

**Grade 3 – Grade 5  
Course Description  
Catalog  
2024 - 2025**



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Lead with **Faith**

Advocate for **Knowledge**

Encourage **Excellence**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

St. Robert Catholic School is a Christ-centered community that empowers students to develop their faith and abilities, which are essential for a lifetime of service, intellectual and personal growth.

## **STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATIONS**

A graduate of St. Robert Catholic School will demonstrate the following:

**Stewards of God's Creation**

**Treats everyone with respect**

**Responsive to the needs of others**

**Obedient to a consistent prayer life**

**Brings the Beatitudes to life**

**Expresses thoughts, ideas, and emotions clearly**

**Resolves conflicts peacefully**

**Takes responsibility**

# Academic Honors

## Mighty Rebel

The Mighty Rebel award is given to students receiving at least a '3' in all subject areas, conduct, and effort.

## Christian Citizenship

The Christian Citizenship award is given to students demonstrating exemplary classroom and playground behavior

## Responsible Rebel

Students must develop a sense of promptness and work ethic. The Responsible Rebel Award is given every two weeks to students that have no tardies. Beginning in October, it is given out once per month.

## VIRTUE Awards

VIRTUE awards are given out monthly to students that have exemplified the meaning of a VIRTUE through their words and actions.

# Academics

## **Third Grade**

Third Grade is a big academic leap from second grade. Students are becoming more independent and self-aware. We begin the year working for *Mighty Rebel* and *Christian Citizenship* awards and end the year on the Honor Roll. This is the year students begin to transition from learning to read to reading to learn. We work on independence and organization beginning the first day of class. Students are expected to take responsibility for their own belongings, their own space, their own behavior and their own learning. We work on growth mindsets and develop an inner voice that is encouraging and growth minded. Third graders work hard on building their academic persistence and stamina.

In **Religion**, third graders continue their study of the sacraments and different forms of prayer. Through our studies and Community Service, we emphasize the Beatitudes, our School Learning Expectations (SLEs), and the Corporal Works of Mercy. We begin to learn the history of the

early church and the apostles' role in building the church. We learn about the hierarchy of the diocese, parish, school and how we are all called to serve. All third grade students are required to complete seven hours of Community Service and the related class assignments.

In **Language Arts**, we move into cursive writing and away from printing. We work on the parts of speech: nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs and adjectives. We use *Step-Up-To -Writing* as we learn to write paragraphs. We work with figurative language and idioms as well as using a dictionary and a thesaurus. In our writing, we use simple, compound and complex sentences as we develop storylines and characters in our creative writing.

In **Reading**, we move from *learning to read* to *reading to learn*. We practice close reading and working with informational text. We learn to highlight the key ideas and take simple notes. We read several novels as a class in addition to stories in our basal reader. We move away from picture books and onto more complex texts with higher thinking questions. We study character traits and settings as well as plot, problem and solutions. Compare and contrast activities are important in third grade. We study the ocean, stories worth telling again, creative inventive people, revolutionary war heroes, our early government, the solar system and dragons and giants in our Common Core Units.

In **Math**, we start the year with addition and subtraction and quickly move on to multiplication. Students are expected to have mastered addition and subtraction to 12 and by the end of the year, multiplication and division to 12. We also cover fractions, place value, word problems, money and elapsed time. We start fractions and progress to equivalent fractions.

In **Art**, students will develop an understanding of mood in storytelling, basic forms of perspective, balance and symmetry, imaginary and surreal imagery while practicing the techniques of various artists. Artists that may be covered are: Van Gogh, Klimt, Rousseau and Warhol. Students will explore various forms of visual arts; including, but not limited to, the following: Drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media.

Students will learn foundational techniques and concepts while expressing their creativity through hands-on projects. Emphasis is placed on developing observational skills, understanding the art elements, exploring different mediums and artistic styles, and encouraging critical thinking and analytical skills through discussion and critique. Student artwork will be displayed at various exhibitions for the school community throughout the year.

