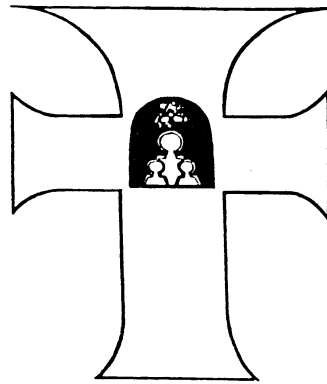


# *Noonan Elementary Academy*



## *Second Grade Curriculum*

*The Academy is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus  
and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.*

*We are committed to excellence  
in spiritual formation and academics.*

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# *Second Grade Curriculum*

## *Academic Program*



### *Religion /Scripture*

The religion program focuses on spiritual formation. The primary text series is Faith and Life, published by Ignatius Press. It is a comprehensive Catholic program that combines beautiful classical and original art work with a solid doctrinal and scriptural presentation. These texts according to Bishop Thomas Muldoon are unsurpassed in lucidity of doctrine, in fidelity to God's revelations, and in stimulation of real interest and love for the Faith.

Jesus Our life, published by Ignatius Press

### *Aim*

To prepare second grade students for Confession and Holy Communion and to help them appreciate God's love for them shown in these two sacraments. There is an added emphasis on the order of the Mass and on prayer.

### *Theme*

Preparation for the first reception of the sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion, with the law of God and salvation history as background. The lesson emphasizes God's mercy and love. Covers Commandments, Creation, and Redemption.

## *Sequence*

Ch. 1-16: God teaches us through His law; we obey through love.

Ch. 17-23: We find forgiveness of sins through Jesus' sacrifice.

Ch. 24-34: We prepare for life in Heaven by reception of Jesus in the Eucharist and our life in the Church.

## *Phonics*

Saxon's phonics series is an explicit, systematic program that complements our Open Court Reading series. The goal is to teach students how to read and spell so that they will be able to read and write independently with confidence. This program gives students the tools and necessary practice for success in reading and writing.

### *Second grade students will:*

- † Understand how reading, spelling, and handwriting function as a whole.
- † Build a firm foundation in phonics awareness.
- † Be able to blend sounds to read and unblend sounds to spell.
- † Be able to code their words.

## *Reading/Language Arts*

This research based program gives students the means to become independent readers by:

- † Developing phonetic awareness
- † Developing comprehension
- † Practicing skills in writing

Open Court Collections for Young Scholars transcends traditional reading programs.

## *Reading/Language Arts continued...*

### **Features of this series:**

- † Award winning fiction and non-fiction selections from renowned writers and illustrators.
- † Science and social studies themes.
- † A moral or virtue value in every story.
- † Systematic instruction organized in unit themes around engaging concepts.
- † Phonics, comprehension, and writing built into every lesson.

### **Selections include:**

Poetry

Fiction

Folktales

Nonfiction

Riddles

Character Tales

Plays

Art

This series stresses all the traditional reading skills that develop fluent readers. It then goes beyond the mechanics of reading, and stretches the mind and imagination of the reader. The goal of the series is to develop critical, independent readers.

## *Supplemental Readers*

- † American Cardinal Readers
- † Bennets Book of Virtues for Young Children
- † Lives of the Saints for Children

All reading stories are fiction and non-fiction; all poetry and art selections were chosen to develop a specific theme. In every theme, the virtue is emphasized.

Themes in the second grade text:

- † Being brave
- † Rich and poor

## *Supplemental Readers continued...*

- † Fossils
- † Kindness
- † Responsibility
- † Appearances
- † Our Country: The Early Years
- † Our Country: E. Pluribus Unum

## *Writing*

Second graders learn to use writing as a means of expression. Focus is on the mechanics of writing and the ability to express ideas. Students will learn to:

- † Write a paragraph
- † Use proper punctuation
- † Write friendly letters
- † Organize information (sequence ideas)
- † Journal writing
- † Use vivid language and sensory images
- † Expository and descriptive paragraphs
- † Fictional stories
- † Personal narrative stories
- † Poetry
- † Book reports

## *English*

A firm grasp of the structure and use of language is critical to successfully harnessing the power of the written word. Mastery of proper grammar, usage, and mechanics is the goal the comprehensive grammar program in Shurley English. The exercises in the English workbook provides the added reinforcement students need. Second graders will be able to:

## *English continued...*

- † Use possessive nouns
- † Distinguish between a phrase and a sentence
- † Capitalize initials
- † Identify the verb or action word
- † Use periods, question marks, and exclamation marks
- † Recognize a telling and asking sentence
- † Use irregular plurals
- † Use articles
- † Use verb contractions and helping verbs
- † Understand past, present, and future tense
- † Understand, recognize, and use adjectives
- † Understand subject verb agreement
- † Correctly use I/me
- † Use commas and quotation marks, exclamation points in addresses, dates, or letters
- † Address envelopes
- † Indent paragraphs

## *Listening/Speaking*

Shurley English incorporates listening, speaking, and writing as an integrated whole. Students will:

- † Listen for understanding
- † Follow directions
- † Recall information
- † Enunciate
- † Express feelings
- † Share ideas
- † Tell and retell stories
- † Give oral reports
- † Make introductions
- † Participate in discussions

## *Handwriting*

Legible handwriting will be developed through daily practice using the Zaner Bloser Handwriting Program.

