



THE
FRANCES XAVIER WARDE
SCHOOL



FXW CURRICULUM GUIDEBOOK

PRESCHOOL through EIGHTH GRADE

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THE
FRANCES XAVIER WARDE
SCHOOL

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GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PHILOSOPHY	WE BELIEVE IN:	TEACHING PRACTICES
<p>The FXW Preschool philosophy is to facilitate learning in developmentally appropriate ways. With teacher guidance, our youngest students delve into a wide range of experiential topics that they then investigate through long-term projects and themes, such as visiting the doctor’s office, going to the grocery store, friendship building and practicing mindfulness.</p> <p>FXW teachers know that the best learning happens when a lesson sparks children’s interest and strengthens their curiosity and self-motivation. Together, we work to provide an environment that fosters a love of learning that lasts a lifetime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Play as the foundation for all learning• The importance of social and emotional development with an emphasis on relationships, self-regulation, and initiative• Nurturing growth mindset and sense of belonging in the community of the classroom• Modeling and fostering the development of empathy and compassion to enhance relationships• Teaching critical thinking skills through discussing, questioning and exploring• Providing choices to foster motivation to learn and to experience the joy of learning• Building body awareness by strengthening gross motor and fine motor muscles• Supporting the religious and spiritual faith of all children through prayer and music• Encouraging self-help skills to build independence and pride• Child readiness for learning with sensitivity to individual differences and needs• Partnering with parents to establish goals in order to support and nurture children’s development	<p>Teaching Practices are grounded in how young children develop and learn supported by research around what is educationally effective practices. Practices include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authentic Play• Project Based Learning• Sensory Experiences <p>There are five key areas that comprise effective teaching practices that promote inner strengths of children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Routines• Environment• Caring Connections• Activities and Experiences• Partnership between teachers and families



RESILIENCE

An additional goal of our FXW Preschool Program is to strengthen children’s protective factors which builds a child’s resilience. Children who develop strong protective factors will be better prepared to face challenges. There is strong evidence that solid social and emotional development impacts future academic success.

Protective Factors include:

ATTACHMENT	INITIATIVE	SELF-REGULATION
Long lasting caring relationships between a child and the important people in their life. Secure attachment leads to trust and the belief that the world is a safe place, filled with caring people.	The ability to use independent thoughts and actions to get needs met. Initiative allows children to be in charge of their learning and activities.	The ability to tell right from wrong and behave in prosocial ways. Children who have self-regulation experience emotions and impulse, and then think before speaking or acting.



EARLY LEARNING - [PHILOSOPHY](#)

ORAL LANGUAGE STANDARDS	LITERACY STANDARDS	NUMERACY STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listens with interest to stories• Retells stories using main ideas• Expresses needs and wants verbally• Uses words to solve problems• Uses age-appropriate vocabulary• Follows two-part oral directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shows an interest in books and print• Understands basic concepts of print• Identifies if sounds are the same or different• Recognizes basic rhyming words• Identifies basic shapes• Recognizes and prints first name• Identifies uppercase letters in first name• Identifies some letters and the sounds they make	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Counts by rote to 20• Recognizes numerals 0 to 10• Counts using 1 to 1 correspondence for numbers (to 10)• Models gross motor and fine motor patterns• Understands concepts of add-on and take-away (to 10)



MOTOR SKILLS

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS	VISUAL MOTOR SKILLS	FINE MOTOR SKILLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Throws and catches a large ball• Throws and catches a small ball• Stands on one foot with eyes open. Stands steadily on one foot for 10 seconds• Hops on two feet• Hops on one foot• Demonstrates ability to cross midline.• Models gross motor patterns such as galloping, shuffling and skipping	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gives sustained effort to visual-motor tasks such as scanning a book or task, completing a puzzle and coloring with growing precision• Recognizes basic patterns and shapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrates appropriate cutting skills• Uses proper pencil grip• Uses coloring and writing tools with skill• Can draw a picture to express an idea• Prints name in own style, in a recognizable form



SPECIALS

THE ARTS	SPANISH	LIBRARY
<p>FXW uses creative arts as an avenue for self-expression</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Movement: Build awareness of, explore, and participate in creative movement activities• Drama: Begin to appreciate and participate in dramatic activities• Music: Begin to appreciate and participate in music activities• Visual Arts: Investigate and participate in activities using visual arts materials	<p>FXW values the acquisition of a second language through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• engaging, repetitive exposure to high frequency verbs• basic sentence structures• simple greetings• song, story, and movement• encouraging participation	<p>FXW incorporates library to enhance a love of books through</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teaching library routines, expectations, and partnership with the Chicago Public Library and seasonal story time visits• <i>The Sit Together and Read</i> curriculum-interactive and innovative read-aloud practices• Nursery rhymes and fairy tale phonics <p><u>Philosophy of Library and Media</u></p>



RELIGION- FAITH EXPERIENCE

PRESCHOOL RELIGION CURRICULUM	UNITS OF STUDY	SERVICE
<p>Theme: God made me and God is Love</p> <p>Essential Questions: What did God create? How do we celebrate God? How should we treat each other? How do we pray? What are our faith communities? How do we serve God?</p>	<p>Units: Unit 1: Welcoming Community Unit 2: Seasons of Light Unit 3: Peace and Love Unit 4: Renewal and Gratefulness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Living the Legacy Service</i> BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK



LEARNING OFF CAMPUS

PRESCHOOL LEARNING OFF CAMPUS

During Learning off Campus (LoC), FXW strives to provide a virtual learning environment based on research with special consideration for how young students learn and develop. We ask families, to the best of their ability, to follow a predictable schedule, that is flexible and easily managed as a family. Teachers may give a copy of their classroom schedules for reference and students should engage in indoor and outdoor play, LoC activities, regular meal and snack times and rest. Teachers will offer synchronous meetings through MS Teams with small groups throughout the week.



