

Welcome to WCCA's Third Grade!

Department Chairperson
Mrs. Diana Jones



Our Overall Goal -

By third grade, we see attention spans increasing, an interest in perfecting skills and detailed activities, and the pursuit of varied and numerous interests.

As academic understanding increases, our objective for your third graders is to help them become more responsible as they begin to set goals and realize the consequences of their decisions. Not only will they continue mastering the basic skills needed for future academic growth, but it is our goal that all students will leave third grade feeling both confident and successful!

Curriculum Basics

Via the Positive Action for Christ **Bible** curriculum, students are encouraged to apply God's truth to all subject areas and to their lives. Emphasis is put upon character traits such as obedience, thankfulness, honesty, love, faith, forgiveness, patience, loyalty, wisdom, self-control, and contentment. Scripture is memorized and tested weekly, and students attend a weekly chapel with fourth and fifth grade students.

Included in the A Beka **Language Arts** curriculum are the skills needed for reading fluency, comprehension, sequencing, vocabulary building, handwriting, and letter writing. Students are also introduced to grammar with particular emphasis on nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, synonyms, homonyms, antonyms, contractions, capitalization, dictionary skills, apostrophes, and possessives. The *Strategies for Writers* curriculum builds upon the A Beka texts and promotes student development in persuasive, expository, narrative, and descriptive writing. Spelling rules and words are taught via the ACSI **Spelling** series.

Mathematics is taught from the A Beka curriculum and is the perfect vehicle to illustrate God's law and order in the universe. Areas covered include re-grouping, dividing, graphing, multiplication tables through twelve, money problems, time, simple geometric figures, measurement, fractions, word problems, and introductory algebraic concepts.

We use the ACSI **Science** curriculum to specifically investigate such areas as fields, forests, deserts, ponds, oceans, weather, vertebrates, invertebrates, the human body, and plants. We desire our students to gain knowledge of world habitats, to recognize the relationship of living things to their environment,

and to learn that observation involves all of the senses. Hands-on activities help bring the scientific concepts to life.

Students are introduced to American history through the A Beka **History** curriculum and study the lives of famous Americans. Character qualities, reinforced by Scripture, are emphasized in each person's life. Other areas of study include continents, Pilgrims, colonial America, the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and westward expansion. Our goals for this curriculum include the development of applicable character qualities, an increased respect for authority, and strengthened map skills.

The development of one's whole self must include physical activity, creativity, and musical understanding and expression. Therefore, rounding out our core curriculum, third graders receive weekly, age-appropriate instruction in physical education, art, and music. Our music program includes opportunities for students to perform in an annual Christmas concert and spring chapel.

Students also learn basic library skills, including instruction in the Dewey Decimal system and reading maps and atlases, in our library. In addition, third graders continue to develop their computer skills in our computer lab by learning basic keyboarding functions and building upon classroom instruction through math and language software.

And finally, students participate in at least four off-campus field trips throughout the year to such places as the Lawrence Hall of Science and the Bay Aquarium.

WCCA Sample Third Grade Schedule

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:35-9:15	Bible	Bible	Chapel	Bible Review	Bible Test
9:15-9:40	Math	Math	Math Test	Math	Math
9:40-10:00	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
10:00-10:40	Computers	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
10:40-11:15	Reading	Spelling	Spelling	Spelling	History/Science
11:15-11:40	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess	Recess
11:40-12:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:00-12:30	Creative Writing/ Language	Creative Writing/ Language	Creative Writing/ Language	Creative Writing/ Listening	Creative Writing/ Language
12:30-1:15	Library	History	Science	History	Music
1:15-2:00	P.E.	1:30-2:00 Break	P.E.	1:30-2:00 Break	P.E.
2:00-2:45	Spelling	Science	Art	Science	Handwriting/ Cursive

Quotes from Parents...

"Our son started here in third grade. Since that time, we have been very happy with how WCCA has helped develop his reading abilities. Now in his third year of Powerline, we have noticed significant improvement every year. From third grade on, the teachers have always been willing to work with us to ensure his success!"

Mike and Christina Politis

"Third grade has been a great year for learning responsibility. Students are taught how to plan ahead for tests and practice responsibility in their daily homework and weekly tests. We like the focus on character trait development as illustrated in the study of the Old Testament."

Steve and Cindy Bolter

We welcome your visit to our campus and classrooms! Please call the school office at (925) 935-1587 to schedule an appointment. And for even more information about WCCA, please visit our website at wccaeagles.org.