In **Social Studies**, we study maps, regions, and landforms. Third graders learn about the American Indian nations in their local region and take a trip to see a Maidu Village. Students learn about the roles of rules and laws in our daily lives. We study basic economic reasoning

skills, past and present communities and their needs while tying it to our *Community Service* projects and how we are called to be *Stewards of God's Creation*.

In **Science**, third grade covers force, motion, magnets, weather and adaptations through the *Next Generation Science Standards* adopted by the diocese of Sacramento. We incorporate Science / Technology / Engineering / Math, (*STEM*); Science / Technology / Engineering / Arts / Math, (*STEAM*); and Science / Technology / Religion / Engineering / Arts/Math, (*STREAM*) activities into all curriculum areas. These activities allow third graders to use their creativity and thoughtful ideas to test hypotheses and refine experiments. We look closely at current issues facing our world and what we can do to make a change for our future.

In **Music**, students grow in understanding the music of other cultures, beginning with folk music of North America. Their study of music notation continues, as they practice rhythm patterns, body percussion and play instruments. Students will continue to build their understanding of musical elements through vocal music opportunities and performances for showcases throughout the year. Third grade students are eligible to join the choral music program, which is an optional, after school program.

In **PE**, students find their motor ability increases and they gain better control. They are able to begin a concept of the order of a sequence in a movement. They are able to make well-defined combinations of movements.

## **Fourth Grade**

Fourth Grade is an important time of transition in elementary school. As fourth grade students, children have more responsibilities including homework each day, book reports, and keeping all work organized, including their planners, books, and both short and long term assignments.

In **Religion**, Fourth Graders will study the Mass, the Commandments, the Beatitudes, the saints, and prayers. We will prepare for our Fourth Grade liturgy, creating Prayers of the Faithful, continuing work as lectors, and practicing to help lead the school in song and prayer. All fourth grade students are required to complete **eight hours** of Christian Service and the related class assignments.

In **Language Arts**, students will learn how to write creative stories and multi-paragraph reports using the *Step-Up-To-Writing* program. Students will also study and write poetry. They will practice writing; opinion, informational, and narrative paragraphs. Students will also study and practice grammar ranging from nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositions to working with sentence diagramming.

In **Reading**, we will do book reports on various genres such as mysteries, biographies, historical fiction, and non-fiction. Students will present a Historical Hero as a Wax Museum, which the whole school body, family and friends will come to view the 4th graders. Students will read a wide variety of pieces including short stories, informational texts, articles, poetry, novels, and plays. Through these activities, students will continue to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills.

In **Social Studies**, we will study California history, ranging from the early Native American peoples and explorers, the missions era and ranchos, the Gold Rush and statehood, immigration and westward movement and industry and technology.

In **Science**, students will study a range of subjects from landforms and geology, Earth's systems and hazards, the human body and organisms, energy and waves, magnetism and engineering and technology. Students receive handouts and other documents with each new unit. Students will have the opportunity to explore through various labs relating to different units.

In **Music**, students will continue to build their understanding of the structure and the elements of music (such as rhythm, pitch, and form) in various music genres. They will be adding to their musical vocabulary, exploring expression and intent of the composers and the performers, and continue notation reading skills through singing, performance and rhythm exercises, as well as body percussion. Students will be developing observational and listening skills, understanding musical elements, exploring different genres and musical cultures, and encouraging critical thinking and analytical skills through discussion and critique. Fourth grade students are eligible to join the choral music program, which is an optional, after school program

In **Math**, students will review their addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts with a deeper understanding of long division and two and three digit multiplication. They will be learning algebraic concepts along with working with fractions, decimals, graphs, forms of measurement, and geometry.

