

Each Day

First grade students will have plenty of classroom time and enrichment class time. First graders have Bible class each day. First graders typically have language arts instruction in the mornings with math in the afternoons. There is a morning and afternoon recess time. Students will bring home a folder every day. Inside, parents will find: a teacher newsletter, graded papers and announcements. Parents will need to check the teacher's newsletter for weekly spelling words, Bible verses, special assignments and classroom information. Any work returned with grade below 80 needs to be corrected, signed by parent, and returned the following day.

Classroom Parties

We celebrate Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter and an End of the Year party each year. Our parties are coordinated by the class "room mom" and planned by parent volunteers.

For birthday celebrations, students may bring a snack to share. The time and day must be pre-arranged with the teacher.

TCA policy does not allow siblings to attend class parties.

Field Trips

In first grade students may take field trips to places such as Botanic Gardens, Fort Worth Museum of Science, Fort Worth Zoo and the Mission Project. Approved drivers take students in booster seats to the events. Permission slips will be sent home with all information concerning field trips.

TCA policy does not allow siblings to participate in class field trips.

Homework

As a parent it is critical at this stage in your child's development to be actively involved in student's homework. This includes helping the child by providing time, supplies and an area that is free from distractions where children can build good study habits, organizational skills and responsibility. Homework will be assigned to reinforce concepts and skills taught in the classroom. Additionally, work not completed in class may be sent as homework as well as special class projects. It is the student's responsibility to turn in his/her homework the following day. Work turned in late will receive a 5 point penalty for each day the work is late. No late homework is accepted after the third day. Per TCA policy, a student has one day for every day absent to return completed make-up assignments.

In first grade, homework is normally given on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. Nightly homework requires approximately 20 minutes of work at home.

First Grade Hours

8:20-3:15

Early Bird Before School Care-7:30-8:10
Eagles Nest After School Care-3:35-6:00

Trinity Christian Academy
4954 E I-20 Service Road South
Willow Park, Texas 76087
817-441-7901
www.tcaeagles.org

Welcome to



First Grade

Trinity Christian Academy is
dedicated to developing
excellence in education, character,
and servant leadership through a
Christ-centered, Biblical
perspective.

Welcome to First Grade!

First grade at Trinity Christian Academy is an exciting time of growth and change. Students are challenged to apply what they have previously learned about letters and sounds to reading and writing in every subject. Through traditional and hands-on learning, first graders explore all classes through a Christian worldview using Bible-based curriculum. Below are some distinctives of first grade at TCA:

- Small class size (1 teacher per 18 students)
- Bible-based curriculum
- Strong, balanced phonics program
- Traditional classrooms which allow for whole group instruction, peer learning and independent learning centers
- Weekly chapel
- Field trips
- Bible buddies
- Enrichment classes

Enrichment Classes

Students attend Spanish, computer, library, music and PE twice a week. Students attend art class once a week.

Mission Projects

In order to teach Christian service, each teacher will select a classroom mission project for the year. Teachers explain the project to students and make arrangements for class participation. First grade classes most often gather items needed by missionaries and local charities.

Bible

First graders study Bible characters and learn to apply Bible character traits in their personal lives. Emphasis will be placed on the gifts that God has given such as: family, His Word, His Son, His church and the ability to help and pray for others. Students will memorize weekly Bible verses (assigned on Monday/ tested on Friday.)

The Bible textbook for first grade is God and My World by Purposeful Design Publishers.

Handwriting

Correct handwriting form and grip are reinforced through isolated practice and daily application.

The handwriting textbook for first grade is A Reason for Handwriting/ Manuscript A by The Concerned Group.

Spelling

Students will be given a list of spelling words on Monday and tested on Friday. In class we analyze the words to identify the pattern for the current week and apply phonograms previously taught. Words are to be mastered at home for the test. Spelling lessons incorporate phonics, grammar and writing skills learned through weekly lessons.

The spelling book for first grade is Spelling Grade 1 by Purposeful Design Publishers.

Reading

The primary goal of first grade reading is to enable students to become independent readers. In order to accomplish this task, students will:

- Participate in daily reading and phonics lessons through whole group instruction, teacher directed reading groups, and reading centers
- Complete sight word drills
- Enjoy reading games and worksheets
- Grow in their listening abilities and comprehension skills
- Respond to silent and oral reading
- Practice phonics skills
- Develop vocabulary
- Demonstrate knowledge of word structure

In class, first graders read one class novel. They also participate in at-home reading assignments and complete weekly reading logs and phonogram practice.

The reading textbook for first grade is Reading 1 by BJU Press.

Language Arts

First graders work daily on learning and applying phonics rules, grammar and mechanics skills, vocabulary development, listening and composition skills. Language skills are taught through drills, games, learning centers and worksheets which correlate with skills taught in reading. Students are given many opportunities to experiment with the development of writing skills through journaling, creating stories and other fun writing projects as directed by the teacher.

The language arts textbook for first grade is Phonics and English 1 by BJU Press. Johnny can spell phonogram cards.

Math

First grade students will increase their math reasoning skills by:

- Identifying numbers to 999 and writing numbers to 120
- Increasing number sense by understanding ordinal numbers, number patterns and place value: hundreds/tens/ones
- Completing addition and subtraction for two and three digit addends
- Showing understanding of equal parts and basic fractions such as: halves, thirds and fourths as well as dividing sets of objects
- Identifying 2 & 3 dimensional shapes and in order to demonstrate geometric relationships and patterns

Students will gain a better understanding of math terminology, estimation, measurement, time, graphing, statistics and solving various types of word problems. Students participate daily in lessons reinforced with a variety of manipulatives, games, and worksheets. Practice at home is needed to help master math facts.

The math textbook for first grade is Math 1 by A Beka Traditional Arithmetic.

Fair Requirements

First grade students may choose one of the following TCA/ACSI fairs: Art Fair, or Young Author's Fair. Students are also required to participate in a class history project. Students are required to participate in the History Fair in the fall and speech meet in January. They may also choose to participate in the Art Fair or young Author's Fair.

Social Studies

Students enjoy learning how America was founded and the basic freedom we are blessed with. First graders explore America's past through the pioneers and pilgrims. Patriotic songs are included. Students are introduced to major countries and U.S. Territories. As Americans we bring our focus to our home state and discover how God made Texas unique. Symbols and map skills are a large element of this unit.

Community dynamics and leadership skills are taught and developed through units as well as daily opportunities.

Research and presentation skills are introduced during history Fair in which the students participate. (at this age projects are not judged)

The history textbook for first grade is My America and My World by A Beka Publishing.

Science

In first grade, students grow in their understanding of parts of the earth, seasons, space, plant parts and tame/wild animals. Students will also learn about the human body, senses, forming healthy habits and keeping safe. In physical science, students explore forces, motion, friction, gravity, weight and magnetism as well as characteristics of solids, liquids and gases. All of science is taught with the idea that God created our wonderful world.

The science textbook for first grade is Science 1 by BJU Press. Updated 1/9/17