Third Grade at Harvest Christian Academy- Lantana

Growing in Wisdom, Faith, and Purpose

Third grade is an exciting year of growth as students become more independent learners, strengthen foundational skills, and begin applying their knowledge in new and meaningful ways. At Harvest Christian Academy, we combine strong academic instruction with a biblical worldview, helping students grow in wisdom, develop Christlike character, and discover how God can use their gifts to serve others.

Biblical Education

Third grade focuses on the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and the beginnings of the early Church. Students explore the teachings, miracles, death, and resurrection of Jesus while learning how His life reveals God's love and plan for salvation. They also study the early Church, including the work of the apostles and the spread of the Gospel. Through Scripture, discussion, prayer, and practical application, students are encouraged to grow in their understanding of Jesus, strengthen their faith, and learn how to follow Christ in their everyday lives.

Language Arts

Students develop stronger reading comprehension and critical-thinking skills as they explore a variety of literary and informational texts. They learn to identify themes and main ideas, analyze characters and plot, make inferences, and support their thinking with evidence from the text. Students also strengthen their vocabulary and learn to recognize an author's purpose and writing techniques.

In writing, students compose personal narratives, poetry, informational pieces, opinion essays, and letters. They learn to organize their ideas with clear introductions and conclusions, include relevant details, revise and edit their work, and communicate their thoughts effectively through written and oral expression.

Handwriting

Students continue developing neat, legible handwriting while building confidence in written communication. In third grade, we begin introducing **cursive handwriting**, helping students learn the basic formation and connections of cursive letters. Students practice proper spacing,

alignment, and letter formation as they work toward writing complete words and thoughts clearly and confidently.

Spelling

Students strengthen their spelling skills by recognizing word patterns and applying spelling rules in their writing. They practice spelling multisyllabic words, homophones, compound words, contractions, and words with a variety of vowel patterns, prefixes, and suffixes. Students also learn to recognize how word parts and spelling patterns work together, helping them spell unfamiliar words more accurately and become more independent writers.

Math

Students develop a deeper understanding of place value, addition, and subtraction while being introduced to multiplication and division. A major focus is mastering multiplication facts through the 12s, building speed, accuracy, and automatic recall through consistent practice. Students also develop division fact fluency and learn how multiplication and division are related, using these connections to solve problems with greater confidence.

Students explore fractions, measurement, time, money, geometry, and data. As they learn new concepts, they practice solving word problems, recognizing patterns, explaining their reasoning, and applying math skills to real-world situations. Our goal is to help students build confidence, develop strong number sense, and establish the foundation they need for more advanced mathematics.

Science

Students explore the natural world through observation, investigation, experimentation, and engineering challenges. They study the physical properties and states of matter, changes caused by heating and cooling, forces such as gravity and magnetism, and forms of energy including light, sound, thermal, and mechanical energy.

Students also investigate weather, soil formation, changes to Earth's surface, natural resources, and the Sun-Earth-Moon system. In life science, they explore ecosystems, food chains, animal adaptations, life cycles, and fossils as evidence of past life. Throughout these studies, students develop curiosity, practice using evidence to explain their discoveries, and learn to care for the world God created.

Social Studies

Students discover how individuals, events, and ideas have shaped communities throughout history. They learn about influential people, important inventions and discoveries, and the ways individuals have contributed to the development of communities and society. Students

strengthen their understanding of geography, history, economics, government, citizenship, and culture.

Through discussion, research, maps, biographies, and other learning experiences, students explore how communities function, how people make economic choices, and how citizens can contribute to the common good. These lessons encourage students to appreciate the contributions of others and consider how they can make a positive difference in their own communities.

Spanish

Students build familiarity with the Spanish language and explore ways to communicate with others through listening, speaking, vocabulary, and interactive activities. They develop an appreciation for language and culture while growing in confidence as they practice communicating in new ways.

Art

Students explore artistic expression through drawing, painting, printmaking, construction, and sculpture. They experiment with artistic techniques and materials, learn to make thoughtful creative choices, and explore how artists communicate ideas and feelings through their work. Students also learn to observe, discuss, and appreciate art from different cultures and perspectives while developing their own creativity and confidence.

Music

Students develop musical understanding and expression through singing, movement, rhythm, and instrumental experiences. They explore melody, tempo, dynamics, and musical notation while learning to listen carefully, recognize musical patterns, and participate in music from a variety of cultures and traditions. Music also provides opportunities for creativity, collaboration, and worship.

STEM

Students use creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving as they explore science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in practical ways. Through design challenges, investigations, and collaborative projects, they learn to ask questions, test ideas, evaluate solutions, and improve their work. Students also develop age-appropriate technology skills and practice perseverance when a solution takes more than one attempt.

Physical Education

Students strengthen coordination, balance, movement skills, and physical fitness through age-appropriate activities, games, and sports. They learn to follow rules, work cooperatively, practice good sportsmanship, and demonstrate respect for teammates and opponents. Students

also build an understanding of healthy habits, personal safety, and the importance of caring for the bodies God has given them.

More Than Academics

At Harvest Christian Academy, education is about more than what students know—it is also about who they are becoming. Third grade provides opportunities for students to grow in independence, strengthen relationships, take responsibility for their choices, and practice compassion, perseverance, and integrity. By nurturing academic growth alongside spiritual and personal development, we partner with families to prepare students to use their God-given abilities with wisdom, confidence, and purpose.