

2nd Grade

Hours: 8:35 - 3:15

Our primary goal at OSCS is to provide students with a Christ-centered education and to equip them to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Additionally, students are given academic instruction at their level to ensure that all may reach their full potential. Our teachers and curriculum ensure that academics are taught in such a way that students meet or exceed state standards.

Bible: All K-5 students meet weekly in chapel for a time of worship and Biblical instruction. Teaching is done by the church pastor, Tom Hux, or other church or school staff members. Each week, students will learn about a different Biblical character trait. Parents are always invited to attend chapel from 8:40-9:15 on Wednesday mornings.

Second graders learn even more about Biblical character traits in the classroom as they use the **ACSI Purposeful Design** curriculum to hone in on Bible heroes and the way they exemplify those traits. There are daily real-life applications as well as engaging student activities and weekly memory verses.

We believe that the Bible is God's inerrant word, given to all people. When teaching from the Bible, we have students from kindergarten on up holding their own Bible and doing their best to follow along, in order for them to know that the words being read are written directly for *them*.

Literacy: Second graders continue to work on reading accurately and fluently with phonics instruction, while also focusing on comprehension. Specific comprehension skills include identifying the main idea and supporting details, analyzing characters, summarizing and synthesizing, and making inferences and connections. The **Engaging Readers** curriculum that is used focuses on several modeled read aloud books each week to guide students through expanding their vocabularies and practicing comprehension skills. Instruction is both whole-group and targeted small groups according to students' abilities. Small groups use a **Science of Reading** curriculum that matches students' skills to provide direct instruction at the level each student needs. All students also receive whole-group explicit and purposeful phonics instruction using the **Fundations** curriculum.

Writing instruction becomes more detailed in second grade as students begin constructing multiple-paragraph pieces. The writing process of brainstorming, rough drafting, editing, and final drafting is heavily focused on. Students write daily and for multiple purposes including to entertain, persuade, and inform. A teacher-created

writing curriculum provides fun, relevant, and clear lessons to help our young writers grow in their skills.

Spelling: Students are taught spelling through our phonics curriculum. They learn spelling patterns that they practice as a whole group, independently, and in small groups.

Handwriting: Students are instructed by the teacher as they solidify proper letter formation in print, and begin to learn how to correctly form and join cursive letters.

Math: Mathematics instruction includes hands-on activities, real-world applications, and memorization, with a focus on critical thinking and problem solving. **Saxon 3** math curriculum is used to further students' abilities in computation, including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and early division. Students are introduced to fractions and continue learning deeper skills in measurement, graphing, geometry, computation, problem-solving, telling time and money.

Science and Social Studies: Students participate in a variety of teacher-created social studies units throughout the year. Units include national symbols, map skills, government, and cultures. Units are hands-on, engaging, and age-appropriate. **Mystery Science** curriculum includes physical investigations and an experiential approach to science.

Art, Music and PE: Art is included throughout the week to give students a chance to practice creativity and to learn basic art technique. Twice weekly music lessons allow students to use a variety of instruments, learn music theory, and sing fun, educational, and faith-based songs. Students have PE three times a week and have the chance to learn a variety of team and individual sports. They also learn the importance of physical activity and how to keep their bodies healthy.

Computer Skills: Students use chrome books to access digital books and to begin publishing their writing. They also learn correct typing through weekly practice with the **typing.com** curriculum.

Testing: Students are tested on English Language Arts and Mathematics through the standardized NWEA MAPs test three times a year. The focus is on each students' individual growth within each subject. Results are included in report cards home to parents and explained at parent-teacher conferences.

Community Service: At least twice a year students learn to serve others in their local and global communities by participating in service projects.

Parent Communication: Weekly newsletters inform parents of learning in each of the core subject areas, as well as upcoming classroom and school events. Parents are encouraged to reach out to their child's teacher with any questions or concerns. Report Cards are sent in November, March, and June.