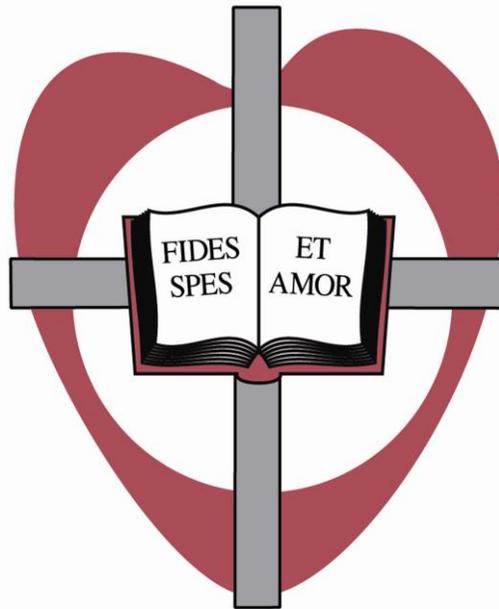


Celebrating over 59 Years of Excellence!

St. Rocco School

Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ!

What Your Child Learns



A Parent's Guide to the *Kindergarten Curriculum*

CHRIST is the reason for this school.
~in our minds, on our lips, and always in our hearts~

At St. Rocco School, we promote a Catholic Education providing a rich spiritual, academic and social development of each child. We do this through a stimulating environment and a broad based and balanced core standard curriculum for each subject area in every grade level. Our curriculum will continuously undergo evaluation and updating.

Included but not limited to:

Empowering Writing Grades K-8

Foss Kits Grades K-8

STAR assessments are used regularly throughout the year as formative and interim testing to screen for reading and math achievement levels. They will be used once a year in April as nationally normed summative assessments. The assessments are computer based either being taken on a laptop, PC or tablet. The reports yield data in both disciplines in order for the teachers to identify differentiated classroom instructional strategies for individualized student progress in grades 2-8.

Next Generation Science Standards Grades 5-8

St. Rocco School is accredited by the New England Association for Schools and Colleges.

Please note that these curriculum guides provide only an overview of what your child will be learning and that the actual written curriculum is much more comprehensive.

What Your Child Learns

GRADE KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

Religion

Students will become aware that God made and loves us. They will appreciate themselves as gifts of God. They will examine what Catholics believe, how Catholics celebrate, live, and pray. As part of the Religion Program, the Circle of Grace Program will focus on issues to teach and guide our students to grow up in a safe environment within the context of Christian moral living..

A few of the objectives to be covered are:

- ♥ Listen to Bible stories about creation, the life of Jesus and caring for others.
- ♥ Understand God made all things because He loves us.
- ♥ Understand that our Church celebrates the Liturgical Seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter.
- ♥ Say simple prayers in the morning, evening, and at meal times.
- ♥ Understand that God loves their family and them.
- ♥ Understand that a baby is a gift from God, and that all babies need love and special care.
- ♥ Know that they are God's helpers and that He wants them to care for all life.

Health

The students will study a variety of topics relating to personal and mental health, nutrition and fitness, harmful substances, human growth, disease and injury prevention, the importance of safety and community resources, and strategies for conflict resolution and stress management:

A few of the objectives are listed below:

- ♥ Appreciate that each person is special and unique.
- ♥ Accept and respect others by cooperating and sharing as a member of a group.
- ♥ Demonstrate responsibility and accept consequences of both positive and negative behaviors.
- ♥ Recognize that exercise keeps you healthy.
- ♥ Identify healthy and non-healthy foods and discuss good eating habits.
- ♥ Identify the differences between harmful and helpful substances.
- ♥ Understand the importance of personal hygiene habits.
- ♥ Have an awareness of changes in their bodies.
- ♥ Demonstrate desirable health practices.
- ♥ Recognize the difference between good and bad touches.
- ♥ Understand fire safety rules.
- ♥ Identify 911 as an emergency number.
- ♥ Explore different community helpers and the role of each of them in our society.
- ♥ Identify feelings of anger and demonstrate the ability to handle them in an appropriate way.
- ♥ Identify feelings and how feelings affect behavior.

