



THIRD GRADE CURRICULUM – Keizer Campus

CHAPEL

Once a week, the faculty and student body gather together to express devotion to our Lord through praise and worship. Biblical truths and principles of life are taught by our staff, pastors and guest speakers. We welcome parents to attend with their children and worship with us.

CHARACTER FORMATION

At the heart of the discipleship mission is to worship God in a pleasing way. This requires no longer conforming to the patterns of this world, but to become transformed into the new creation we are in Christ. To this end, a unique biblical character trait will be emphasized each month in every aspect of the school. At the end of the month, each student should have a firm understanding of the scriptural value of demonstrating the character trait, as well as the tools to practice the character trait in real life. Over the course of 4 years, 36 unique character traits will be emphasized.

BIBLE

Bible study is an integral part of the curriculum at Crosshill Christian School. We approach Scripture in such a way that a child will discover and be able to apply the relevance of the Bible and its principles to everyday situations and experiences. Students will learn a Bible verse each week that is applicable to their life situation. We feel it is important at a young age for them to begin hiding God's words in their hearts.

Crosshill Christian School utilizes the ACSI Purposeful Design Bible Curriculum as a guideline for scope and sequence. Throughout the year the curriculum focuses on the lives of various Heroes of the faith. Students will see just as God had a plan and purpose for each person that we study in the Bible, God also has a plan and a purpose for them.

READING

Third grade uses a variety of sources to create a well-rounded reading curriculum. Basal readers from Bob Jones University Press are used throughout the year and focus on reading, fluency, comprehension, and phonics-based skills. Students also utilize teacher-created novel studies, genre-based instruction, and timed reading quizzes called Read & Think which focus on fluency and comprehension. To practice reading and comprehension skills students will do book reports and projects based on the current novel or genre they are studying. Elements of The Daily Five Reading Program are also incorporated; literature units, utilizing reading response to develop comprehension, critical thinking, and reading for report purposes. Along with classroom reading, students have the opportunity to participate in reading incentive programs offered through our library program. The children have library class, and are able to check out books.

SPELLING

The ability to communicate with one another and with God is part of His plan for our lives. Written language requires accurate spelling. Thus, spelling becomes an important part of the communication process. Writing allows the transfer of information over space and time. This ability is unique to humans and is a clear reflection of the nature of God.

CCS works to create lifelong spellers. Students need to have a grasp of spelling rules as well as a knowledge of how to spell basic to advanced words, not just for Friday tests, but in everyday work. We use a variety of methods to accomplish this. The main resource is Bob Jones Spelling where students are taught spelling patterns and strategies, proofreading skills, dictionary skills, and are given the opportunity to incorporate those into meaningful writing experiences.

LANGUAGE/GRAMMAR

Students use the Bob Jones curriculum. The student workbooks provide a guided practice page and an independent practice page providing instruction and practice for written and oral language and grammar skills. Students benefit from solid instruction in:

- * Capitalization, Punctuation and Commas
- * Proper Sentence Structure
- * Recognizing and using Nouns (common, proper, plural, pronouns and possessive nouns)
- * Recognizing and using Verbs (present tense, past tense, future tense, linking verbs and irregular verbs)
- * Recognizing and using Adjectives
- * Recognizing and using Adverbs
- * Using Synonyms, Antonyms, Homonyms
- * Contractions
- * Suffixes

- * Study & Reference skills using the Library, Dictionary, Encyclopedia, Thesaurus, and Atlas
- * Writing Instructions
- * Writing a Story with a plot and Setting
- * Writing a Persuasive Essay
- * Writing a Friendly Letter (including addressing an envelope)
- * Writing a Book Report
- * Writing a Poem
- * Writing a Research Report (biography)
- * Writing a Compare-Contrast Essay

HANDWRITING

Crosshill Christian School has chosen to use Bob Jones Handwriting because of the ease of transitioning from the pre-cursive alphabet to cursive. Third grade focuses on letter formation, alignment, slant, shape, spacing and neatness throughout the year, all while incorporating scripture and Biblical concepts and themes. In addition to the workbook activities, students practice their cursive writing throughout the curriculum.

