

# Fourth Grade Curriculum Overview

## **Handwriting (Writing our Catholic Faith-Universal Publishing):**

- Students will strengthen cursive writing skills.
- Students will continually practice basic strokes, letters, numbers, joinings, words, and sentences.
- Manuscript maintenance will be reinforced as well.
- The Catholic curriculum reinforced throughout the book.

## **Reading (McGraw-Hill Treasures, Vocabulary Workshop and a variety of novels):**

- A variety of strategies will reinforce basic reading skills. (fact/opinion, main idea/details, cause/effect, predictions, inferences, author's purpose, conflict/resolution, plot, character analysis)
- Students will read a variety of genres throughout the course of the year.
- Students will have the opportunity to strengthen oral and listening reading skills.
- Identify the main idea/thesis of the passage given
- Within small groups, students will collaborate with others during literature circles.
- Students will work on presenting to an audience.
- Implement vocabulary words from an additional source other than from the short stories and novels that will be read.

## **Grammar/Writing (Grammar Workshop-Sadlier):**

- Basic grammar conventions are reinforced from previous grades.
- Correct grammar conventions are recognized and used in student's daily writings.
- Students will master their parts of speech through everyday usage and writing.
- Sentence and paragraph structures are reviewed.
- Proofreading practice is used daily in the classroom.
- Spelling patterns are practiced and reinforced through mini-lessons.
- The writing process is taught and implemented into each writing assignment.
- Students will write a variety of writing pieces through each genre of writing (descriptive, narrative, persuasive, expository)

## **Math(Progress in Mathematics-Sadlier):**

- Students continue and further develop their skills in the concepts of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- New key concepts for fractions and decimals will be introduced.
- Measurement and geometry skills will be explored.
- Problem solving skills and the various strategies will be utilized and analyzed.
- Students will be able to read and interpret various types of graphs.

## **Science (McGraw-Hill Science):**

The main topics studied will be:

- Characteristics of Life
- Physical Science - Chemistry
- Physical Science - Physics
- Earth Science
- Astronomy and Space Science
- Environmental Studies

## **Social Studies (McGraw-Hill New Jersey):**

- Students will focus on the state of New Jersey starting with the geography.
- Students learn about the history starting with Lenape Native Americans spanning to present day.
- Historical leaders of New Jersey are focused upon.

- Historical wars and conflicts are taught.
- Various reading strategies are implemented the historical timeline for interpretation.
- The five regions of the United States are introduced and the major landforms and climates of each region are discussed.

**Religion (We Believe-Sadlier, Catholic Reflections-Universal Publishing):**

- The main focus is learning and understanding the Ten Commandments.
- Students will look in depth at the parts of the mass.
- New this year, *Catholic Reflections* encourages students to think more deeply about their faith. It includes discussion and journaling prompts, scripture passages and prayer references. Students will read, talk, connect, and reflect on each lesson.

**Technology:**

Various forms of technology devices and websites are implemented throughout the buildings;

- Alphamation Plus- interactive handwriting tool
- Vocabulary/Spelling City- [www.spellingcity.com](http://www.spellingcity.com)
- IXL math- [www.ixl.com](http://www.ixl.com)
- Sadlier Connect- online assessment program for *Vocabulary Workshop*
- Maps101- interactive social studies resource

Always looking for new and various resources and websites to implement into the curriculum within the classroom and at home.