Math

Students will understand numbers and ways of representing numbers. They will demonstrate an understanding of classification, patterning and sequence. Students will recognize ways to measure objects, time, and money. Students will begin to demonstrate an understanding of data collection, display, and interpretation.

A few of the objectives are listed below:

- ♥ Recognize and write numbers 0 through 30.
- ♥ Order numbers 1 to 30.
- ♥ Write out addition sentences to the sum of 10.
- ♥ Write out subtraction sentences from 10.
- ♥ Identify attributes to recognize same and different.
- ♥ Identify attributes of objects -- color, size, shape.
- ♥ Use non-standard and standard units of measure to compare, estimate, and describe length.
- ♥ Identify solids and shapes and describe their properties.
- ♥ Begin to understand time and use clocks to tell time to the hour.
- ♥ Identify coins -- penny, nickel, dime, quarter.
- ♥ Use real objects or pictures to make and read graphs.

Language Arts

Listening Goal: Actively receive and process the spoken word for information, interpretation, analysis, appreciation, and enjoyment.

Listening

- ♥ Exhibit age appropriate attention span.
- ♥ Adjust physical conditions to promote listening.
- ♥ Listen to and follow one to two step oral directions.
- ♥ Recognize sound devices of rhythm, rhyme, and repetition.

Speaking Goal: Articulate thoughts and feelings in oral speaking to determine a purpose for their speaking and express ideas utilizing appropriate oral language skills in both formal and informal settings.

Speaking

- ♥ Understand printed words represent spoken words.
- ♥ Express ideas in complete sentences.
- ♥ Speak audibly, freely, and naturally.
- ♥ Contribute to group discussion to express views and solve problems.

Reading Goals:

1. Construct meaning on a literal, inferential, critical, and evaluative level using both traditional and contemporary literature as well as magazines, newspapers, text books, and online materials.
 2. Respond critically to the written word and show evidence of independent thinking and critical evaluation.
 3. Select and read at least 25 books or book equivalents in a variety of literary forms.
 4. Develop an understanding of and respect for diversity in language use, patterns, and dialects across cultures, ethnic groups, geographic regions, and social roles.
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Reading

Literal Comprehension

- ♥ Recall facts and details.
- ♥ Retell story in oral form by answering questions.
- ♥ Recall sequence of events orally and with drawings.

Inferential Comprehension

- ♥ Relate facts and details in oral form using 5W questions.
- ♥ Make predictions based on picture and story title.

Critical Comprehension

- ♥ Distinguish between realism and fantasy, sense and nonsense, and fiction and non-fiction.
- ♥ Describe the main characters, setting, and type of ending.
- ♥ Connect with personal experiences and prior knowledge.

Reading Readiness

Fine Motor Coordination Skills

- ♥ Trace, copy, and print in written form.
- ♥ Copy and draw basic shapes.
- ♥ Print letters, words, and sentences.

Auditory Skills

- ♥ Repeat a pattern of words.
- ♥ Finish an incomplete sentence with appropriate words.
- ♥ Decode words using consonants and short vowel sounds.

Language Skills

- ♥ Tell stories in sequence with and without pictures.
- ♥ Match spoken words with written counterparts.
- ♥ Supply opposite words.

Visual skills

- ♥ Recognize parts of a book (i.e., title page, author, cover, illustrator, dedication)
- ♥ Put simple puzzles together (12-15 pieces).
- ♥ Arrange pictures in sequence.

Word Attack

- ♥ Develop left to right eye movement.
- ♥ Recite the alphabet and discriminate sound for each letter of the alphabet.
- ♥ Learn 36 sight words from literature in the reading program.

Study/Organizational Skills

- ♥ Work independently.
- ♥ Work cooperatively in small and large groups.
- ♥ Follow simple directions.
- ♥ Begin to develop time management skills.

