

### **THIRD GRADE: Curriculum Summary**

The program of instruction in third grade classes at Brentwood Christian School includes a wide variety of developmentally appropriate activities and studies. Teachers write curriculum for each area of study based upon the school's philosophy and goals. In areas where texts are used, the teachers review publications from Christian and secular publishers, select the best material, and write curriculum which employs that material. Studies and activities in each class are based upon the following guidelines:

**BIBLE** – Requires students to have and use their own Bibles. This class emphasizes learning how to use the Bible to discover how God has worked through the lives of His people in the past and how His words apply to us today. This study includes a selection of lessons from the Old Testament, and the life of Jesus, with an emphasis upon character traits and an application of these in the student's daily life. The content of the Bible curriculum is interwoven and integrated with all other curriculum areas.

**CHAPEL** – Is held weekly with K4 through 5th grades in attendance; about once every six weeks an all-school chapel assembly is held and secondary students pair up with elementary students for the service. Chapel services have lessons that focus on character traits growing out of scriptural lessons and include singing and prayer. Most chapel services conclude with the principal's announcements or recognitions.

**LANGUAGE ARTS** – Includes reading, spelling, English, writing, and cursive handwriting. This unit applies spelling patterns, basic grammar, usage, punctuation skills, and parts of speech in the writing process. Students use listening, speaking, and writing skills to produce a variety of student-written products. Bible class integrates literature themes with Bible lessons, science, and social studies. Students will be reading selected novels together and encouraged to do daily independent reading at home.

Texts currently in use: Purposeful Design *Spelling Level 3*, *Rocking Resources Interactive Writer's Workshop*, *Gobs of Grammar*, *Handwriting Without Tears*, *Reader's Workshop by Just Keep Smiling* and selected novels. Students develop writing, language, and reading comprehension skills through practice and independent reading.

**MATHEMATICS** – Reviews basic addition and subtraction facts, two- and three-digit addition and subtraction, multiplication, and division. This unit also includes studies on measurement (customary and metric), place value, time and money, fractions and decimals, geometry, data graphs, and probability. Mathematics applies concepts and skills learned in problem-solving activities.

Text currently in use: *EnVision Math*, Pearson. Students will practice the concepts taught in the classroom.

**SCIENCE** – 3rd Grade has adopted the *Full Option Science System (FOSS)* by Delta Education, which was created specifically to provide students and teachers with meaningful experiences through active participation in scientific practices.

This program starts the lesson with a small-group investigation where students collaborate to make observations and record results in data notebooks. The investigation is followed by readings from science materials and group discussions. Each lesson makes real-world and cross-curricular connections to make the learning relevant. It is aligned to TEKS and integrated into BCS grade level standards. It cycles through life science, earth science, and physical science through the school year, providing a balanced science curriculum each year.

**SOCIAL STUDIES** – Studies the makeup and structure of communities, types of communities (rural, urban, suburban), and communities in American history, physical geography, regions, culture, and government. This unit helps students understand that God has placed us in a variety of communities and that life in a community entails responsibilities to one another.

Text currently in use: Harcourt *Social Studies: Our Communities*. Students explore concepts about the world.

**SPANISH** – Taught by an experienced Spanish teacher once a week. Spanish class incorporates singing, movement, and games to provide an opportunity to learn basic vocabulary and develop a positive attitude toward language learning. This class is based on the premise that acquaintance with another language and culture is important in broadening students' horizons and reminding them of the value of all people in God's sight.

**ART** – Taught one day per week in a thirty-minute class and also integrated into the other core curriculum on a regular basis. This unit uses a variety of media including markers, crayons, and colored pencils. Students work on developing skills in the creation of various products.

**MUSIC** – Taught by a trained music teacher in a thirty-minute class that emphasizes singing and movement two days a week and basic ukulele instruction one day per week. This study introduces early music concepts such as rhythm and beat, pitch, volume, and tempo and combines musical training/appreciation with performance opportunities in the annual Christmas and Grandparents' Day programs.

Text currently in use: *Spotlight on Music*, Macmillan/McGraw-Hill. Students are introduced to music selections and music terminology.

**DRAMATICS** – Includes exposure to dramatic presentations by traveling theatrical troupes and Christian drama groups. This unit involves students directly in re-enactments of biblical stories and in short dramatic activities related to language arts and social studies projects.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION** – Taught by physical education teachers four days a week during a thirty-minute class taking place in the gym and on outdoor fields. P.E. includes daily conditioning exercises, physical games and activities, and athletic skills.

**COMPUTER LAB** – Conducted twice a week by a trained computer teacher. Students will be introduced to the internal structure of a computer including processors, memory, and more. Students will be taught more advanced spreadsheet tools and will be introduced to organizing ideas and communicating to a specific audience using presentation software. They will be coached on improving keyboarding speed and accuracy. Students will continue working on visual mapping software to plan and outline projects. Email basics will be introduced in this grade. During the fourth quarter, students will continue learning basic coding/programming by adding concepts such as problem decomposition, functions, nested loops, and conditionals.

Text currently in use: *Easy Tech*, Learning.com. Students will learn to communicate, construct, evaluate, collaborate, and create using technology.

**LIBRARY** – Features a 45-minute class once a week where students are exposed to quality children's literature and have the opportunity to check out books.

**FIELD TRIPS** – Taken in connection with and to enhance subject area studies. Field trips include such destinations as the Jersey Barnyard, LCRA Red Bud Center, and Longhorn Caverns. We honor our Veterans on Veteran's Day with cards and banners.

**RECESS** – Includes twenty minutes of daily playtime on the outside playground. Both third grade classes enjoy this time for unstructured play together.

**SOCIALIZATION** – Develops under the watchful guidance and with the encouragement of the teacher and is practiced at recess and during daily activities. Problem-solving strategies in the context of Christian values are modeled and practiced.

**TECHNOLOGY CONNECTION** – Students use various apps and websites on iPads for math, AR test, STAR testing, group activities, and collaborative projects.

**HOMEWORK** – Assigned about four times per week. Homework can include independent reading, spelling mastery, math, language practice, studying for chapter tests in social studies and science, Bible memory work, and work on independent study projects. See Handbook for time guidelines for each grade.