In **Art**, students will develop an understanding of basic forms of perspective, balance and symmetry, imaginary and surreal imagery while practicing the techniques of various artists. Artists that may be covered are Rousseau, Klimt and Warhol. Students will explore various forms of visual arts; including, but not limited to, the following: Drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media. Students will learn foundational techniques and concepts while expressing their creativity through hands-on projects. Emphasis is placed on developing observational skills, understanding the art elements, exploring different mediums and artistic styles, and encouraging critical thinking and analytical skills through discussion and critique. Student artwork will be displayed at various exhibitions for the school community throughout the year.

In **PE**, students are growing in definite patterns. They are between the stages of childhood and youth. Their hand – eye coordination is improved and they are becoming more skillful with their fine motor skills. Students at this stage have mastered many loco-motor and non loco-motor skills and are able to manipulate objects in a variety of ways. Students will use throwing and catching skills to manipulate different objects, increasing accuracy and using correct form. Students will refine kicking skills to progress towards accuracy when generating force. Student will use dribbling skills to guard from defensive partners.

## **Fifth Grade**

As fifth grade students, children will have an increase in responsibilities. Students will work in small groups, but the majority of work is completed independently. The units in fifth grade begin tackling complex literature and ideas that connect with history, science, and the arts. Students develop their writing skills within many genres. Students will have approximately an hour to an hour and a half of homework each night, and will be responsible for short and long term written reports and presentations. Students will also be responsible for keeping work organized in their folders and interactive notebooks, using their planner daily, and completing assignments.

In **Religion**, fifth graders will study the parts of Mass, strengthen their knowledge of the Commandments, the Beatitudes, and learn new prayers. Students participate in the preparation of a school wide mass/prayer service, where they will work as lectors, creating Prayers of the Faithful, and leading the school in prayer. All students are required to complete 4 hours of Christian service per trimester, for a total of 12 hours a year, and other required class assignments.

In **Language Arts**, students will learn how to write creative stories and a multi-paragraph report using the Step-Up-To-Writing and the Common Core ELA program. Reports will include a personal narrative essay, a persuasive essay, expository essay, and a state report. Students will also study figurative language and reinforce grammar. In addition, fifth graders will use Membean to acquire vocabulary..

In **Reading**, we will have a series book reports both written and presented orally. Students will read various genres such as autobiographies, biographies, fables, realistic fiction, historical fiction, and non-fiction. Students will read a wide variety of pieces that may include short stories, informational texts, articles, poetry, novels, and plays. Through these activities, students will continue to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. Students will continue close reading to gain better comprehension of the information they are reading. Students will be independently reading three additional books per trimester; this will be achieved through teacher-selected literature themes and personal choice novels, according to their Lexile scores.

In **Social Studies**, we will study the development of America with a focus on early explorers, settlements, changes in culture, economics in America, geography, governance and civics and the branches of government. Students are responsible for a research essay, written in class and at

home, based on one of the 50 states and/or an important historical figure from the time period that we are studying. In addition, all fifth graders will know the 50 states and capitals.

In **Science**, students will study a range of subjects from matter and its interactions, motion, energy, ecosystems, earth's systems, and engineering design. Students receive handouts and other documents with each new unit. Students will have the opportunity to explore through various labs relating to different units.

In **Math**, students will finalize fluency with multi-digit addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Students will apply previous knowledge of properties of operations, computations, and making reasonable estimates. They will be learning algebraic concepts along with working with fractions, decimals, graphs, forms of measurement, and probability. Students will also learn to write and interpret numerical expressions, perform operations with multi-digit whole numbers, fractions, and decimals, apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and division as well as geometric measurement.

In **Music**, students will build upon their knowledge of American folk music through the study of music from various eras in our country's past, as well as the various global influences in the different regions of our country. They will continue to build their understanding of how the structure and context of musical works inform the performance and how intent is conveyed through interpretive decisions and expressive qualities (such as dynamics, tempo, timbre, and articulation/ style). Listening skills and interpretation, as well as discussion and critique, will help to strengthen their critical thinking and analytical skills around musical terms and elements. Students will have opportunities to demonstrate and perform throughout the year to showcase their understanding and mastery of musical skills. Fifth grade students are eligible to join the choral music program, which is an optional, after school program.