## *Spelling*

Spelling skills are integrated into the phonics and reading program. Spelling skills are also taught using spelling rules and high frequency words in a structured spelling program called Everyday Spelling, published by Scott Foresman.

## *Vocabulary*

Second grade students have a developmental sensitivity for new and interesting words. The Academy's vocabulary program provides an engaging, systematic approach to new words. Students will:

- † Understand new word meanings
- † Use new words in everyday language
- † Incorporate new words in writing assignments

## *Analogies*

Primary Analogies teaches children to think analytically with simple pictures and word analogies. Students will:

- † Find similarities
- † Categorize
- † Make comparisons
- † Find causal relationships

## *Math*

Saxon's math series is a hands on, activity centered, success orientated program that incorporates manipulatives and mental math. The program is based upon incremental development and continual review.

## ***Math** continued...*

The students develop a solid foundation in the language and basic concepts of mathematics. Students will:

- † Skip count by 1's, 2's, 3's, 4's, 5's, 7's, 10's, 25's, and 100's.
- † Compare and order numbers
- † Identify and extend counting patterns
- † Solve routine and non-routine problems
- † Master all basic multiplication and division facts
- † Order basic fractions
- † Add and subtract fractions with same denominators
- † Identify a sorting rule
- † Add and subtract six digit numbers
- † Measuring using inches, feet, and centimeters
- † Compare volume, mass, and area
- † Tell time to the minute
- † Count money
- † Identify polygons, geometric solids
- † Create, read, and write observations from graphs
- † Identify angles

## ***Science***

The Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Series provides a blend of concepts, inquiry, and hands-on content. Children are exposed to the process skills needed to form and test hypothesis. The units taught are:

### **Life Science**

- † How plants live and grow
- † How animals grow and change
- † Living things and their environment
- † Changing environments

## *Science continued...*

### **Physical Science**

- † Matter and how it changes
- † Forces, machines, and work
- † Energy in your world
- † Sound

### **Earth Science**

- † Changes in the earth's surface
- † Materials of the earth
- † The sun, planets, and moon
- † Clouds and storms

## *Social Studies*

The Macmillan/McGraw-Hill series prepares students for informed participation in tomorrow's America. This comprehensive social studies program presents a mixture of history, geography, economics, citizenship, and culture. The second grade text, Time Links, explores themes that focus on:

- † Learning about communities
- † American communities in history
- † Communities and their geography
- † Earning a living
- † Celebrations and festivals
- † Governing ourselves

## *Geography*

A comprehensive map skills program from National Geographic called Map Essentials covers map skills. Concepts covered in second grade:

## *Geography continued...*

- † Comparing earth and a globe
- † Land forms
- † Using a grid
- † Reading resource maps

## *Health*

Students will develop an understanding of personal health and safety issues such as:

- † Good eating habits
- † Proper rest and exercise
- † Good hygiene
- † Injury prevention and safety

## *Library/Computers*

These skills are introduced in the library/media center and computer lab for the integration into the curriculum to help children learn how to research and process information.

## *Physical Education*

Second grade students learn to move their body through space in a coordinated purposeful way. They will master basic motor skills and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle. Students will:

- † Demonstrate ball handling skills, catch, and throw
- † Master locomotor skills such as skipping, hopping, and jumping
- † Maintain personal fitness
- † Listen and follow directions
- † Master laterality, directionality, and balance

## *Art*

The art program exposes children to a variety of art forms and artists. Students will:

- † Enjoy creating their own art
- † Express their individually through art
- † Learn to interpret artistic works

## *Music*

Second graders will be able to:

- † Expressing themselves in song
- † Follow a tune
- † Identify musical notes and rhythm patterns
- † Distinguish elements of music
- † Interpret musical compositions
- † Perform in a musical production

## *Spanish*

Elementary Spanish is an award-winning program from Northern Arizona University. The curriculum is organized by thematic units. The program uses songs, games, natural conversation, and role-playing to create a fun, non-threatening environment for young learners of Spanish.

# *General Information*

## *Report Cards/Progress Reports*

Students will receive a report card at the end of each ten-week marking period. Students in need of academic assistance will receive a progress report at the end of the five-week point or half way through the marking period.

## *Parent Conferences*

Parent conferences are scheduled for late October. However, parents may schedule a separate conference at anytime.

## *Homework*

For children to achieve mastery, reinforcement is absolutely necessary. Homework is assigned, as needed, for practice and special projects. Expect to give some assistance to first graders. Use lots of praise and positive reinforcement. Help your child succeed by:

- † Providing a quiet area for study
- † Discourage, or prohibit, T.V. on school nights
- † Read to your child
- † Listen to your child read
- † Provide nutritious meals and plenty of exercise
- † Schedule sufficient rest (9 hours for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders)
- † Show an interest in school activities
- † Keep communication lines open with the school

