



THIRD GRADE CURRICULUM-South Campus

CHAPEL

Once a week, the faculty and student body in the elementary grades gather together in the Sanctuary to express devotion to our Lord through praise and worship. The first Wednesday of the month the whole school meets for Chapel. 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. The last Wednesday of the month we meet for small group chapel where the 6th graders lead a group of multi-aged elementary students in small group discussion and activities revolved around our character trait program.

BIBLE/CHARACTER FOUNDATION

Bible study is an integral part of the school curriculum at Crosshill Christian School. In third grade we begin each day spending time with Jesus. We use *Purposeful Design* to instill biblical knowledge and principles to the students. We start with the Trinity and work our way to the great commission. Familiarity with God's father-heart toward us and His amazing plan for our future are a source of hope and guidance. Acceptance of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and maintaining a personal relationship with Him is the main focus in the classroom. Students learn to imitate Christ through the use of our Bible curriculum, individual and corporate prayer, memorization of Bible verses, and application of biblical principles in daily life.

To bolster the character education mentioned above, third graders attend weekly chapel services, are involved in charity giving campaigns, and learn about positive character traits that are exemplified in the lives of believers.

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 they may work with timed reading quizzes called *Read & Think* which focus on fluency and comprehension. To practice reading and comprehension skills students will do several book reports.

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 English* 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

In addition to workbooks, students are active participants in Writer's Workshop where they have the opportunity to transfer their writing skills to published writing using the Writing Process: planning, drafting, revising, proofreading and publishing. Once they complete their final copy, their written work is typed and bound in a book where they are able to illustrate and share them with the class.

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" problem 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:

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

SCIENCE

Science is the study of God's order, provision, and general revelation as discovered in His physical creation. The science and health program at CCS offers a comprehensive study which gives the students understanding of the content and processes of life, physical, and earth sciences. Along with teacher created supplemental materials and a curriculum called Simply Science, the third grade utilizes *Bob Jones University Press Science 3* as the core text. Units have been created to stimulate the children's interest in science through a study of the wonders of God's creation. Experiments and activities reinforce and expand the ideas taught. Listed below are units that may be taught this year:

- * Earth: surfaces
- * Space: solar system
- * Ecosystems
- * Health

Each year the third grade goes to the planetarium at OMSI or Chemeketa Community College which gives students a visual opportunity to experience the concepts they have studied in science. In addition to the units taught in the book, students will write a report on a planet. This report will use the skills learned in writing. Other projects will also be encouraged and may include making models, completing experiments, or creating poster boards.

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, American frontier, states and regions, Civil War, 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 and 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.

COMPUTER

Students have access to the computer lab, as well as to a Chromebook lab that can be utilized by the teacher for various subjects.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Fitness and skill development are the primary goals of the 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.

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. In doing so, students will learn music as an avenue to praise and worship God. Melody, harmony, and rhythm will be points of study, with community resources being used to help enhance this program. Crosshill Christian School students will perform in the Christmas Program and the Night of the Arts.

SPANISH

Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the United States, and the fourth most important international business language. Research has shown that exposing students to language at an early age has many benefits including; reaching high levels of language acquisition, test performance, cognitive skills, and cultural sensitivity. At Crosshill, students have weekly exposure to the language and culture through listening, reading, playing games, writing, speaking, and singing. Students gain confidence in their comprehension and gain momentum as the year progresses.

ACSI ACTIVITIES

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