

# St. Ambrose Catholic School

## Kindergarten Curriculum

Mrs. Sullivan

At Saint Ambrose Catholic School, the Kindergarten curriculum is built upon the competitive, up-to-date standards mandated by the Archdiocese of Washington. Students learn through a variety of developmentally-appropriate instructional models, including direct teaching, play-based independent learning, experiential learning, and interactive learning. Learning is differentiated based on student needs and high expectations are set for all students. In Kindergarten, fun and learning go hand-in-hand!

### Language Arts

*Sadlier: Phonics (Level K & Level A), Treasures & Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Leveled Readers*

Language arts instruction is based around six content areas: word recognition, fluency, and vocabulary; comprehension; literary response and analysis; writing process; language conventions; listening and speaking. As part of reading instruction, students will also develop phonemic awareness skills through stories, songs, rhymes, and other listening activities.

Students are placed in differentiated reading groups based on student level and need. Reading groups will change over the course of the year. The goal is to meet your child where they are and make forward progress.

By the end of the year, Kindergartners will write their first and last names, CVC words, grade-level high-frequency and sight words, and use phonetic/invented spelling to write unknown words.

### Mathematics

*Saxon: Mathematics K & Sadlier: Progress in Mathematics*

Mathematics is differentiated based on student level and need. Academic standards are focused around the five content areas of number sense, computation, algebraic functions, geometry, and measurement.

Instruction in Saxon Mathematics begins in Kindergarten. Saxon starts basic to ensure every child has the building blocks for future Saxon instruction. Sadlier's Progress in Mathematics is a supplemental workbook that reinforces and goes above and beyond concepts learned in Saxon.

By the end of the year, students will be able to: count to 100 by 1's, 5's, and 10's; create and identify patterns; add and subtract using manipulatives; identify and manipulate 2D and 3D shapes; sort items according to their attributes; measure using nonstandard units of measurement.

## **Science**

*Scholastic: Science Spin and various resources*

The revamped Archdiocesan science standards are based on recommendations made in *A Framework for K-12 Science Education* (National Academy Press, 2011). It is the culmination of two years of work by science teachers around the Archdiocese. Throughout the year, students will explore the physical sciences, life sciences, earth and space sciences, and engineering. Students will learn scientific concepts through experiential and interactive learning. Science instruction reinforces language arts and mathematics concepts.

## **Social Studies**

*Macmillan/McGraw-Hill: Treasures, Scholastic: Weekly Reader, and various resources*

Social studies content is based on Kindergarten academic standards from the Archdiocese with the theme of "living and learning together." The standards are focused around five content areas: history; civics and government; geography; economics; individuals, society, and culture. Social studies content is reinforced through dramatic play centers, experiential learning, and interactive learning.

## **Handwriting**

*Zaner-Bloser: Handwriting K*

Students will start the year learning the basic strokes necessary for proper letter and number formation and progress to writing letters and numbers with the correct sizing, spacing, and capitalization.

## **Religion**

*Loyola Press: God Loves Us*

Students will learn the basic tenets of the Catholic faith through the study of God's creation, the life of Jesus, the saints, the Bible, and basic prayers. Saint Ambrose has a diverse student body and not all students are Catholic. Non-Catholics are encouraged to share with us the ways they worship God so we can learn and grow as a faith community.