In **Art**, fifth graders will compare different works of art, including realistic and surrealistic, using the elements of art. Works of art from different times and cultures are chosen for study. Some of the artists that may be included are Prymachenko, Warhol, and Klimt. Students will work on various projects to practice conveying a sense of depth: one-point perspective drawings, landscape, and illusion of space are some of the projects they will complete. Students will explore various forms of visual arts; including, but not limited to, the following: Drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media. Students will learn foundational techniques and concepts while expressing their creativity through hands-on projects. Emphasis is placed on developing observational skills, understanding the art elements, exploring different mediums and artistic styles, and encouraging critical thinking and analytical skills through discussion and critique. Student artwork will be displayed at various exhibitions for the school community throughout the year.



In **PE**, students continue to manipulate a variety of objects according to more specific goals. At this level specific body types are more efficient in certain movements, skills, and activities as body size and strength increase steadily. Students become more proficient in basic skills, such as running, jumping, and throwing. They manipulate objects through space and accuracy and with the added element of speed.

## Technology

Students in Grade 3-5 are expected to abide by the following policy on the use of technology:

- I will use my Chromebook and my other electronic devices in ways that are appropriate, educational, and meet St. Robert Catholic School Catholic School expectations as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook.
- I will use appropriate language when using emails, journals, blogs, or any other forms of communication.
- I will not create, or encourage others to create, discourteous or abusive content.
- I will not use electronic communication to spread rumors, gossip, or engage in any other activity that is harmful to other persons.
- I understand that my Chromebook and school computers used by me are subject to inspection at any time without notice and remain the property of the school.
- I understand that my other electronic devices (including but not limited to my cell phone) are subject to inspection at any time based on a reasonable suspicion that they contain information pertinent to a violation of law or school policies.
- I will take proper care of my Chromebook.
- I will never leave the Chromebook unattended, and I will know where it is at all times.
- I will protect my Chromebook by keeping it stored in the provided case at all times.
- I will never loan out my Chromebook or give my password to other individuals.
- I will not let anyone else use my Chromebook other than my parents or guardians.
- I will charge my Chromebook's battery daily and arrive at school with my device fully charged.
- I will keep food and beverages away from my Chromebook since these may cause damage to the device.
- I will clean the screen with a soft, antistatic cloth ONLY and will use no cleaners.
- I will not disassemble any part of my Chromebook or attempt any repairs.
- I will not place decorations (such as stickers, markers, etc.) on the Chromebook, or do anything to permanently alter the Chromebook in any way.
- I will not remove or deface the serial number or other identification on any Chromebook.
- I will be responsible for all damage or loss caused by neglect or abuse.
  
- I agree to return the Chromebook, case, and power cords in good working condition.

# Athletics

The following teams will be offered during this school year:

Pee Wee Basketball: 3rd and 4th Grade

Pee Wee Basketball is open to both boys and girls in grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>.

Students must participate on a team according to their current grade.

Student in 5th grade may participate on:

JV Volleyball

JV Basketball

Cross Country

Track

Golf

## Player Eligibility

All students are eligible to participate on athletic teams sponsored by St. Robert Catholic School and we will provide a team for everyone as we are a no cut program. Participation in the program requires regular attendance at practices and games as required by athletic coaches. However, it is important that we remember that students are at St. Robert's to get a good education. They are Student Athletes at St. Robert's and their first priority is their education. Coaches and parents often forget this fact. In addition, membership on a sports team requires acceptable behavior at all times--good sportsmanship, and respect for coaches, players, and officials during games and practices. Participation in sports is a privilege afforded to all students and is intended to supplement the academic program.