

St. Isidore Catholic School's curriculum is fully aligned to the Diocesan Learning Standards and the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools. Furthermore, our curriculum is vertically aligned from grades preK through 8. Our curricula is strengthened even more by using a continuous improvement framework based on Response to Intervention / Multiple Tiered System of Supports, scientifically based instructional strategies, formative and summative assessment, and positive behavior management. St. Isidore Catholic School provides a full day Kindergarten program. A foundation of successful schooling is formed during the Kindergarten years through the development of positive attitudes and learning habits. Kindergarteners are active participants in our weekly liturgies and learn through essential standards.

The Whole Child

A complete **Kindergarten** experience revolves around developing the skills of the whole child. At St. Isidore Catholic School, it is our goal to provide an opportunity for children to grow not only academically, but spiritually, socially, emotionally, and physically as well. We will instruct the children in Christian values, social skills and manners, independence, and the structure and routine of school. It is our quest to build a foundation for the children to become not only life-long learners, but loving and caring individuals. Through partnering with parents, we are able to meet these high goals.

Religion

Jesus is at the center of everything we do at St. Isidore Catholic School. **Kindergarteners** learn about their Catholic faith through prayer circles, Scripture stories, musical, art and faith family activities, discussion and reflection, and weekly liturgies. Catholic teachings are discussed and integrated in all subject areas. The following topics are the focus of the **Kindergarten** Religion curriculum:

- God's Rules
- Creation
- Life of Jesus
- Celebrating Liturgy
- Advent | Lent
- Prayer
- Mary, our Heavenly Mother

English Language Arts

READING

Kindergarten students experience different genres including information text, poetry, and fantasies. These standards are directed toward fostering students' understanding and working knowledge of reading, from the alphabetic principle to comprehension. Through differentiated instruction, reading fluency will develop and improve as students are presented with the following skills through the year:

- Letter recognition | letter sounds
- Sight word recognition
- Using word identification strategies
- Rhyme
- Linking spoken and written languages
- Retelling main ideas and details within a text
- Using illustrations as context clues
- Identify characters and setting
- Identify basic features of a book
- Compare and contrast two different texts
- Identify nouns and verbs in a sentence
- Developing vocabulary (listening and sight)
- Guided and independent reading

WRITING

Kindergarten students will use 6+1 Writing Traits (ideas, organization, word choice, conventions, voice, sentence fluency, and presentation) to convey thoughts. Writing legibly, using words and pictures, writing simple sentences, applying spelling knowledge and phonetic patterns will allow students to express their thoughts. In addition, basic grammar and mechanics will be used (basic capitalization, proper spacing, basic punctuation, and forming letters correctly).

SPEAKING AND LISTENING

Kindergarten students will listen for understanding, follow single and multi-step directions, and respond appropriately to the speaker. Students will use acquired language and vocabulary to express opinions. Students will participate in show and tell, class discussions, recall and retell stories, and use their own illustrations to explain personal overall comprehension.

Mathematics

Kindergarten students acquire knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills through manipulatives, counting strategies, patterns, calendar, and problem solving. Kindergarten students will:

- Write, recognize, and order number to 100 (counting both up and down)
- Count by 10's, 5's, 2's, and 1's to 100 (skip count)
- Use grouping and regrouping
- Compare numbers
- Use ordinal numbers for position
- Add and subtract numbers up to 10
- Fluently add and subtract within 5
- Solve simple word problems
- Chart, compare, and graph data
- Measure and compare length and weight
- Identify and describe characteristics of shapes
- Sort and classify objects
- Identify position and location of a given object
- Use a clock to determine time to the hour
- Identify monetary values
- Identify patterns

Science

Kindergarteners will use concrete, hands on-experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They will attain scientific knowledge through observing, predicting, questioning, and describing.

Kindergarten students will study:

- Weather and Seasons
- Healthy Body and Our Five Senses
- Animals and Insects
- Plant Growth
- Motion
- Farms (visit a Pumpkin Farm)
- Protecting our Earth
- The Solar System

The Arts

Kindergarten students are introduced to color theory and texture in art. They have the opportunity to express themselves through various art forms.

Social Studies

Kindergarten students will develop an awareness of communities and people around them. The focus will be on:

- Families
- Neighborhoods | Communities
- Safety
- Why we work
- Holidays | Celebrations
- Getting along together

Physical Education

In **Kindergarten**, our students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle. Students will maintain personal fitness, acquire an awareness of personal health needs, demonstrate and build gross motor skills, and participate in cooperative group games.

Technology

As part of our STEM focus, kindergarten students will begin to develop digital skills enabling cross curricular activities that integrate technology in the classroom.

Kindergarten students will:

- Begin to develop general computer skills
- Begin to understand the vocabulary related to technology
- Use various programs and websites to begin developing computer navigation skills
- Learn the proper use and care of various technology devices
- Begin to understand computer programming
- Begin to understand what it means to be a good digital citizen

Library

Kindergarten students will use the school library and locate books of interest to be checked out each week.

Music

Kindergarteners will develop an understanding of music through a weekly music class as well as daily music and movement in the classroom. Using instruments, song, and body movement, the children will explore early theory concepts such as rhythm, tempo and bat. Instruction includes both sacred and secular music.

