

FOURTH GRADE

Core Classes

- Bible
 - We are committed to the study of God's Word in all our subjects and its application to our lives as the foundation for living a joyful, victorious Christian life. Daily Bible class is an essential part of spiritual development at FCS. We ultimately desire that every student discovers and strengthens a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and develops a biblical worldview.
 - Students read and study the Bible, sing Bible songs, memorize Scripture verses and discuss Christian character and missions.
 - Topics studied during Bible class include:
 - Gospel message through Wordless book
 - Attributes of God
 - Bible study and prayer
 - Faithfulness
 - Contentment
 - Love
 - Easter and Christmas
 - Christ and His people
 - Eternal promises
 - All parents are welcome to attend our chapels for worship and sharing about God's Word and its application to our lives.
- Language Arts
 - Students maintain their reading skills and explore literary concepts through a class reading and study of novels such as *Cricket in Times Square*, *Farmer Boy*, *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, *The Magician's Nephew*, *McBroom's Wonderful One Acre Farm*, and *Where the Red Fern Grows*. Vocabulary-building and comprehension skills are integrated throughout the program. Book reports in a variety of formats and literary genres are completed throughout the year.
 - In English, students thoroughly study the structure of sentences including parts of speech, types of sentences, vocabulary, grammar, usage and mechanics. Opportunities are given regularly for students to write about a variety of topics and experience the complete writing process.
 - Spelling words are learned on a weekly basis, and students are given the opportunity to participate in the ACSI Spelling Bee every year. Handwriting (cursive) is also taught and emphasized daily.
- Social Studies
 - History, geography, culture, economics, and current events are the foundation of the Social Studies program where students learn about God's providence in His world. Fourth grade topics of study include VA history, rebuilding the nation, the Wild West, the growth of cities, American expansion, and problems and progress. The continent study is North America.

- Science
 - The basic principles of the scientific method are illustrated during the year. Fourth graders specifically study several areas including forces & machines, electricity & magnetism, water & oceans, the moon, and Earth's resources, weathering, and digestion.
- Mathematics
 - Emphasis in fourth grade is placed in several key areas: place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, geometry, measurement, perimeter and area.

Extracurricular

- Physical Education
 - In Physical Education class, offered twice each week, students learn to appreciate the abilities of the human body and learn how to care for their bodies. Students also learn and practice skills in a variety of team, individual and lifetime sports.
- Fine Arts
 - Music and art allow students to explore foundational elements of each unique art. Music teaches skills in the areas of rhythm, melody, tone color, form, style and harmony. Art works to progress students in line, shape, space, texture and color. Highlighting each student's work at the end of the year is a Visual Arts Festival.
- Library
 - Students attend weekly library class where they develop in literary topics such as the parts of a book, authors and illustrators, listening skills, genres, research skills and overall literature appreciation. It also provides them the opportunity to expand their knowledge of the library and gain responsibility through returning and checking out books.
- Computer
 - Students receive training in hardware and technology basics, digital citizenship, research skills, word processing and presentation application. They explore various venues that are available to create digital projects and the methods they practice are used the classroom to enhance the learning of curriculum. They train and practice using digital resources safely, ethically, and morally to impact our world for Jesus Christ. Fourth graders also learn keyboarding skills.
- Field Trips and Special Events
 - Field trips and special events are also a major part of our curriculum and are coordinated with the current curriculum units. These include a VA Capitol Building tour; Port Royal One-Room Schoolhouse field trip; downtown Fredericksburg field trip, ACSI Spelling Bee, Creative Writing Festival, and Math Olympics; National Geographic Bee; Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day, Visual Arts Festival and Field Day.