"The FXW teachers and staff put tremendous effort into turning an impossible situation into something that felt possible as a way to end the school year. We will forever be grateful for their dedication to learning and their support of our child during this challenging time."

—Jen Borchard, Preschool Parent

FXW uses Seesaw which is a digital portfolio platform to use with students in Preschool through Grade 4 self-contained classrooms and specials classes.

In preschool, 10-15-minute activities will be provided for each of the following content areas: Gross Motor, Fine Motor, Social Emotional, Early Literacy, and Math.

Teacher Feedback

For students in Preschool, teachers will provide feedback on learning activities throughout the week. Because synchronous experiences will occur at varying times daily, the windows for feedback will vary classroom to classroom.



Learning Off Campus Activities

Some examples of these exercises include:

Gross Motor

Students are encouraged to move their bodies through sequences of frog hops, windmills, crab kicks, jumping jacks and other specific exercises that promote physical development. The exercises are presented in interactive videos created by teachers in both indoor and outdoor settings.

Fine Motor

Students continue building strength and coordination of their hands by engaging in pre-writing tasks such as playdough making, transfer tasks using household materials, letter and number formation and connect-the-dot activities. Teachers share recipes and ensure that all tasks can be done with a variety of materials available in the home.

Social Emotional

Teachers continue building connections with students by saying the school prayer together, The Prayer of St. Francis, and having students share special intentions. Additionally, teachers support students in building self-awareness by reinforcing the routine of core practice, belly breathing and other self-regulation strategies through video and live check-ins.

Early Literacy

Teachers choose books with rich vocabularies and strong story lines to read either live or in a recorded video. The live sessions provide opportunities for students to share alternative endings or answer questions about the book. The recordings allow students and families to watch on their own time and revisit a favorite story multiple times. Teachers provide lessons in pre-literacy skills such as rhyming, identifying beginning or ending sounds in words or alphabet activities for students to engage in daily.

Math

Students build number sense and early math skills through activities such as sequencing numbers, estimation, counting practice, categorizing shapes, and seeing numbers in ten frames. Movement is often incorporated into the math lessons to further engage our youngest learners.



Check out our virtual learning environment!

Click to play the videos.



Continued Recommendations During Learning Off Campus

For our preschool students, we encourage families to read nightly with their parents. This includes parent reading to child and child reading to parent.



THE
FRANCES XAVIER WARDE
SCHOOL

PRIMARY SCHOOL: Kindergarten-Second Grades

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

MATHEMATICS

RELIGION: FAITH EXPERIENCE

SCIENCE

SOCIAL STUDIES

ART

LIBRARY & MEDIA

MUSIC

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

SPANISH

LEARNING OFF CAMPUS





ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS PHILOSOPHY

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
<p>Reading Strands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oral Language and Vocabulary• Phonological Awareness• Phonics• Decoding and Comprehension Strategies• Text Reading and Comprehension	<p>Reading Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building Good Reading Habits• Learning About the World: Reading Nonfiction Text• Growing as a Reader in Decoding, Fluency, and Comprehension• Story Elements in Fiction: Characters and Life Lessons in Stories	<p>Reading Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building Good Reading Habits• Becoming Experts: Reading Nonfiction• Reading Power: Increasing Reading Stamina and Fluency• Series Book Clubs
<p>Writing Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oral Storytelling• Drawing to Tell a Story• Adding Labels to Drawings• Writing “All About” Stories• Writing How-to Books• Exploring Persuasive Writing	<p>Writing Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal Narrative: Writing Small Moments Stories• Nonfiction Writing: “All About” Books• Opinion Writing: Persuasive Reviews• Fiction Writing: Series Books	<p>Writing Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning from Mentor Texts: Improving Narrative Writing• Writing Like a Scientist• Letter Writing• Persuasive Writing: Supporting Opinions with Evidence



MATHEMATICS PHILOSOPHY

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
<p>Units of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Numbers• Measurement• Geometry• Operations	<p>Units of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Numbers to 10• Number Bonds• Addition within 10• Subtraction within 10• Ordinal Numbers• Numbers to 20• Addition/Subtraction within 20• Shapes• Numbers to 40• Addition/Subtraction Word Problems• Numbers to 120• Addition/Subtraction within 100• Length & Height• Time• Money• Data	<p>Units of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Numbers to 1,000• Addition within 1,000• Subtraction within 1,000• Multiplication• Division• Addition/Subtraction Word Problems• 2D shapes• 3D shapes• Fractions• Length and Height• Length and Height Customary• Time• Money• Data• Numbers to 1,200

