Latin roots.
- Figurative language is used to clarify the meaning of words and phrases across content areas.
- Spelling words embedded in texts is practiced weekly.

Math

Eureka, Engage NY
Moby Max, Zearn

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
- Graphing data

Geometry and volume

- Problem Solving

Common math block differentiation 3rd – 6th

Science

Answers in Genesis

Mystery Science

Incorporating STEM practices

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

Heaven & Earth

Universe

- Structure of our universe and solar system
- The earth is unique
- Spaceflight and moon missions

Planet

- Biblical world history
- Study of rocks and the earth's formation

Ecology

- Christian stewardship
- Identify and describe the different ecosystems on our planet
- Classify organisms
- Describe oxygen and water cycles

Chemistry

- Discuss atomic theory of matter
- Describe how atoms behave and combine

- Compounds and mixtures
- Involve students in “hands-on” experiences
- Explore parts of the Periodic Table of Elements

Social Studies

Heritage Studies, BJU Press.

United States History Map Skills, Nystrom

Story of the World, The Well Trained Mind

Minecraft Education Edition

Map Skills

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

Age of Exploration

- Discover background of classical and medieval history
- Identify seeds of English common law, liberty, language and the Lordship of Christ

Revolutionary War

- Examine primary sources
- Gain understanding of colonial and Christian foundation
- Identify the strengths/weaknesses of a new nation
- Participate in a living museum presentation as a revolutionary war person

Government

- Identify rights and responsibilities
- Compare state and federal authority
- Describe the branches of government
- Demonstrate knowledge of Bill of Rights and Amendments to the Constitution

Civil War

- Read primary sources
- Identify steps leading to Civil War
- Post war reconstruction efforts
- Study slavery and freedom

Music

5th Grade students select Choir or Band as their music elective

Choir

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

Fundamentals (Choir)

- Implement the basic understanding of rhythm and beat as it pertains to written sheet music

Theory (Choir)

- Advanced music notation, scales and sight-reading
- Classroom rehearsal and behavior strategies

Band

Important Information (Band)

- Instruction will be offered on the following band instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, Bells and Percussion
- Students will be pre-tested on two instruments of their choice during class, after which the Band Director will inform the parents of his recommendation of the instrument that provides the greatest opportunity for their student's success.
- There will be a band instrument rental night in the lower campus band room for both parents and students. Local band instrument dealers will be on campus to meet your purchase or rental needs. There will be more information to come in the fall of 2024.
- We will continue to use Sound Innovations Band Method (Book One)

Fundamentals (Band)

- Implement and review the basic understanding of rhythm and note-reading as it pertains to written sheet music.
- Instruction will include proper care and maintenance of the instrument, proper hand positioning, breathing, and other factors to playing the instrument correctly.

Theory (Band)

- "Band Karate" will be utilized as motivation/incentive for home practice.
- Introduction to music notation, scales and sightreading.
- Establish proper classroom rehearsal and behavior expectations.

Concerts (Band)

- "Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" Psalm 150:6
- Opportunity to showcase and glorify God with our God given talents.
- Showcase student success and musical growth.
- There are two required concerts per year; Christmas and Spring.

Additional Performance Opportunities (Band)

- On-Campus performances as requested
- Junior Lilac Parade – May 2024 (Combined 5th and 6th Grade Bands)

Physical Education

- Provide activities which develop and refine motor skills
- Sports skills in throwing and catching, soccer, volleyball, basketball, hockey, bowling, pickle ball, wiffleball, and lacrosse
- Cooperative activities and sportsmanship
- Jump roping

Creative Expressions

- Art instruction builds upon itself and scaffolds K-6
- Students use multiple art mediums
- Color wheel with Primary, secondary and intermediate colors
- Color mixing, tinting and shading
- Color schemes and theory
- Using complementary and monochromatic in our artwork
- 3D and sculpture
- Brush techniques
- Proportion within the human figure and facial features
- Balance and placement in artwork
- Point of view
- Elements and Principles of art
- Sketching

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

Technology

Northwest Christian School utilizes the Microsoft Office 365 Suite which includes Word, PowerPoint, Publisher, Excel and OneNote.

- Computers in classroom
- Use media that may include text, graphics, digital images, videos and sound
- Use the computer for creative and expository writing and create a multimedia presentation that incorporates text, graphics, digital images, video and sound
- Locate, organize, analyze, evaluate and use information from a variety of sources and media
- Plan and execute strategies to effectively guide research and complete projects
- Grades 3-6 build on the keyboarding exploration skills developed in primary grades
- Grade 5 - Improve accuracy and technique and type regularly with all fingers
- Proper technique and posture are emphasized at all grade levels
- Be comfortable with all aspects of file management

Godly Digital Citizenship

- Use resources in a manner that is safe, mindful of acceptable student conduct, respectful of the privacy of other users, and brings glory to God

Sixth Grade

Bible

Positive Action for Christ / Hero in You

Outreach: *Pre-K-3 service projects throughout the year*

- Overview of New Testament Doctrine
- Draw knowledge, wisdom and understanding from the Word of God.
- Life applications for the struggles ahead
- Discover how people in the bible strove the win the race God set for them

Language Arts

*Lovin' Lit /Quill
Step Up to Writing*

Reading

Literature and informational text, vocabulary use and functions, language and writing, and foundational skills are essential components of a balanced language arts program.

