



## **FOURTH GRADE CURRICULUM – Keizer Campus**

### **CHAPEL**

Every week the faculty and student body gather for a time of worship. Our focus is to bring honor and glory to our Lord. 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 our discipleship mission, we desire to worship God in a pleasing way. This requires no longer conforming to the patterns of this world, but transforming into the new creations we are in Christ. To this end, a unique Biblical virtue will be emphasized each week in every aspect of the school. Each student will develop a firm understanding of the scriptural value of demonstrating that virtue, as well as the tools to practice it in real life. Over the course of the year, the 12 virtues will be practiced in rotation.

### **BIBLE**

Bible study is an integral part of the school 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. The students learn the books of the Bible and begin to learn how to find specific books, chapter and verse in their own Bibles. Students will learn a Bible verse each week, NIV version 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. The fourth grade book covers Christian theology in an exciting and comprehensible manner. There is a strong emphasis on Bible study tools and skills, essential doctrines of the Bible; and application lessons on prayer, devotions, personal evangelism, and holding onto the Truth.

## **READING**

The reading program in fourth grade places a large emphasis on comprehension and the expansion of critical thinking skills. In-depth novel studies help students learn to apply their critical thinking skills in a practical way. *Bob Jones University Press* authors the reading program for fourth grade. This is an innovative developmental reading program providing teaching, practice, application, and assessment of essential reading skills in a unique way. Each student receives a reading test booklet, as well as a workbook to provide further practice, application, and assessment. The reading program is supplemented by a classroom reading of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis, as well as other novels. Elements of The Daily Five Reading Program are also incorporated, which help to build skills in a fun and exciting way. Along with classroom reading, students have the opportunity to participate in reading incentives 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 University Press 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.

## **GRAMMAR AND WRITING**

*Bob Jones University Press* authors the grammar and writing program for K through fourth grade. The grammar units cover many topics, including sentence structure; diagramming sentences; nouns; plurals; verbs; direct objects; study and reference skills; pronouns; past, present, and future verb tenses; adjectives; adverbs; and prepositions.

The writing lessons exemplify how to write in a variety of genres using the Writing Process (pre-write/plan, rough draft, edit, revise, publish). During the year, students write personal narratives, friendly letters, book reviews, imaginative stories, and a research report on a country. Student writing is also enhanced through one-on-one writing conferences with the

teacher.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

The *Bob Jones University Press Language* curriculum provides each child with the workbook and a test booklet. A daily language lesson will include oral drills, teaching of new materials, and practice work in the workbook. Listed below are many of the skills students will learn:

- \* Sentence structure
- \* Kinds of sentences
- \* Punctuation and capitalization
- \* Abbreviations
- \* Possessive words
- \* Gathering information
- \* Nouns/Pronouns
- \* Adjectives and Adverbs
- \* Writing with detail
- \* Writing research and book reports
- \* Dictionary skills
- \* Word Usage
- \* Letters
  - \* Creative writing
  - \* Verbs
  - \* Poetry

Students solve verbal or representational analogies daily. This enables students to understand the connecting relationships between words. In the process, students develop skills in critical and creative thinking, vocabulary, and test-taking skills.

## **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 the connecting of mathematical concepts are practiced through problem-solving. The “story” problems mirror real-world situations in which 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. Computation skills lay the foundation for the mathematics program. These skills are taught and practiced, not as an end in themselves, but as a means to helping students solve problems. Games are utilized to reinforce math skills learned in class. The study of math encourages students to believe in the absolutes of the universe, to work diligently to obtain correct answers, and to see the facts of mathematics as part of the truth and order that God has built into the universe. Listed below are many of the skills the fourth grade student will learn:

- \* Place value of whole numbers and decimals
- \* Mastery of fundamental operation
- \* Addition/Subtraction/Multiplication of fractions
- \* Adding and subtracting mixed numbers
- \* Changing improper fractions
- \* Reducing fractions
- \* Estimation
- \* Roman numerals
- \* Factoring
- \* Least common denominator
- \* Least common multiples
- \* Equivalent fractions

- \* Making change
- \* Converting measures within the same system and solving measurement equations
- \* Reading a thermometer
- \* Solving equations using addition and subtraction
- \* English/metric measures

- \* Divisibility Rules
- \* Introduction to decimals
- \* Perimeter/area
- \* Geometric shapes
- \* Estimating answers
- \* Averaging

## **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 approach 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 fourth grade.

The goal for fourth grade science is to develop a scientific awareness in each child that will give him an interest in the world that God has created and an appreciation of the important role science plays in human progress and development. Listed below are a few of the topics taught:

- \* Design and Order of Life (cells, habitats, living vs. nonliving features, animal classifications)
- \* Energy and Heat
- \* Light and Sound
- \* Motion and Force
- \* The Human Body (cells, circulatory system, digestive system, respiratory system)
- \* Earth (soil, layers, water cycle, and atmosphere)

## **HISTORY**

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. Students will experience an in-depth study of their home state, Oregon. The curriculum covers the land of Oregon; early Oregon history; early explorers and traders; the first American settlers; settling Oregon; statehood; Oregon today; Oregonians at work; and Oregon's government.

To complement the curriculum, students participate in an Oregon Trail simulation. They form wagon train groups, create pioneer families, and journal as a child of a pioneer family taking the journey across the country on the Oregon Trail. Students will learn of the different landmarks along the trail and learn of the many dangers and hardships faced by the brave pioneers along the way.

Throughout the year students take several field trips to enhance their knowledge of Oregon history, including a trip to a business in the lumber and forest industry, and a visit to the Aurora

Colony Farms, to experience life as a pioneer.

## **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.

### **BEGINNING BAND (Offered if there is enough interest to support a class)**

Students in fourth and fifth grade beginning band will be introduced to the process of developing the skills to use their God given talents in music. Students will learn the fundamentals of music theory, music reading, and tone production. In addition, they will learn the technique of performance as well as develop as a cohesive group. Students will perform at the spring program.

## **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.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Fitness and skill development are the primary goals of the P.E. 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 skills related fitness or sport-specific skills. Partner and group activities are used to meet growing social needs, while emphasizing individual development.

## **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 fourth grade representatives from CCS for the ACSI Spelling Bee,

Speech Meet, and Math Olympics.

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