RELIGION- FAITH EXPERIENCE

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST THROUGH EIGHTH GRADES
<p>We are God’s Family</p> <p>Four Units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Belonging and Praise• Light and Thanksgiving• Peace• Forgiving and Renewal <p><i>Living the Legacy Service</i></p> <p>Blessings in a Backpack</p>	<p>In 1st-8th Grade, students participate in a Catholic religion class (Moonbeams) or interfaith religion class (Shooting Stars) in which the curriculum mirrors one another. Throughout the year, children participate in prayer services and masses as an expression of their faith experience. As a community of inclusion, FXW School values the opportunity for interfaith dialogue which involves listening, learning and asking questions to deepen understanding of world religions. The celebration of Catholic Holy Days and sacramental preparation are part of the Catholic religion program.</p> <p>1st-8th Grade Moonbeams Catholic Studies Scope and Sequence</p> <p>1st-8th Grade Shooting Stars Interfaith Studies Scope and Sequence</p>



SCIENCE

FXW uses the [eight practices](#) of science and engineering throughout our units and in an integrated manner with other curricular areas such as reading, writing and math:

1. Asking questions (for science) and defining problems (for engineering)
2. Developing and using models
3. Planning and carrying out investigations
4. Analyzing and interpreting data
5. Using mathematics and computational thinking
6. Constructing explanations (for science) and designing solutions (for engineering)
7. Engaging in argument from evidence
8. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
Units of Study: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weather• Living Things• Force and Motion• Kindergarten Open Classrooms	Units of Study: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Space Systems Patterns and Cycles• Waves: Light and Sound• Structures and Functions of Plants and Animals	Units of Study: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy and Dynamics• Matter and Interactions• Earth’s Place in the Universe



SOCIAL STUDIES

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building Community and Belonging• Social Skill Building• Interdependence- Farm to Table and Animals and Ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Helpers• Geography• American Symbols	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geography• Government• Black History and Women’s History• Economics
<p>Experiences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Daily Morning Meeting2. Campus and Church Tour3. Explicit teaching of SEL Domains4. Farm Field Trip5. Beach Clean Up	<p>Experiences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Safety Town Field Trip2. Me on the Map Project3. Patriotic Assembly	<p>Experiences:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Map Work with Grid Coordinates2. Post Office Experience3. Integrated Literacy Units incorporating Black History and Women’s History4. Producer and Consumer Project5. Saving and Spending Exit Slip



ART

Through a combination of exploration and guided lessons, students are encouraged to engage in the process and practice of art-making. The lessons aim to teach the whole child by providing opportunities to strengthen the development of visual motor and fine motor skills as well as foster a growth mindset. Additionally, students are encouraged to engage in conversation about famous works and their own pieces to grow capacity for perspective-taking and honoring diverse cultures.

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creative Expression• Color Relationships• Experimental Mark-making• Process and Practice vs. Product• Observational Drawing• Wet and Dry Media: oil pastel, chalk, graphite, watercolor, paper (collage), scissors, glue and clay• Strengthen students' fine motor muscles through instruction of proper tool usage (grip, control, pressure, etc.)• Growth mindset by creating a safe place to create and make mistakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creative expression• Color relationships• Guided lessons in Mark-making• Wet and Dry Media: oil pastel, chalk, graphite, watercolor, paper (collage), scissors, glue and clay• New tools and practices to strengthen students' visual motor and fine motor skills• Observational Drawing• Discussion platform and new vocabulary to describe the choices they made when creating art• Concept of symmetry, specifically lateral symmetry, and how to use this when both evaluating and creating pieces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Examine the role of art in different cultures• Build knowledge of artistic mediums• Observational Drawing• Reinforce the skills of grip, control, and pressure when working with brush, dry media, and scissors• Students allowed more choice in selecting mediums to express their creative ideas• Evaluating, adding and editing pieces to create a final product• Students are given time and encouragement to reflect on their drawings and to make choices on areas they would like to work toward improving



LIBRARY & MEDIA PHILOSOPHY

Readers are empowered to self-select literature using age appropriate tools such as the five finger rule test, IPICK, and guidance by the Library & Media Specialist. The goal of the Library-Media curriculum and lessons are to create lifelong readers, who read inside and outside of school. The Library-Media lessons encompass and reflect the following standards: ISTE, AASL, ISAIL, and CCSS. The OSP Library has an ongoing relationship with the Chicago Public Library, hosting CPL visits on a monthly basis for our PreK and Kindergarten Library classes. Students are exposed to a variety of authors, illustrators, formats, and genres through annual participation in the Global Read Aloud, the Illinois Monarch Award, author and illustrator studies reflecting diverse titles, and a rigorous media literacy curriculum. The National Education Association’s Read Across America annual calendar is used to celebrate heritage months and implement teaching resources in the OSP Library that represent an array of experiences and cultures.

