

Each Day

Fourth grade students have both classroom time and enrichment class time each day. Bible lessons are taught daily and normally start each student's day. Recess is in the afternoon and lunch is mid-day to provide a "brain break" for students. Students take home a "Monday Folder" every week. Inside, parents may find: a teacher newsletter, graded papers, announcements and special assignments. Parents may also check Parents Web for homework. Fourth grade students use a daily planner which gives information about assignments and special projects. Parent sign the homework planner each night.

Classroom Parties

At TCA, 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

Fourth Graders take a Texas Heritage Trip to Austin/San Antonio each year. Approved drivers take students 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 10 point deduction on the first day the work is late. A 20 point deduction is given for the second day late. No late homework is accepted after the second day. Per TCA policy, a student has one day for every day absent to return completed make-up assignments.

In fourth grade, homework is normally given on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights. Nightly homework requires approximately 30-45 minutes of work at home.

Fourth Grade Hours

8:20-3:15

Early Bird Before School Care– 7:30-8:10
Eagle's Wings After School Care– 3:35-6:00

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Welcome to



Fourth Grade

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

Welcome to Fourth Grade!

Fourth grade at Trinity Christian Academy is a time of using what we have learned to build knowledge. It's not "learning to read but reading to learn." Both traditional and hands-on learning allows fourth graders to explore all subjects through a Christian world view using Bible-based curriculum. Below are some distinctives of fourth grade at TCA:

- Small class size (1 teacher per 20 students)
- Bible-based curriculum
- Strong, balanced reading and language arts program
- Traditional classrooms which allow for whole group instruction, peer learning and independent learning
- Weekly chapel
- Field trips
- Bible buddies
- Enrichment classes
- Required entrance testing
- Spring achievement testing

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. Fourth grade classes will also visit a nursing home.

Bible

Fourth grade Bible class is a “survey” class of the New Testament. It is a study of the Life of Christ from the Gospels. Throughout the year, students will discuss God’s concern for man, learning to obey, learning to trust God and making wise choices. Christian character develops using Paul’s epistles and the life of Paul.

The Bible textbook for fourth grade is Building Life Castles by Positive Action Publishers.

Handwriting

At this age, fourth graders are refining cursive writing. Students use upper and lower case letters. They work on alignment, slant, size, shape and spacing. Students are required to use “cursive only” during the last six weeks. Handwriting is practiced every day.

Spelling

Students will be given a list of spelling words on Monday and receive a final test on Friday. Each week students review long and short vowel diagraphs, compound words, contractions, plurals, homophones, homographs, controlled words, prefixes, suffixes, Greek and Latin root words and words with silent letters. Spelling lessons also incorporate dictation, use of words in context, journal writing and dictionary skills.

The spelling book for fourth grade is Spelling Grade 4 by Purposeful Design Publishers.

Reading

The primary goal of fourth grade reading is to encourage student comprehension. In order to accomplish this task, students will build an understanding of:

- Vocabulary and context clues
- Comprehension skills
- Evaluation of character responses and identifying character traits
- Identifying problems and solutions
- Drawing inferences
- Sequencing story events
- Developing awareness of mood
- Predicting outcomes
- Interpreting idiomatic expressions
- Dialogue
- Poetry
- Setting, main idea, theme, foreshadowing and imagery in language
- Recalling facts and details
- Developing a sense of literacy heritage
- Identifying and using descriptive language

The reading textbook for fourth grade is Reading 4 by BJU Press.

Language Arts

Fourth graders are given many opportunities to experiment with writing by creating personal narratives, letters, compare and contrast essays, book reviews, research papers, tall tales and poetry. Language arts also focuses on diagramming parts of speech, identifying types of sentences and building research skills. Students are taught through drills, games, and worksheets which correlate with topics covered during reading.

The language arts textbook for fourth grade is Phonics and English 4 by BJU Press.

Math

Fourth grade students will increase their math reasoning skills by using:

- Place value (to millions) and money
- Addition and Subtraction- basic fact families, addition and subtraction of 2 digit numbers, column addition, commutative property, missing addends and unknown parts
- Fractions- compare and order, add and subtract, mixed numbers, rename improper fractions and equivalent fractions
- Multiplication and Division- facts, multiplication with 2 digits times 2-3 digits, divide 2-3 digits by 2 digits
- Algebra Readiness and Equations- missing addends, missing factor, negative numbers, function tables and variables
- Decimals- 10’s place, 100’s place and estimation
- Equivalent Values- rename and round to nearest whole
- Geometry- points, lines, rays, angles, polygons, quadrilaterals, perimeter, pyramid, symmetry, curved surface, radius and area

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

The math textbook for fourth grade is Math 4 by A Beka Traditional Arithmetic.

Fair Requirements

Fourth grade students will participate in two TCA/ACSI fairs: Speech Meet, and Science Fair. these are required. They may choose to do Young Author’s or Art Fair as an extra fair if they wish. Students also participate in the Spelling Bee.

History/Geography

Fourth grade history and geography is a study of US History. Students discuss the building of America from the arrival of the English to the formation of the New England Colonies. They study the great awakening, the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, Civil War and World Wars. Not only do they learn the facts of American History, they also see God’s hand in it. They spend six weeks in Texas History, students create a Texas Notebook and go on an overnight Texas Heritage Trip to Austin and San Antonio.

The history textbook for fourth grade Texas History In Light of the Cross by Kenneth C. Davis



Science

In fourth grade, students study life in God’s creation by exploring living things, insects, spiders and plants. They learn about energy use as they discuss forces, machines, electricity, magnetism and light. A study of gravity in action incorporates the moon, water and oceans. Students also learn about weather and erosion, the earth’s resources and the human body. All of science is taught with the understanding that God is the creator.

The science textbook for fourth grade is Science 4 by BJU Press.