MATHEMATICS

Through the use of speed drills and games, students receive mini-mental exercises focusing on number sense, patterns, estimation, mental mathematics, and geometry. Critical thinking skills and connecting mathematical concepts are practiced through problem solving. The “story” problems mirror real-world situations where math skills must be used showing the importance of understanding and mastering these concepts.

The A Beka math curriculum is used as the core textbook. This math program provides speed drills, daily math activities, and practice of both new and old concepts. A Beka also provides daily practice of basic math facts and skills. Games and unit studies are used to add interest to the concepts studied in third grade. Math is a perfect outlet for teaching students to work diligently, try their best, check their work, as well as to see the truth and order God has built into our world. Listed below are many of the math skills third grade students will study throughout the year:

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| * Addition/carrying | * Money |
| * Place Value | * Roman numerals 1-1000 |
| * Estimation | * Graphs and charts |
| * Long/short division | * Fractions |
| * Decimals in money | * Subtraction/borrowing |
| * Equations | * Terminology |
| * Multiplication facts 0-12 | * Time |
| * Geometric shapes | * Averaging numbers |
| * English/metric measures | * Converting measures |
| * Number sentences | * Problem solving |

SCIENCE

Science is the study of God's order, provision and general revelation as discovered in His physical creation. The science program at Crosshill Christian School offers a comprehensive basis which gives the students understanding of the content and processes of life, physical and earth sciences. ACSI Purposeful Design is used as the core textbook for third grade. The goal for third grade science is to develop a scientific attitude in each child that will give him an interest in the world that God has created and to make them aware of the important role that science plays in human progress and development.

Listed below are a few of the topics taught:

- * Ecosystems, life of plants and plant variety
- * Matter, motion and force, electricity, and magnets
- * The human body
- * Rocks and soil, the earth's surface, and changes in the earth's surface
- * The solar system, stars, and constellations

HISTORY

Students need a realistic view of history, government, and economics based upon the foundational truths of Scripture. The Crosshill Christian School history program is presented with the firm conviction that "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof." History therefore is a revelation of God in His dealings with man and the universe.

In our history book, Heritage Studies for Christian Schools 3, the concepts of the Constitutional Convention, French Revolution, American frontier, states and regions, Civil War, the Wild West, and map skills are presented. Our objectives include not only the teaching of beginning history concepts and geography skills, but also the formation of Christian philosophy, character, and attitudes. Each student is encouraged to become a responsible Christian citizen. The goal of history is for the children to see God's sovereign hand in the formation of our country and His continued hand upon each of our lives as our history unfolds today. Other resources give children an awareness of their American culture and heritage as it was and is today so they can make choices that will affect their future. Children must be aware of the importance of learning from the past and appreciate the structure of their own families. Students will participate in various activities that emphasize a Godly perspective regarding current and historic events and their effect on individuals and our country. Students will be encouraged to do extra credit projects and experience the feelings of other people groups by studying and presenting research in a variety of ways. We will have quizzes and comprehensive evaluations that reveal increasing critical thinking skills. Students will have a better understanding of God's work in our nation by the end of third grade.

MUSIC

God created music as a gift for us. In turn, we must use it for Him. Music is a skill that must be trained and developed, and through this training students will learn music as an avenue to praise and worship God. Melody, harmony, and rhythm will be points of study, with a variety of instruments and resources being utilized to help enhance this program. Crosshill Christian School students will perform at both our annual Christmas program and spring program.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Fitness and skill development are the primary goals of the PE program. Students participate in exercises to promote cardiovascular endurance, muscle strength and flexibility. Basic motor and manipulative skills are sequenced or combined for greater movement challenges. Games, relays and drills are designed to enhance skill related fitness or specific sport skills. Partner and group activities are used to meet growing social needs while emphasizing individual development.

TECHNOLOGY/COMPUTERS

Chromebook labs are utilized throughout the Elementary department for a variety of educational enhancements. Chromebook usage and navigation are introduced, as well as the beginning word processing skills needed for a variety of school projects. A typing program is utilized, teaching students the correct finger placement and usage for the keyboard.

ACSI EVENTS

Throughout the year there are opportunities for students to participate in various ACSI sponsored academic competitions with students from other Christian schools. Competitions at the classroom level select representatives from CCS for the ACSI Spelling Bee, Speech Meet and Math Olympics.

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