

St. Anthony School
Grade 2 Orientation

Mrs. Cecelia Weaver

1. SCHEDULE: Our school day is from 7:45 am-2:35 pm Monday through Thursday, and 7:45 am-1:15 pm on Fridays. Please refer to your monthly calendar for special dismissal days. Our daily schedule is based on a six-day cycle, letters A-F. The monthly calendar will indicate what each letter day is.

2. TARDIES AND ABSENCES: Your child should arrive at school no later than 7:40 am. This gives him/her time to sanitize, put their things away, and be prepared for pledge and prayer at 7:45. (Please refer to the school's procedures and policies for drop off and pick up.) Your child will be counted as tardy if they are not present at 7:45. In the case of an absence, a note should be sent to the homeroom teacher upon their return to school. Please reference the current school policy for safe return to school. If requested, make-up work may be sent to the Office by the end of the day on which your child is absent for pickup.

3. RELIGION: All students are expected to participate in the religious education program at St. Anthony School. Catholic students additionally are prepared for reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Parents who wish to have their child receive these sacraments may be asked to attend workshops during the year to aid them in preparing their children. The Parish Religious Education Director sets up these sessions. Notices will be sent home and/or announced in the Sunday bulletin when dates and times have been established.

The student body will celebrate Mass or prayer services during the school year. Because of current health restrictions mandating distancing, the entire student body will not attend as a whole, but classes will attend on a rotating basis. Live streaming of the Mass will be offered to classes not able to attend in person. Typically, parents and families are welcome and encouraged to attend school Masses, but at this time due to distancing and safety practices, attendance is limited to students invited to each Mass.

Students should wear their uniform red shirt on all Mass days unless it is a P.E. day. When P.E. days fall on a Mass day, the class will wear their P.E. uniform to school.

4. LANGUAGE ARTS: Our Language Arts program includes the following areas:

Spelling – Tests are typically given on the last day of the week. The words are part of the Journeys reading program and include the twelve basic spelling words along with the eight challenge vocabulary words.

Reading – There are two levels to be completed this year. A Reading Log is issued in September and students are asked to read aloud to an adult for 15 minutes a day as part of their daily homework. The Reading Log should be initialed by a parent when completed each day. A book report is also due at the end of each month, September through May.

Phonics – The Phonics Plus method of marking words will be incorporated along with the Phonics text.

English – This includes grammar and writing skills. Various types of writing, such as personal narrative, explanatory writing, and story writing, will be explored and grammar skills will be applied to writing.

Library – Students may check out one book to be read at home or kept in school for free time reading.

Language Arts folders will be sent home each week with the previous week's work, along with a cover sheet. This is considered part of the homework for that day. Please review all work with your child and initial the cover sheet where indicated by date. As stories are completed in the reader, they will be dated on the cover sheet for oral reading at home. These stories may be logged on the reading log for that day. Periodically a progress report will be filled out. The report is to be signed at that time. The cover sheet, the Language Arts folder, and any "Redo" or "Inc." work are to be returned to school the following day.

5. D.E.A.R TIME: "Drop Everything and Read" is a story time set aside when selected books are read to the students.

6. HANDWRITING: The transition is begun in second grade between manuscript printing and cursive writing.

7. MATH: Some major concepts to be learned are memorization of the addition and subtraction facts through 18, regrouping in addition and subtraction, and telling time. Because of the need for quick recall of the facts, calculators should not be used to complete the facts homework.

Math folders will be sent home each week with the previous week's work, along with a cover sheet. This is considered part of the homework for that day. Please review all work with your child and initial the cover sheet where indicated by date. Periodically a progress report will be filled out. The report is to be signed at that time. The cover sheet, the Math folder, and any "Redo" or "Inc." work are to be returned to school the following day.

8. SOCIAL STUDIES and SCIENCE: These subjects are taught by the homeroom teacher, and papers are sent home as each chapter or unit is completed. Typically a unit of Social Studies and Science are taught consecutively, completing one unit of Social Studies then teaching a unit of Science.

9. P.E., SPANISH, MUSIC, LIBRARY, ART, and TECHNOLOGY: These subjects are taught by specialty teachers. P.E. uniforms take precedence over Red Shirt days. Students are asked to have a filled water bottle available to carry with them to P.E. class on their assigned days. Please prepare for this at home. A uniform hat is also required when playing outside.

10. HOMEWORK: Homework is considered an important responsibility and is to be completed and returned to school the next day. Homework is assigned daily except on weekends and holidays. There will be Math and Language Arts, including a Reading Log and Math facts practice, assigned each day and occasionally other special assignments. On days when Language Arts and Math folders are sent home, they are considered the homework for that subject. Any "redo", "please correct", or "incomplete" papers are to be completed and returned with the folder the next school day. It is vital that parents make an effort to look over their child's homework each day.

11. GRADING: Report card grades are as follows:

E = excellent

S = satisfactory

N = needs improving

A "plus" or "minus" is often used after a grade of "S" to indicate progress closer to "E", or falling closer to "N".

12. LUNCH and SNACKS: Snack time is during the morning recess. Lunchtime begins at 12:15 on regular days, and at 11:10 on early dismissal days. The students will eat lunch in school on all school days including Fridays, except noon dismissal days. Healthy snacks are encouraged. Candy and sodas are not allowed. Please do not send any carbonated drinks in your child's lunch. They do not furnish the required nourishment, and tend to be a source of accidental spills. Water is the preferred drink at snack time and students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to class each day.

13. DRESS CODE: Please refer to our School Handbook for specifics on our dress code. It can be viewed online at the school website. Girls are asked to wear hair ornaments that coordinate with the dress code colors of navy blue, black, red, and white. Belts must be worn with the uniform shorts and pants. Shirts are to be worn tucked in. The red polo shirt is worn on Mass day, excursions, and other announced occasions. In the event that a P.E. day and a red shirt day fall on the same day, the P.E. uniform takes precedence over the red shirt with the exception of excursion days. Socks should cover the ankle and must be visible above the shoe. Athletic shoes should be predominately white, black, navy blue, or gray in color.

14. CONFERENCES: Formal conferences are scheduled for all students in September. In February, conferences are held only for select students and for those requested by the parents. If, at any other time, you would like a conference with any of you child's teachers, please contact them through the School Office, via email, or send a note with your child to the teacher.