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Global Read Aloud unit• Partnership with Chicago Public Library• Monarch Illinois Book Award Unit• Week of Code• Author Study: Shannon and Carle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pause and Think Online• Global Read Aloud• Week of Code-Kodable, Scratch Jr. Daisy the Dino Jr.• Internet Safety and Digital Footprint• Monarch Illinois Book Award Unit• How Technology Makes You Feel• Cyberbullying• Tumblebooks and Brain Pop Jr.• Author Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We the Digital Citizens• Global Read Aloud• Week of Code-Hello Ruby, Kodable, Code.org, Scratch Jr.• Media Literacy-Device-Free Moments• Celebrate authors and chapter book series• Media Literacy-Passwords using Dinopass• Media Literacy-Relationships and communication with email• Poetry unit• Online databases

MUSIC

For grades K-3, music class is all about exploring, defining, creating, and performing. Two times a week, students engage in music-making for thirty minutes, which includes various activities such as listening and moving to music, writing rhythms and melodies, performing songs alone or with a group, or discovering instruments and rhythms. Performance is a large part of our curriculum, starting with a kindergarten musical and ending with a choir spring concert. By the end of 3rd grade, students have a basic understanding of music literacy, experience performing and creating music, and an appreciation of various genres and styles of music.

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tools of a performer• Singing• Rhythm• Expression• Listening, Describing, and Analyzing Music• Patriotic Songs• Nutcracker Performance Study• Introduction to Orchestra	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tools of a performer• Singing• Rhythm• Expression• Listening, Describing, and Analyzing Music• Patriotic Songs• The Orchestra	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tools of a performer• Singing• Rhythm• Expression• Listening, Describing, and Analyzing Music• Patriotic Songs• Jazz and Blues



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

[Progression of skills through these units](#)

At The Frances Xavier Warde School, the Physical Education program plays a vital role today by helping students gain an appreciation for wellness, fitness, participation in life-long physical activity, and teambuilding skills. Physical education is the one subject area that provides learning in all three domains: cognitive, affective, and psychomotor. Physical education helps every child develop movement and sport skills, a positive self-image, positive social interactions, and problem-solving techniques.

What makes our physical education program unique is allowing each child to explore and develop their motor skills through a variety of activities and sport skills while continuing to encourage in positive teamwork and sportsmanship. Our goal in physical education is for students to acquire the means to lead a healthy, active lifestyle. To facilitate these optimal levels of wellness, the Physical Education Department is committed to delivering a comprehensive, sequential curriculum K-8. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that all students can be successful in class and in life by creating a safe learning environment that fosters, growth, enjoyment, and success during physical education for all students.

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manipulation of objects-catching and throwing• Basketball• Jump Roping and Hula Hooping• Tumbling/Gymnastics• Nutrition• Soccer• Tee-ball	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manipulation of objects-catching and throwing overhand• Basketball• Jump Roping and Hula Hooping• Tumbling/Gymnastics• Nutrition• Soccer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basketball• Nutrition• Soccer• Teeball• Baseball• Kickball• Floor Hockey

SPANISH

[ACTFL'S WORLD READINESS STANDARDS FOR LEARNING LANGUAGES](#)

Learning a second language helps students reflect on their own unique life experiences, which in turn leads to being able to compare and connect these experiences with those of other people around the world. At the elementary level, FXW's World Language program is focused on acquisition-driven instruction. The goal is to provide instruction that is delivered 90% in the target language, all of which is [comprehensible and engaging](#), within a low-stress environment that builds self-confidence with the language. For every student in grades K-3, FXW provides two Spanish classes a week totaling one hour of instruction. In total, our students will receive approximately 35 hours of Spanish class time each year. Mindful of this, we set language goals that are both developmentally appropriate and realistic. At the conclusion of third grade, we expect our students to be advancing through ACTFL's Novice proficiency levels.

KINDERGARTEN	FIRST GRADE	SECOND GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greetings• Basic Expectations• Numbers 1-15• Emotions• Personal Interviews• High Frequency Verbs• Rejoinders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Personal Interests• Customs• Literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Personal Identities• Social Customs• Effects of Technology on Self• Family Structure• Contemporary Life• Literature



LEARNING OFF CAMPUS

In March of 2020, schools across the world responded to the COVID-19 health pandemic by moving teaching and learning online. FXW called our program, Learning off Campus (LoC). We are currently creating grade level summaries of Learning off Campus as we expect that there may be a continued need for this platform as we prepare for the 20-21 school year.

Additional Summaries will be added when completed.

KINDERGARTEN LEARNING OFF CAMPUS

Learning off Campus allows the Kindergarten students to experience online learning through Seesaw activities and teacher led instruction using MS Teams. Students learn how to respond to work through drawing, writing, and recording their voices. Through partnership with parents, the Kindergarteners act as mindful digital citizens, using technology appropriately to safely watch videos and complete tasks.

In Reading, students are offered opportunities to connect with texts, direct instruction in phonics and reading strategies, and activities to expand their sight word knowledge.

In Writing, students hear mini lessons from teachers and are encouraged to write about familiar topics and events that truly happened to them. Students practice sentence mechanics and spelling consonant-vowel-consonant words phonetically.

In Mathematics, students engage with pre-recorded, interactive video lessons to build number sense, geometric vocabulary and flexibility with operations.

In Science, children are offered opportunities to further explore project-based learning topics. Students use non-fiction texts during the science unit to gather information. The activities allow children to learn more about the natural world, develop questions, and make observations.

Although apart, **Social Emotional Learning** continues. Students learn strategies to manage emotions and learn problem-solving skills through explicit teaching videos and reflection activities. Students are offered opportunities to connect and engage in relationship building with their classmates and teachers through MS Teams.



