**Teacher:** Mrs. Lowry

1. **Room #:** 117
2. **Grade**: 2
3. **Courses to be taught:**
4. Language Arts
   * 1. Reading
     2. Grammar
     3. Spelling
     4. Writing
   1. Handwriting
   2. Religion
   3. Math
   4. Social Studies
   5. Science
5. **Reference Materials:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Subject** | **Publisher** | **Title** | **Copyright** |
| **Reading** | McGraw-Hill | Wonders (Text)  Practice Book O ( workbook) | 2017 |
| **Grammar** | Loyola Press | Voyages in English | 2018 |
| **Handwriting** | Scott Foresman | D’Nealian Handwriting (workbook) | 2008 |
| **Religion** | Our Sunday Visitor  Our Sunday Visitor  Our Sunday Visitor | Alive in Christ  Encounter with Christ – Reconciliation  Encounter with Christ-Eucharist | 2014  2016  2016 |
| **Math** | My Math | McGraw-Hill | 2014 |
| **Social Studies** | Pearson | My World Social Studies Do Our Part | 2013 |
| **Science** | Pearson | Interactive Science (workbook) | 2012 |

1. **Summary of subjects:**
   1. Language Arts

The McGraw-Hill Reading Program integrates literature and phonics to increase each student’s reading and writing skills. Each week a new reading selection is introduced and we work on decoding the words along with comprehending the stories we read. Students are taught a variety of skills, such as predicting, summarizing, and drawing conclusions. Our students listen to us read aloud and they are given many opportunities to practice their reading, by themselves and with others. We encourage daily reading at home. This can be reading aloud, silent reading, or reading with a parent.

Our Grammar book is Voyages in English. Writing skills are taught using the 6 Trait Method.

Spelling

We’ll have 15 words to study each week that follow a particular spelling pattern. On Monday the children will have a pre-test over the regular list. Students will then make their own spelling lists using words they missed and challenge words that follow the same pattern. Any words missed on the test from the previous week will also be on this list. On Friday, everyone will have a spelling test. Children will develop their spelling skills through dictation sentences, spelling games, and proofreading. Dictionary skills will also be taught.

Correct spelling will be emphasized in all subjects.

* 1. Handwriting

The D’Nealian style of handwriting is used at St. Stephen’s. The Second Graders review the manuscript lower and upper case letters. Then they learn the cursive lower case letters followed by the upper case letters. By the end of the year the students can read and write in cursive.

* 1. Religion

We are committed to being partners with you in nurturing your child’s faith. Second Grade is an important year in developing a closer relationship with Jesus. Your child will prepare for two sacraments: Reconciliation, which is celebrated during Advent, and First Communion, which will be celebrated on March 31, 2019. There will be one parent meeting before each sacrament. A highlight of the year is an All School Mass in late spring, which is followed by the First Communion Breakfast where the Second Graders are recognized for their accomplishments. A community of faith is fostered through daily prayer, participation at Mass, Scripture, stories, discussion, and activities that promote care and respect for all people.

* 1. Math

Students develop math concepts and skills through problem solving, reasoning, and hands on activities. They will gain an understanding of numbers into the thousands and will learn how to add and subtract 3-digit numbers with regrouping. Other key topics include: graphing, money, geometry, fractions, measurement, time and calendar. Students will also be introduced to multiplication and division. Learning the basic facts to 20 is a key part of our year. Knowing these facts quickly lays the foundation for more success with math. We use math games, flashcards, and FASTTMath, a software program, to reinforce these facts.

* 1. Social Studies

We begin our study with how people are part of a community and how they work together to be good citizens. The students will find out how we choose our leaders and how our government is organized. They will name patriotic symbols and actions. As we examine maps and globes, we’ll learn about the physical features of the earth and how we use natural resources. Learning about our past will help us appreciate the diversity of cultures and the contributions of many people.

* 1. Science

Students will broaden their understanding of the world as they observe, question, make predictions, and do experiments. Some of the topics we cover are life cycles, the food chain, magnets, weather, rocks, patterns in the universe, the seasons, and health. Recognizing the contributions to science from many people will also be explored.