Writing

Prewriting

- ♥ Illustrate a story idea.
- ♥ Dictate appropriate words for illustrations.
- ♥ Brainstorm words related to a topic and ideas for stories.

Writing

- ♥ Use letter sound association to spell words.
- ♥ Begin to have a beginning, middle, and an ending to a story.
- ♥ Sequence ideas.

Editing/Mechanics

- ♥ Capitalize beginning sentences, proper nouns, and the word "I".
- ♥ Use a period and a question mark.

Publishing

- ♥ Share writing with others.
- ♥ Enjoy the work of others.

Social Studies

The social studies outcome in Kindergarten is to provide a learning environment which gives children opportunities to develop social skills and create positive interactions with others. They will be learning about their roles as members of a family, school, and community.

A few of the objectives are listed below:

SELF and FAMILY

- ♥ Be aware that individuals and families are alike and different.
- ♥ Describe aspects of a family.
- ♥ Name family members.
- ♥ Understand the workings of a family unit.
- ♥ Understand their role in the family.

COMMUNITY

- ♥ Identify self and family as part of a community.

CITIZENSHIP

- ♥ Be aware of other cultures and appreciate them.
- ♥ Be aware of cultural diversity.

HISTORY

- ♥ Learn about history through special days (holidays and birthdays).
- ♥ Identify the flag as a national symbol of our country.
- ♥ Be aware of historical time, past, present, and future.

Science

Students will begin to use the scientific method. They will be encouraged to ask questions, observe, and discuss their findings. They will learn about the development of the natural and physical world and the connections to everyday life.

Students will study the following topics:

Life Science

- Animals
- Plants

Earth Science

- Wood and Paper
- Weather and Seasons

Art

The student will be introduced to artists (their works, their techniques, their mediums, their struggles, and their perseverance's) in an environment that encourages self-discovery and self-expression through artistic experimentation; and to provide information and insights that enhance the students' regular curriculum.

Focus of Lessons:

- ♥ Reinforce listening skills and following directions
- ♥ Patterning with mosaics
- ♥ Study of symmetry/self-portrait
- ♥ Finding similar shapes in works of art
- ♥ Music inspires art
- ♥ Simple still life introduces color, composition, and shape
- ♥ Exploring patterns through printmaking
- ♥ Layering shapes to create three-dimensional art
- ♥ Seasonal projects/art work

Music

All students in Kindergarten have general music twice each week. The general music program introduces students to the following basic musical concepts: rhythm, melody, harmony, tone color, form, and expression. Students experience these concepts through singing, moving, and listening and apply them through performing and creating, both in the classroom and in liturgical settings throughout the school year.

Students explore various styles of music and recognize music from different historical periods. Music instruction is complemented by music learning software for Kindergarten through Grade Eight.

Our adopted music curriculum is *Making Music*, published by Silver-Burdett/Ginn, supplemented by *Music Alive*, a monthly magazine published by Cherry Lane for the Middle School.

Physical Education

All students at St. Rocco School have a balanced Physical Education program that gives them opportunities for vigorous activity, teaches skills, and stresses the importance of life-long fitness. Our Physical Education program reinforces our Christian values and social skills by providing opportunities for collaboration and good sportsmanship. Kindergarten students have the opportunity throughout the year to work in both large and small group activities as well as individually and with a partner. Some of the units the students participate in are movement exploration, locomotor and non-locomotor skills, manipulative activities, stunts and tumbling, and rhythm and dance. The emphasis is on cooperation and participation.

Technology

The students will be introduced to the skills needed to operate the computer and begin to understand the basic computer terminology. They will be able to respond to simple questions using the keyboard, and they will begin to work independently using computer programs available in the classroom, and in the Technology Learning Center. Technology is integrated into daily activities through the use of iPads and interactive instruction with the use of the “whiteboard” (Mimio).

Instructional Software Use: not limited to ~ *Brain Pop, Kidspiration, etc.*