LOWER SCHOOL: Third through Fifth Grades

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

MATHEMATICS

RELIGION: FAITH EXPERIENCE

SCIENCE

SOCIAL STUDIES

ART

MUSIC

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

WORLD LANGUAGE





ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS PHILOSOPHY

THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
Reading Units <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building a Reading Life• Reading to Learn: Main Ideas in Nonfiction Text• Character Studies: Kate DiCamillo Author Study• Reading and Research: Biographies• Word Study and Vocabulary	Reading Units <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interpreting Characters and Making Inferences• Reading and Research: Science Resources• Nonfiction: Analyzing Multiple Perspectives• Historical Fiction Book Clubs• Word Study and Vocabulary	Reading Units <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short Fiction: Comparing and Contrasting Plot and Characters• Poetry: Theme and Figurative Language• Fantasy Fiction Book Club: Theme and Character Development• Nonfiction: Main Ideas and Author's Craft• Word Study and Vocabulary
Writing Units <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal Narrative: Crafting True Stories• Informational Writing: Using Writing to Teach Others• Opinion Writing: Persuading an Audience• Biographical Essays• Grammar integrated throughout	Writing Units <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Realistic Fiction: Developing the Arc of a Story• Personal and Persuasive Essays: Organizational Strategies• Historical Research• Literary Essay: Writing About Fiction• Grammar integrated throughout	Writing Units <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theme-based Personal Narrative• Narrative Writing: Fantasy• Poetry and Figurative Language• Research, Information Writing, and Publishing with Text Features• Grammar integrated throughout

Library and Media Philosophy

Third grade readers are empowered to self-select literature using age appropriate tools and guidance by the Library & Media Specialist. The goal of the Library-Media curriculum and lessons are to create lifelong readers, who read inside and outside of school. The Library-Media lessons encompass and reflect the following standards: ISTE, AASL, ISAIL, and CCSS. The OSP Library has an ongoing relationship with the Chicago Public Library, hosting CPL visits on a monthly basis for our PreK and Kindergarten Library classes. Students are exposed to a variety of authors, illustrators, formats, and genres through annual participation in the Global Read Aloud, the Illinois Monarch Award, author and illustrator studies reflecting diverse titles, and a rigorous media literacy curriculum. The National Education Association's Read Across America annual calendar is used to celebrate heritage months and implement teaching resources in the OSP Library that represent an array of experiences and cultures.



MATHEMATICS PHILOSOPHY

THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
<p>Units of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Numbers to 10,000• Addition and Subtraction within 1000• Multiplication and Division• More Multiplication and Division• Word Problems with Mixed Operations• Fractions• Length and Height• Time• Money• Mass• Volume• Geometry• Perimeter• Area• Data• Numbers to 100,000	<p>Units of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Numbers to 1,000,000• Addition and Subtraction within 1,000,000• Multiplication and Division• Word Problems with Mixed Operations• Fractions• Addition and Subtraction with Fractions• Decimals• Money• Time• Length, Mass and Volume• Geometry• Perimeter• Data	<p>Units of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Numbers to 10,000,000• Four Operations with Whole Numbers• Addition and Subtraction of Fractions• Multiplication and Division of Fractions• Decimals• Four Operations on Decimals• Word Problems• Time• Length, Volume, and Mass• Geometry• Volumes of Solids• Data• Algebra



SCIENCE

FXW science teachers use the [eight practices](#) of science and engineering throughout our units and in an integrated manner with other curricular areas such as reading, writing and math:

THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motion and Stability- Forces and Interactions• Earth's Systems• From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earth’s Surface Changes Over Time- Weathering, Erosion• Energy and Motion• Energy Transfer in Collisions• Energy Transfer: Sound, Light, and Heat• Energy Transfer: Electric Currents• Energy Resources and the Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earth’s Systems• Mass and gravity, inertia, and orbit• The sun is a star and other stars are really far away• Earth's seasons• What is matter• Observing properties of matter• Physical and chemical changes• Matter can not be created or destroyed• Invention Convention• Energy in the Ecosystem



SOCIAL STUDIES

THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Civic Ideals & Practices<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jobs and responsibilities• City rules• Improving the community• Geography - Continents and Oceans• Goods and Services<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chicago activity• Goods and services within the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to Five Fields of Social Studies• US Government• U.S. Regions: Geography/Climate<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Northeast• Southeast• Midwest• Southwest• West• Springfield, Illinois	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• North American Geography• North America Before Colonization:• Colonization• Slavery• Pre-Revolutionary War• US Government and Economics• Manifest Destiny• Causes of the Civil War• Reconstruction and Industrial Revolution• Modern History Book Clubs



ART

THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Artistic Process- initial idea from sketch to a final iteration• Art Vocabulary- describe personal choices when creating art• Proper Tool Usage- grip and control• Color Relationships- blending combinations in water colors.• Observational Drawing- identifying parts of the whole, lines, and patterns; using more advanced tools and practices, both natural and architectural sources• Perspective- creating architectural drawings• Art Culture- contemporary and historical• Ceramic Process• Art History• Selection, Improvement and Exhibition of a Personal Piece- 3rd Grade Art Show	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zines: All About Me• Intentional Drawing and Experimenting with Color• Starry Night Oil Pastels• Young Artist Project• Underwater Paintings• Expressive Self-Portraits• Chinese Kite Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zines: All About Me• Imaginative Architecture Drawings• Weaving• Young Artist Project• Fantasy Story Illustrations• Mythical Self-Portraits• Scientific Illustrations• Plaster Sculpture Project