1. **Length and frequency of courses:**
   1. All subjects will be taught on a daily basis other than Social Studies and Science, which will be alternated by days or weeks.
2. **Primary content areas to be addressed throughout the year:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Quarter 1** | **Quarter 2** | **Quarter 3** | **Quarter 4** |
| **Reading** | * Friends & Family * Animal Discoveries * Live & Learn | | * Our Life, Our World * Let’s Make a Difference * How on Earth? | |
| **Grammar** | * Statements, questions, commands, & exclamations * Subjects & predicates * Sentence combining * Nouns: plural, proper, possessive, plural & possessives * Verbs: actions, present-tense, the verb *have* | | * Verbs: Linking, helping irregular * Contractions * Pronouns: possessive, pronoun-verb agreement * I and me, we and us * Adjectives and adjectives that compare * Article *a* and *an* * Adverbs * Synonyms & antonyms | |
| **Spelling** | * Long and short: *a, e, i , o*, and *u* * Blends: *sl, dr, sk, sp, st, scr, spr, str* * Digraphs: *ch, sh, th, wh, tch, ph* | | * R-controlled vowels: *ar, or, er, ir, ur, are, air, eer, ere, ear, ore, oar, ire, ier, ure* * Variant Vowel: *oo, ou, ui, ew, au, aw* * Diphthong- *ow, ou, oi, oy* * Silent Consonants: *gn, kn, wr, mb* * Hard/soft consonants*: c, g* * Endings: dge, ge, lge, nge, and rge | |
| **Writing** | * Personal Narratives * How-To * Persuasive essays | | * Reports * Stories * Compare and Contrast article | |
| **Religion** | * God’s creation * Jesus is our Savior * The Bible * God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit * Love God and others * Making good choices * God’s mercy * The sacraments * Reconciliation | | * The Church year * Caring for all people * Sharing the Good News * Prayer * Gather to Worship * Listen to God’s Word * Jesus’ sacrifice * Sharing a holy meal * First Eucharist * The Church’s mission * Forever in Heaven * Mary | |
| **Science** | **Science, Engineering, & technology**   * The nature of science * Technology and tools   **Life Science**   * Plants & animals   Growing & changing | | **Earth Science**   * Earth’s materials * The solar system * Weather   **Physical Science**   * Matter   Energy, motion, & force | |
| **Social Studies** | **Governing the People**   * Citizens in a community * Our leaders * Our country’s government * Community and state governments   **The World Around Us**   * Maps & locations * North America * Seasons & climate * World Regions   **Using Our Resources**   * Land and water resources * People settle * Changing our environment * Connecting communities | | **People Long Ago**   * Changes in people and places * Early America * Independence * American Heritage * Heroes & Holidays   **A Word of Many People**   * Word culture * Many people, one country * Celebrating culture * Recognizing Americans   **People in the Market place**   * Producers & consumers * Work & income * From factory to you * How much & how many * Barter & trade | |
| **Handwriting** | * Review upper and lowercase manuscript letters. | | * Learn upper and lowercase cursive letters. | |
| **Math** | * Number concepts and patterns to 100 * Adding and subtracting facts * Data analysis * Place value * Plane and solid shapes * Fractions * Regrouping with addition | | * Regrouping with subtraction * Money * Time * Measurement * Multiplication and division * Numbers to 1,000 * Adding and subtracting 3 digit numbers | |

1. **Types of assessments & frequency:**
2. Students will be assessed on Spelling and Reading on a weekly basis. Math, Science, Social Studies, and Religion will be assessed at the end of every chapter or unit.
3. FASTTMath (math facts, will be done three times a week.)
4. Writing skills are assessed in the fall and spring using writing prompts and the 6 Trait Writing Method.
5. All Omaha Catholic School students are given an Archdiocesan Assessment each year. The results of these assessments will be recorded and reported to the Archdiocese. These scores are used to gauge student achievement, develop new teaching and learning strategies, and to examine curriculum. This year, Second Graders will be required to complete the following Special Project. This is completed at school.
6. **Special Projects:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Subject** | **Description** | **Approximate Date** |
| Religion | “Talking with God”:   * Prayer | 2nd Semester |

