



SAINT BRIGID
OF KILDARE SCHOOL
Seeking Grace and Wisdom

1st
grade

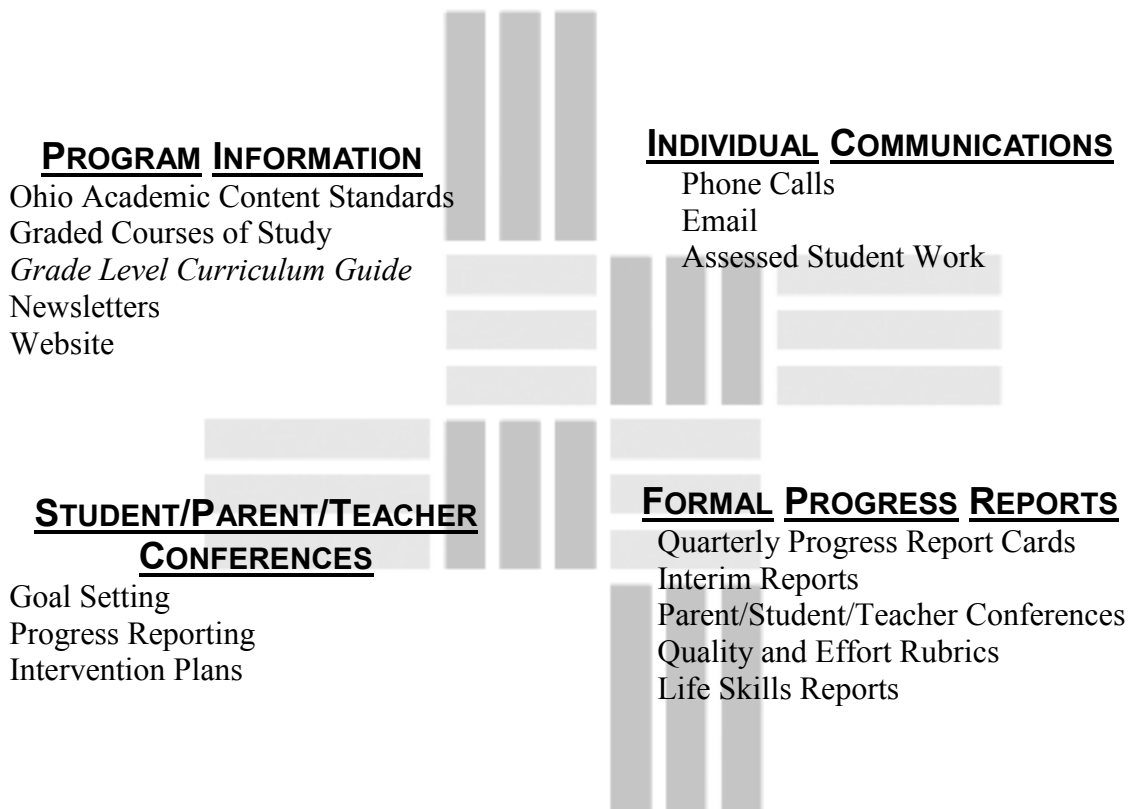
First Grade Curriculum Guide

Purpose of the Grade Level Curriculum Guide

- ◆ Provide parents a general overview of the content taught in first grade
- ◆ Provide information regarding the Diocesan instructional materials used to teach the content
- ◆ List resources that can be used to gain additional information regarding the Ohio Content Standards and the Diocese of Columbus Graded Courses of Study
- ◆ Provide resources to assist parents in supporting their child's learning

Communication With Parents

Communication regarding a student's program and progress in learning comes in many different ways and forms throughout the year. The chart below best describes the total communication plan.



www.stbrigidofkildare.com

1st grade

This Grade Level Curriculum Guide is intended to give you an overview of the content in the core academic courses, materials used, and resources to help you gain more information about both Ohio Academic Content Standards and the Diocese of Columbus Graded Courses of Study.

Language Arts

Students in first grade begin to recognize and decode print, develop a variety of reading strategies, and read fluently. They demonstrate a growing knowledge of sight words, decode by using letter-sound matches, and blend sounds into words. They develop and learn to apply strategies that help them to comprehend fiction and nonfiction and to self-monitor their own comprehension.

Students demonstrate their understanding of stories by relating them to personal experience through discussions, projects, and activities. As they read a variety of authors, illustrators and genres, students learn to compare and contrast one text to another and classify common information from different texts.

Through reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing, students build their vocabulary and develop spelling. While learning to be attentive to mechanics and organization, students write for a variety of audiences and purposes including narratives, letters, journals, and informational pieces.

Instructional Materials:

Fountas and Pinnell Word Study; Daily Five/CAFÉ; Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Primary Writ-

ing; Zaner-Bloser Handwriting; Words Their Way; Scholastic guided reading books.

Mathematics

First grade introduces many new skills in math and regularly revisits previously learned concepts to build on them throughout the year. Children practice basic skills in a variety of engaging ways including addition and subtraction fact families, patterns, and games designed to develop skills.

First graders experience the following content: counting in sequence, counting forward and backward, reading and writing numbers, using ordinal numbers, adding and subtracting facts and learning fact families, collecting, organizing and displaying data, exploring two- and three-dimensional shapes, using tools to measure length and weight, using clocks, calendars and timelines, exploring attributes, patterns, sequences, relations and functions, and learning to communicate mathematically and solve problems.

By making connections between their own knowledge and their experiences in school and outside school, children learn basic skills in meaningful ways so that mathematics becomes real.