MUSIC

THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
<p>General Music:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tools of the Performer: Face, Body, Mind, Voice• Singing: Pitch, Enunciation, Breathing, Part Singing• Rhythm: Rhythmic Notation, Rhythm Performance• Listening, Describing, Analyzing Music: Dynamics, Tempo, Form• Expression• American Songs• Types of Performances: Ballet, Opera, Musicals, Plays, Orchestra	<p>General Music:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elements of Music• Holiday Performance• Sight Reading and Sight Singing• Music History• Operas, Ballets and Musicals <p>Liturgical Music:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fall Music for Liturgies<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Opening School MassB. TeachingC. Living the Legacy Prayer ServiceD. Harvest Prayer Service (Shooting Stars)E. All Saints Day Mass (Moonbeams)F. Grandparents Day Mass• Winter Music for Liturgies<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Immaculate Conception Mass (Moonbeams)B. Season of Light Prayer ServiceC. Peace LiturgyD. Catholic Schools Week MassE. Ash Wednesday Mass (Moonbeams)	<p>General Music:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elements of Music• Holiday Event• Spring Musical• Sight Reading and Sight Singing• Music History• Operas, Ballets and Musicals <p>Independent learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Piano keyboardsB. Music learning gamesD. Listening to musicE. Reading about musicF. Misc. classroom instruments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drum Circles



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soccer• Basketball• Nutrition• Baseball• Kickball• Catching and Throwing• Locomotor Movement• Non-locomotor Skills• Fitness <p><u>Progression of skills through these units</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fitness Testing• Speed/Agility/Coordination• Jump Rope• Invasion Games: Capture the Flag, Team Handball, Ultimate Frisbee, Flag Football, Basketball, Floor Hockey• Net/Wall Games: Volleyball, Nuke'Em, Badminton, Kickball, Pickleball, Spikeball• Station Interval Exercises• Striking & Fielding Games: Cricket, Bags, KanJams• Team Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fitness Testing• Speed/Agility/Coordination• Jump Rope• Invasion Games: Capture the Flag, Team Handball, Ultimate Frisbee, Flag Football, Basketball, Floor Hockey• Net/Wall Games: Volleyball, Nuke'Em, Badminton, Kickball, Pickleball, Spikeball• Station Interval Exercises• Striking & Fielding Games: Cricket, Bags, KanJams• Team Building



WORLD LANGUAGE

THIRD GRADE	FOURTH GRADE	FIFTH GRADE
<p>Spanish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions• Personal Identities• Social Customs• Effects of Technology on Self• Family Structure• Contemporary Life• Literature	<p>Spanish</p> <p>Change and Friendship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How change impacts individuals• How individuals impact change• Friendship (conflict, changes, etc.) and qualities of true friends <p>Responsibility and Trust:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the relationship between responsibility and trust?• How does one cultivate trust? <p>Fairness and hope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is fair? Who decides?• What does hope accomplish? <p>Language-Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Habits and behaviors of language learners• Desired mindsets and attitudes towards challenges and demands	<p>Spanish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identity and Dia de los Muertos• Conflict and Courage• Acceptance and heroes• Language-Learning <p>French</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Salut! Let's Discover Paris!• J'adore! Let's Discover Nantes!



THE
FRANCES XAVIER WARDE
SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Sixth through Eighth Grades

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

MATHEMATICS

RELIGION- FAITH EXPERIENCE

SCIENCE

SOCIAL STUDIES

ART

MUSIC

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

WORLD LANGUAGE



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

PHILOSOPHY

SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
Reading Strands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character Traits and Complexity Social Issues in Literature Journalism in a Digital Age Nonfiction: Main Ideas and Author’s Purpose Afrofuturism Study: Connecting Historical and Contemporary Events Word Study and Vocabulary 	Reading Units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realistic Fiction: Theme and Character Conflicts Historical Fiction Book Clubs Nonfiction Book Clubs and Independent Reading: Main Ideas and Author’s Point-of-View Word Study and Vocabulary 	Reading Units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dystopian Literature: Setting and Character Impact Nonfiction Book Clubs: Main Idea and Author’s Purpose Short Nonfiction Texts: Fact vs. Opinion Realistic Fiction: Characterization and Theme Memoir: Comparing and Contrasting Author’s Tone Poetry: Close Reading and Literary Analysis Vocabulary
Writing Units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrative Writing Based on Real or Imagined Experiences Argument Writing: Presenting Claims and Findings Research and Multi-media Information Writing: Teen Activism Grammar integrated throughout 	Writing Units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrative Writing: Short Stories and Film Production Literary Essay: Character Analysis Argument Writing: Balancing Evidence and Analysis Grammar integrated throughout 	Writing Units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigative Reporting Activist Writing: Researching and Passionately Taking a Position Narrative Writing: Developing and Publishing a Children’s Book Grammar integrated throughout