1. **Tentative schedule for field trips:**
2. Fontenelle Forest in the spring
3. The Rose Theater in April
4. Rotella’s Bakery in the spring
5. **Grading Scale:**

E → 93-100

S+ → 86-92

S → 78-85

S- → 70-77

U → Below 70

1. **Criteria for grading late and missed assignments:**
   1. If a student does not complete an assignment on time, then he/she may need to stay inside from recess or remain after school (with parent notification) to finish their work. No points will be taken off.
2. **Policy for students who will be completing work after an absence:**
   1. If a student is ill, he/she will generally have a day or two to catch up on missed work. The sooner the better. However, if it is a severe illness, then we can discuss extending the time.
   2. If a student has a pre planned absence, then please contact me prior to their leave.
3. **Sycamore**

**Sycamore** is a secure online site where student grades are entered by the teacher. You have access to your student’s records by going to the website and using the activation code and parent code you will receive from our IT manager, Tom Marble. If you have problems logging on please contact Tom at [t.marble@stephen.org](mailto:t.marble@stephen.org). Students’ grades are posted to Sycamore at least every two weeks if not more often.

1. **Behavior Policy (directly from our Family Handbook):**
   1. Our Primary grades utilize a flip card system. Should the student fail to comply with the rules governing behavior, the student will be verbally warned. In the case of second offense within the day, the student will have their card flipped on the classroom discipline chart. On this chart the student has colored cards with each card representing a different consequence.

Each card represents a different consequence.

* + - 1. **GREEN-** You are doing a good job!!
      2. **YELLOW**- Warning- You need to check yourself. Are you respectful, listening and following directions?
      3. **PURPLE-** You have not been respectful, contributing to the learning environment, and/or following procedures. You lose your next recess at which time you will fill out a sheet detailing what was done. This sheet will be taken home, completed with your parents, signed by your parents, and returned the next day.
      4. **RED--** Blatant or harmful disrespect to others or property. Inability to listen/follow directions after prior steps have been followed. Teacher calls parents to discuss behavior. (We strongly urge parents to have some prearranged privilege loss when this occurs.( e.g. TV time, iPad, video games, etc).
  1. We are using the Boys Town Model of Well – Managed Schools. We work to create a culture of respect and responsibility. We praise students for taking responsibility for their actions (School Rule #1), and try to prevent poor choices by teaching skills, procedures, and expectations of behavior. Other school rules are:

2. We will include everyone in our group activities.

3. We will help others if they are being bullied.

1. **Guidelines for parents offering student assistance with homework:**
   1. Please help your child with homework only as needed.
2. **Policy for mastery learning, test retakes, and extra credit:**
   1. In order to master learning, students should perform at an 80% level or higher.
   2. Test retakes are allowed to bring student’s grade up to the 80% level. This includes all subjects except for Spelling and Reading.
   3. No extra credit points will be given.
3. **Expectations of homework:**
   1. Plan on twenty minutes of homework per night, Monday through Thursday. This will include work from school, but should also vary to include math fact practice, spelling practice and reading to self to get students into the habit of spending a total of 20 minutes a night on practice and reinforcement of the daily skills we are working on.
4. **Differentiation :** We work to meet the needs of every child by varying the assignments and by using a variety of methods to provide instruction.
5. **Contact Information:**

Please feel free to contact me by email or phone.

Email: [a.lowry@stephen.org](mailto:a.lowry@stephen.org) (preferred method)

Phone: 402-896-0754

1. **When and how often you can expect to hear from me:**

Please look for my weekly update and link to our class website on Friday afternoon. I will contact you through email or phone for specific matters regarding your child. If you’d like to access the website on your own it is <https://mrslowry.yolasite.com>.