Grammar

- Recognize and name the parts of speech.
- Recognize and use a variety of sentence structures to improve writing
- Identify prefixes/suffixes/root words
- Vocabulary – Greek and Latin roots
- Comprehensive coverage of foundational skills applied to writing process

Writing

- Use a five step writing process in formal

writing: pre-write, draft, revise, edit and publish

- Generate all aspects of Six Traits Writing in own writing: Voice, Organization, Ideas in Content, Word Choice, Fluency and Conventions
- Integrate these qualities in content area writing with a focus on forms of writing: narrative, descriptive, expository and persuasive styles
- Write for a specific audience and purpose
- Presentation skills utilizing technology
- Book reports

Loving Literature

- Incorporating Story of the Month;
- Nonfiction Article of the Week;
- Grammar and Writing

Literature Studies

- Britfield and the Lost Crown
- Gladys Aylward
- Crispin
- Hatchet

Skills and Strategies

- Portray Christian worldview through virtuous heroes
- Build reading vocabulary by interpreting context clues, inferring meaning, and analyzing word choice
- Identify and discuss reading strategies for pre-, during and post-reading success
- Self-correct and adjust rate of reading
- Use text organizers and graphic organizers
- Cite text evidence to support claims
- Make inferences and draw conclusions based on central themes and plot stories



Comprehension

- Demonstrate comprehension of the main idea, supporting details, and summarizing ideas in own words
- Use prior knowledge to enhance meaning of text
- Expands comprehension by finding similarities and differences in text and other media

Genre

- Read to learn new information
- Read to perform a task for a variety of real-life purposes
- Read for leisure time enjoyment
- Opportunity to compete in the annual Battle of the Books competition.

Math

Eureka/Engage NY

Khan Academy

Moby Max

(On-level and Advanced 6 Math Tracks)

Main Topics

- Ratios and Rates
- Operations with Fractions and Multi-Digit Numbers
- Rational Numbers
- Expressions and One Step Equations
- Area, Surface Area, and Volume
- Probability and Statistics
- Geometry

Common math block differentiation 3rd – 6th

Science

Answers in Genesis

Invention Convention

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

- God is creator of all things
- Engineering Design
- Water, Weather & Climate
- Earth's Systems (i.e. rock and water cycles)
- History of Earth

- The Creation of the Universe
- God is the one who holds all things together

History

Heritage Studies, BJU Press

Study of Ancient World History looking at God's purpose and plan for all nations

- Maps
- Early Civilizations
- Cultures of the Fertile Crescent
- Ancient Egypt
- Israel, Greece and Rome
- China and India
- Geography
- Comprehensive timeline

Library/Media

- Demonstrate knowledge of the skills from 1st-5th 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

6th Grade students select

Choir or Band as their music elective

Choir

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

Fundamentals (Choir)

- Implement the basic understanding of rhythm and beat as it pertains to written sheet music.

Theory (Choir)

- Advanced music notation, scales and sight-reading
- Classroom rehearsal and behavior strategies

6th Grade Beginning Band**Important Information (Band)**

- Instruction will be offered on the following band instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Bells and Percussion
- This class is mainly for second-year band students with one year of experience, the band director may make exceptions.
- There will be a band instrument rental night in the lower campus band room for both parents and students. Local band instrument dealers will be on campus to meet your purchase or rental needs. There will be more information to come in the fall of 2024.
- We will continue to use the Sound Innovations Band Method (book one and two).

Fundamentals (Band)

- Implement and review the basic understanding of rhythm and beat as it pertains to written sheet music
- Introduction will include a review of proper care and maintenance of the instrument, proper hand position, breathing, and other factors to playing the instrument correctly.

Theory (Band)

- “Band Karate” will be utilized as continued motivation/incentive for home practice.
- Introduction to more advanced music notation, scales and sightreading.
- Establish proper classroom rehearsal and behavior expectations.

Concerts (Band)

- “Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!” Psalm 150:6
- Opportunity to showcase and glorify God with our God given talents.
- Showcase student success and musical growth.
- There are two required concerts per year; Christmas and Spring.

Additional Performance Opportunities (Band)

- On-Campus performances as requested
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Creative Expressions

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- Be comfortable with all aspects of file management

- sportsmanship
- Jump roping

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Physical Education

- Provide activities which develop and refine motor skills
- Sports skills in throwing and catching, soccer, volleyball, basketball, hockey, bowling, pickle ball, wiffleball, and lacrosse
- Cooperative activities and



Mission

To provide a gospel-centered education, every day for every student.

Purpose

To glorify God through a Christ-honoring education.

Mission Statement

To nurture the heart, mind and will of each student in the things of God through Bible-centered academics, encouraging them toward a life of fruitful service in the home and church, on the job and in the community.

Vision

To be a premier Christian school serving the Spokane area with quality education. Northwest Christian Schools is a community of faculty, students, families and supporters who are working together with excellence and a commitment to educate and disciple students to become leaders within the church, community and world.