MATHEMATICS PHILOSOPHY

SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
<p><i>Units of Study:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Area and Surface Area• Ratios, Rates, and Percentages• Real Number Computation• Expressions and Equations• Rational Numbers• Statistics	<p><i>Units of Study</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Real Number computation including integers, fractions, and decimals• Algebraic Expressions, properties, variable exponent, formulas• Algebraic Equations w/ one variable and percent• Algebraic Inequalities w/one variable• Linear Equations in two variables• Angle Relationships and Geometry• Probability and Data Analysis	<p>Grade 8 Math offers two different courses for students: 8th Grade Algebra and Algebra 1</p> <p><i>Units of Study:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Solving Linear Equations•Function Representation•Graphing Linear Equations•Writing Linear Equations•Solving and Graphing Linear Inequalities•Geometry•Systems of Equations and Inequalities•Exponent Properties and Functions•Quadratic Equations•Polynomial Computation•Radical Expressions and Equations*•Rational Expressions and Equations* <p>*Algebra I</p>



RELIGION- FAITH EXPERIENCE

In 1st-8th Grade, students participate in a Catholic religion class (Moonbeams) or interfaith religion class (Shooting Stars) in which the curriculum mirrors one another. Throughout the year, children participate in prayer services and masses as an expression of their faith experience. As a community of inclusion, FXW School values the opportunity for interfaith dialogue which involves listening, learning and asking questions to deepen understanding of world religions. The celebration of Catholic Holy Days and sacramental preparation are part of the Catholic religion program.

SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
Personal Relationship to Faith Jewish High Holy Days Introduction to the Old Testament Genesis and Creation Stories God forms a Family of Faith	Moonbeams Shooting Stars <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is Religion• Ethics-Transformation• Origin Stories• Eco-spirituality• Holidays and Festivals	Shooting Stars and Moonbeams <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Justice• Spiritual Teaching and World Religions• Prayer and Meditation• Rite of Passage• Seven Spiritual Gifts• History of Christianity• Islam and Christianity



SCIENCE

FXW science teachers use the [eight practices](#) of science and engineering throughout our units and in an integrated manner with other curricular areas such as reading, writing and math:

SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scientific Explanation• Plate Tectonics• Rock Cycle• Natural Hazards Forecasting• Water Cycle• Atmospheric Circulation• Weather• Climate Change• Natural Resources• Earth, Moon and Sun• Scale in Solar System• Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scientific Explanation• Classifying and Exploring Life• The Cell• From a Cell to an Organism• Reproduction of Organisms• Genetics• The Environment and Change Over Time• Microorganism• Plants• Animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thermal Energy• Foundations of Chemistry• Atoms• The Periodic Table• Waves• Electricity• Motion• Laws of Motion



SOCIAL STUDIES

SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
<p>Units of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prehistoric People• Mesopotamia• Ancient Egypt and Kush• Ancient Greece• The Greek World• Ancient Rome• Rome and Christianity• The Early Middle Ages• The Late Middle Ages	<p>Units of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to world geography/five themes• United States/Canada• Latin America• Europe• World War I• World War II• African American History• Africa• Southern Asia• Chicago History	<p>Units of Study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Old World meets New World• The Colonial Period• The Revolution and the War for Independence• The Constitution• Slavery and the Civil War• Reconstruction and Period of Rapid Industrialization• Prosperity, Progressives and WWI• Early 20th Century and World War I• Boom, Bust, and World War II• Cold War and Civil Rights



ART

SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zines: All About Me• Japanese Landscapes and Watercolor Paintings• Surrealism and Oil Pastels• Origami Butterflies• Drawing as Meditation: Scratch Art• Modigliani Self-Portrait• Plaster Gauze Mask Making	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zines: All About Me• Printmaking Project• Zentangle Drawing• Linear Perspective• Clay Sculpture Claes Oldenburg	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zines: All About Me• Realistic self-portraits• Political printmaking• Mosaic collage and watercolor• Independent Artwork• Art Show



MUSIC

SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
<p>General Music:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black History Month• The Recorder	<p>General Music:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elements of Music• The Art of Playing Chimes• Veteran’s Day Music• Off Broadway Concert• Music History• Operas, Ballets and Musicals	<p>General Music:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8th grade music auditions• Musical preparation• Soundtrack of Your Life project• Drum Circles• Variety Show and Graduation music
<p>Liturgical Music 6th-8th:</p> <p>Fall Music for Liturgies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Opening School MassB. TeachingC. Living the Legacy Prayer ServiceD. Harvest Prayer Service (Shooting Stars)	<p>Winter Music for Liturgies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Immaculate Conception Mass (Moonbeams)B. Season of Light Prayer ServiceC. Peace LiturgyD. Catholic Schools Week MassE. Ash Wednesday Mass (Moonbeams)	<p>Independent learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Piano keyboardsB. Music learning gamesD. Listening to musicE. Reading about musicF. Miscellaneous classroom instrumentsG. Music ensembles



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fitness Testing• Speed, Agility, Coordination• Jump Rope• Invasion Games: Capture the Flag. Team Handball,• Ultimate Frisbee, Flag Football, Basketball• Net/Wall Games: Volleyball, Nuke'Em, Badminton, Kickball, Pickleball• Station Interval Exercises• Striking and Fielding- Cricket, Floor Hockey, Bags and KanJam	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fitness Testing• Speed, Agility, Coordination• Jump Rope• Invasion Games: Capture the Flag. Team Handball,• Ultimate Frisbee, Flag Football, Basketball• Net/Wall Games: Volleyball, Nuke'Em, Badminton, Kickball, Pickleball• Station Interval Exercises• Striking and Fielding- Cricket, Floor Hockey, Bags and KanJam	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fitness Testing• Speed, Agility, Coordination• Jump Rope• Invasion Games: Capture the Flag. Team Handball,• Ultimate Frisbee, Flag Football, Basketball• Net/Wall Games: Volleyball, Nuke'Em, Badminton, Kickball, Pickleball• Station Interval Exercises• Striking and Fielding- Cricket, Floor Hockey, Bags and KanJam