Instructional material: *Scott*

Foresman, Ohio Mathematics; a variety of manipulatives, games, fiction and non-fiction books.

Social Studies

The first grade year builds on the concepts developed in kindergarten by focusing on the individual as a member of a family. Students explore how families lived long ago and in other parts of the world today. They further develop concepts about how the world is organized spatially through beginning map skills.

Ongoing themes include neighborhoods, Native Americans, and U.S. symbols.

Instructional material: *A variety of fiction and nonfiction literature.*

Science

First graders build upon science skills through life experiences. Students have increasing opportunities to explore how living things change, how they interact with their environment, and how they acquire food.

Students discover that many objects are made of different parts and characteristics. Students learn ways objects change and move. Students recognize and realize

that natural resources are limited and can be extended by recycling or decreasing use. First graders explore ways people learn about science through questioning, comparing, investigating, and observing.

Instructional material: *A variety of fiction and nonfiction literature.*

Health

First grade learners develop a growing awareness of community that broadens their perspectives and needs to include friends, school helpers, and extended family. The human growth and development unit taught in first grade focuses on teeth and exercise. Also in the curriculum are safety, manners, and an awareness of alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

Instructional material: *A variety of fiction and nonfiction literature; guest speakers.*

Religion

Children in first grade continue to learn of God's great love. They develop an understanding that the Bible demonstrates the life of Jesus and that they can incorporate His love into their everyday lives. The curriculum includes weekly attendance at Mass. This allows the students to begin to understand the incredible gift of the Holy Eucharist. Students learn about the Bible, saints and new prayers.

Visual Arts

Art History

- ◆ Recognize common subjects, ideas, and themes used by artists of the past and present

Communicate Through Art

- ◆ Develop skills in using a variety of tools, materials, and processes while creating works of art

Art Criticism

- ◆ Observe and describe materials, tools, images, and ideas used to create artwork

Valuing Art

- ◆ Explain how personal preferences influence art choices

Music

Demonstrates/Creates

- ◆ Begin to develop accurate singing with and without accompaniment
- ◆ Experiment with instrumental sounds and playing techniques
- ◆ Begin to echo, perform, and identify patterns

Music Reading Skills

- ◆ Use symbols, icons, and musical notation
- ◆ Identify characteristics of music such as melody, harmony, form, timbre, texture, rhythm, dynamics, and style
- ◆ Identify music associated with places, events, styles, and cultures
- ◆ Respond to music through singing, playing instruments, listening, and movement

1st
grade

activities

Physical Education

Fundamental Motor Skills

- ◆ Demonstrate skills of chasing, fleeing, and dodging to avoid others
- ◆ Throw and catch a ball against a stationary object or with a partner.

Fitness

- ◆ Support body weight for climbing, hanging, and momentarily taking weight on hands

Environment: Safety, Character, Diversity, and Wellness

- ◆ Apply the rules of safety to self and others
- ◆ Use equipment and space safely and properly

Organized Games, Team Sports, and Lifetime Physical Activities

- ◆ Evasion Games

Spanish

Primary grade students are beginning their Spanish experiences. Written and oral instruction of the Spanish language will be developed at each grade level within the context of the National Standards. The five C's of the National Standards are Communication, Cultural, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities.

Parent Resources

Parenting With Grace: Catholic Parent's Guide to Raising Almost Perfect Kids.

Gregory and Lisa Popcak

Our Sunday Visitor Publishing, March, 2000

A book for creating a highly individualized completely Catholic parenting plan for your children.

Our Sunday Visitor Catalog

<http://catalog.osv.com/>

Many resources for Catholic parents ... click on My Catholic Faith and Teaching Catholic Kids.

Ohio Department of Education Website

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/>

This website provides information regarding:

- Ohio Content Standards
- State and Local Report Cards
- Ideas for working with your child at home
- Much, much more

United States Department of Education

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/hyc.html>

Helping Your Child Series

The *Helping Your Child* publication series aims to provide parents with the tools and information necessary to help their children succeed in school and life. These booklets feature practical lessons and activities to help school-aged and preschool children master reading, understand the value of homework, and develop the skills and values necessary to achieve and grow.

i-Safe Inc.

<http://www.isafe.org/>

i-SAFE Inc. is the worldwide leader in Internet safety education. Founded in 1998 and endorsed by the U.S. Congress, i-SAFE is a non-profit foundation dedicated to protecting the online experiences of youth everywhere.

CyberAngels

<http://www.cyberangels.org/homefront.html>

Download a parent resource booklet with everything you need to know about parenting the online child. CyberAngels offers online classes in many topics. Each class is followed by a discussion with Internet experts who can help you establish policies for your home and children. All online classes are available free to the public.

PBS Parents

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/mypbsparents/>

Parent guides to:

- Childhood Development
- Children and Media
- Creativity
- Early Math
- Raising Boys
- Reading and Language
- Birthday Parties

National Association for the Education of Young Children

<http://www.naeyc.org/>

A special section of this website is dedicated to families. The resources include short articles on current issues on childhood development, activities that you can do at home, and lists of books and pamphlets.

St. Brigid of Kildare Website

www.stbrigidofkildare.com

Provides information regarding the following:

- Grade level monthly newsletters
- Literacy development video
- General information about the school
- School calendars

If you have any questions, please feel free to discuss them with your child's teacher or the principal. Refer to the current directory for current e-mail addresses for the teachers. Principal Kathleen O'Reilly can be e-mailed at koreilly@cdeducation.org.

www.stbrigidofkildare.com