

# Immanuel Lutheran School

“Excelling in Christian Education”



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## Third Grade

*Immanuel Lutheran School, empowered by the Holy Spirit, leads children to know God as their Heavenly Father through the redeeming love of Jesus Christ, provides them with a quality education, and prepares and nurtures them to serve the church and community in Christian love.*

### **Third Grade Curriculum**

The curriculum of Immanuel Lutheran School, at all grade levels, meets or exceeds Missouri State Standards in all areas. Maximum class size is 23 students per classroom.

Third grade students continue to grow into more independent learners. A high emphasis is placed on developing a sense of responsibility for both themselves and the academic expectations of the teachers. Relationships with God, adults, self, and peers is fostered through Religion lessons and daily activities.

Families are welcome to visit classrooms at any time and there are special opportunities to visit before the school year starts to help students become familiar with their teachers and their learning environment. This is a wonderful opportunity to foster better communication and build caring relationships to begin the school year on a positive note.

### **Religion**

Third grade students use the One In Christ curriculum published by *Concordia Publishing House*. Students explore both Old and New Testament stories. Additionally, each student is a member of a “Faith Family.” These are multi-age, student-led groups that meet every other month for devotional activities. On alternating months, Faith Families sit together for chapel.

#### *Memory Work:*

The memory work includes Bible verses which correlate with the Voyages curriculum. Hymns, parts of Luther’s Small Catechism, and Christmas service selections are also included. Memory work is recited on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

#### *Chapel:*

Chapel is held weekly. Third Grade students lead a chapel service once a year.

### **Technology**

PCs and SMARTboards are used in the classroom on a regular basis. Students use the school computer lab on a weekly basis to learn about word processing and to reinforce other curriculum areas. Students use the *Mavis Beacon* keyboarding program and Internet activities are integrated with core subjects.

### **Language Arts**

#### *English*

Students use the *Houghton Mifflin* English text. Students are taught grammar lessons with literature and writing lessons also being integrated.

#### *Handwriting*

Third Graders use the *Zaner-Bloser* handwriting method. Manuscript writing is reviewed and cursive writing is taught and used in all subjects in the second semester.

#### *Reading*

Students use the *Wonders* reading curriculum. Some of the literature students read is by authors such as, James Marshall, Janet Stevens, Patricia Polacco, William Steig, and Beverly Cleary. Comprehension skills are taught with directed activities and phonic concepts are reviewed.

#### *Spelling*

Spelling is taught through the *Spelling City* online program and the *Wonders* reading curriculum.

### **Mathematics**

The *My Math* curriculum is used which correlates with Missouri Grade-level Expectations. Skills address and include addition, subtraction, money, time, multiplication, division, fractions, measurement, probability and decimals.

## Science

The science curriculum is inquiry-centered, which allows students to conceptualize a question and then seek a possible explanation that responds to that question. Students will make observations and conduct investigations to build an understanding of the concepts being taught.

Students use Science materials published by the National Science Resource Center. The four units are: Metric Measurement; Magnetism and Electricity; Plant Growth and Development; and Rocks and Minerals. Other science concepts are taught through literature and short term activities.

## Social Studies

The Social Studies Alive! curriculum, published by the *Teachers' Curriculum Institute*, is used to teach students about our communities and beyond. Topics include: local and world geography; how and why immigrants come to the U.S.; how the economy works; global trade; public services in the community; and who works at City Hall. Field trips are taken to enrich Social Studies concepts.

### *Cultural Experiences*

Field trips and special performances serve as an important extension of the curriculum. Field trips include viewing a live stage theatre performance, visiting a local credit union, City Hall, a radio station, and nature centers.

## Foreign Language

Each week the children participate in Spanish class. Our Spanish teacher visits each classroom weekly. Although the Spanish classes are mostly for enrichment purposes only, these lessons also have a cross-curricular purpose that both provide a foundation as well as build on knowledge in a variety of subject areas.

## Music & Chorus

Third Grade students have Music Class twice a week, once for Music Education and once for Chorus. Music Education includes music theory and music appreciation. Chorus includes vocal technique and performance. The study of these areas is cumulative and sequential from earlier grades. The Third Grade Choir sings for worship services approximately four times a year, a Christmas Service program, and a biennial musical production.

Third Grade students may also: have an acting role in the biennial spring musical production; and/or participate in the Strings program, taking weekly private or semi-private lessons and playing with the Level II group or the Training Orchestra.

## Art

Teaching the Arts is an essential part of educating a child. Art helps students see the world around them in new ways. The Arts unlock children's creativity and open new pathways to learning. All art activities are taught by the classroom teacher. Students work with lines, shapes and shadows; colors and color choices; balanced designs; water scenes; and rubbings.

## Physical Education & Recesses

Third Grade students participate in PE twice a week. They learn the importance of fitness exercising and testing. Tumbling skills are emphasized along with more complicated demands on balance, strength, and coordination. Partner stunts and builds are practiced. Various dance and rhythmic movements develop the child's timing, cooperation, and creativity. Simple games and relays become increasingly important for challenging the child with the newly acquired skills. Attention is directed to specific sport skills in soccer, volleyball, basketball, hockey, softball, and track. Teamwork and cooperation are strongly introduced and stressed at this level. Third Grade students are also active with two daily recess periods.

## Service Projects

Students participate in school-wide service projects such as food bank in-gatherings, supporting Immanuel's social ministry, and supporting other district and synodical mission projects.

## Wellness Program

Immanuel Lutheran School nurtures a student's social and emotional development through the counseling program. The counselor visits with students in the classroom for guidance lessons twice a month, conducts small group sessions, and works with individual students by referral.

Third Grade students are encouraged to become detectives who strive to understand and solve problems on their own. The third graders also focus on friendship building through stories and activities where they practice constructing bridges to form positive relationships with one another.

## Third Grade Students may also participate in the following:

- Immanuel's Before- and After-care programs
- Cub Scouts or Girl Scouts
- Occasional sporting events