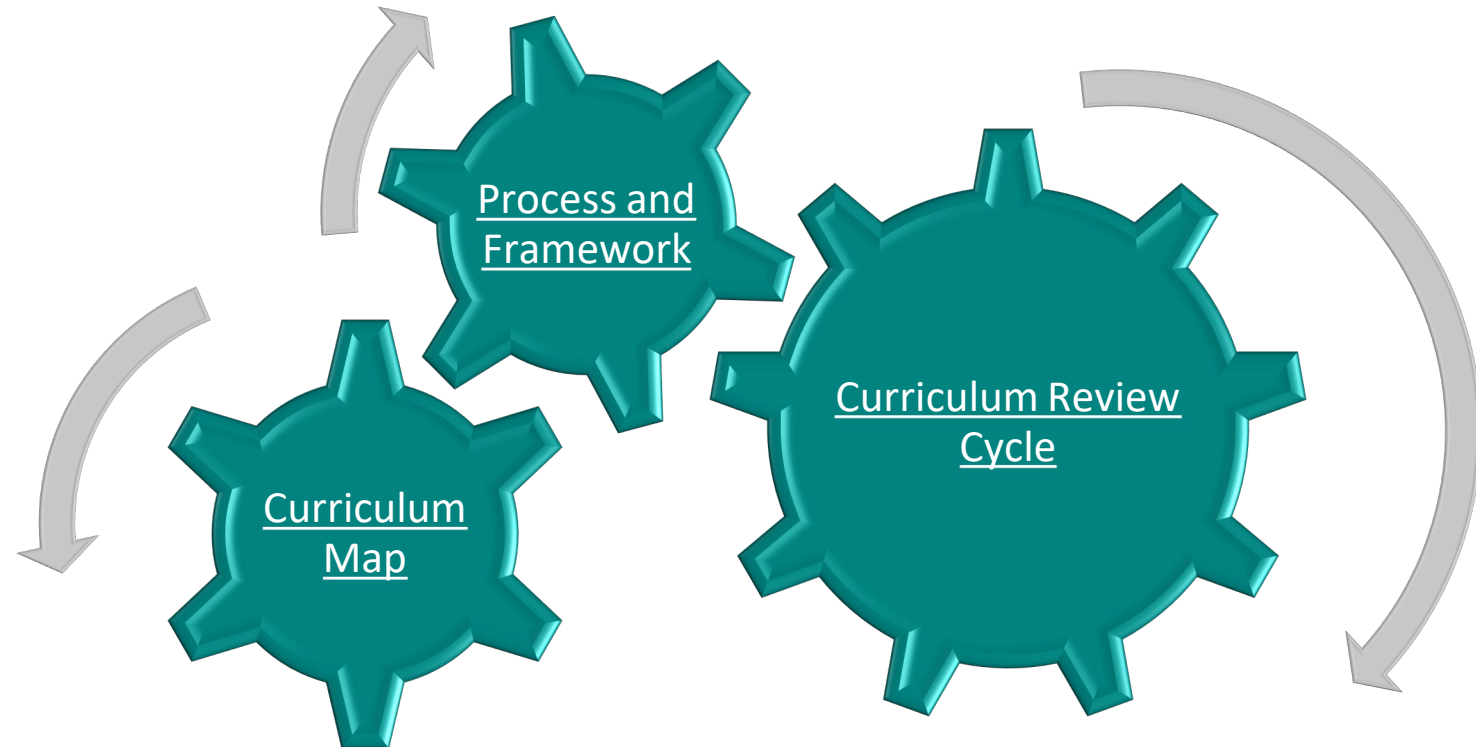


WORLD LANGUAGE

SIXTH GRADE	SEVENTH GRADE	EIGHTH GRADE
<p>Spanish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Los Bakers Van a Peru, Capitulo 1-3• El Precio es Corecto, Capitulo 4• Capitulo 5• Tsansa• Los Artes• Plaza• Lineas Nascas• Diego y Sus Amigos• The Inca Creation Myth	<p>Spanish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lustrabotas• El Alto, Bolivia• Superheroe• Mercado de las Brujas• Alasitas• El Bloque• Ser vs. Estar• Intro to Food• Roots of Food	<p>Spanish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Costumbres• La vida en Espana• Tradicion• Leyenda• Que Asco• Diego y Sus Amigos
<p>French:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Montréal / Canada: Ma Famille !• La Réunion / Island French : Le collège	<p>French:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bordeaux / France : Ma semaine !• Lyon / France : Mon quartier !	<p>French:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marrakesh/Morocco: Bon appétit• Belgium/Bruxelles: Mes Intérêts• Strasbourg / France: Sur la route

FXW CURRICULUM PLANNING

FXW's definition of curriculum: a living, breathing and ever-changing guide on *what and how to teach*.





THE
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SCHOOL

SCHOOL TO HOME CONNECTION

