



LACS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
**ACADEMIC GOALS**  
&  
**OBJECTIVES**

Los Altos Christian Schools offers curriculum which is based on a Christian perspective of education. We feel it is important to integrate scriptural principles and biblical threads into each area of subject matter. We continually research a variety of curriculums and have selected materials that will offer your child a high-quality academic education, centered on the principles of God's Word.

# THIRD GRADE

# Academic Goals

## BIBLE

- Memorize God's Word and pray
- Understand the plan of salvation
- Know the stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and Daniel
- Regularly journal about God and His Word
- Share Mood Meter feelings with God
- Practice the six Friendship Fixer steps based on Matthew 18
- Live life with God by being more aware of His presence and His work in and around them
- Serve the community through caroling at a local retirement center
- Raise money for charity through a bake sale

## MATH

- Memorize basic multiplication/division facts
- Compare, order, add, and subtract numbers up to 10,000
- Round & estimate numbers to 100
- Understand the relationship between multiplication and division
- Multiply and divide three-digit numbers by one-digit numbers
- Use bar models to solve 2-step real-world addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division problems (including money)
- Estimate, measure and solve problems with metric and customary length, mass, and volume
- Interpret data from picture graphs, tally charts, bar graphs, and line plots
- Find equivalent fractions and identify fractions of a set
- Add, subtract, and convert time
- Read temperatures in Fahrenheit and Celsius
- Identify a variety of angles and lines

## LANGUAGE ARTS

### Spelling/Phonics

- Use accurate phonetic spelling patterns and generalizations
- Decode regular multi-syllable words
- Understand common antonyms, synonyms, homophones, and homographs
- Know the meaning of simple prefixes and suffixes
- Alphabetize words
- Divide words by syllables
- Look up words in the Dictionary and Thesaurus

### Reading & Vocabulary

- Read and understand grade-level appropriate material
- Read aloud fluently with expression
- Use context clues to find the meaning of words
- Acquire new vocabulary through reading
- Distinguish between humorous fiction, fantasy, realistic fiction, historical fiction, biography, narrative fiction, informational text, folktales, trickster tales and legends
- Determine basic plots, character traits, themes, and setting of a story
- Use the 5W's (*who, what, when, where, why*) to recall story events
- Engage in collaborative discussion about readings
- Sequence story events
- Distinguish between fact and opinion
- Infer traits of characters based on actions
- Draw conclusions about events in stories

# THIRD GRADE

# Academic Goals

- Describe cause and effect relationships
- Use text and graphic features to locate information
- Use details to make inferences and predictions
- Identify the author's main purpose in writing: inform, persuade, entertain
- Identify the main and supporting details in nonfiction readings
- Use text evidence to draw conclusions & demonstrate understanding

## Writing/Grammar

- Master cursive writing
- Independently use the writing process (e.g. prewriting/outlines, drafting, revising, editing)
- Write personal narratives, opinion paragraphs, and informational writing
- Write a book summary
- Write various types of poetry
- Use accurate capitalization, punctuation, common/proper nouns, verb agreement, and pronouns in writing
- Write compound and complex sentences of at least 10 words
- Add appropriate adjectives and adverbs to sentences
- Use basic abbreviations accurately

## Oral Presentation

- Retell stories and summarize nonfiction text
- Deliver brief recitations
- Give presentations of learning
- Participate in a speech contest & science fair project (every other year)

## SCIENCE

- Understand ecosystems, food chains, and how environmental changes affect living things
- Explain how Earth's surface changes slowly and quickly
- Demonstrate understanding of the water cycle and how to measure weather
- Model plant and animal life cycles and describe structural and behavioral adaptations
- Dissect owl pellets
- Conduct experiments using the scientific process (science fair project every other year)
- Identify and model simple machines

## SOCIAL STUDIES

- Label land and water forms
- Model the physical geography of the U.S.
- Describe how living things interact with their environment
- Take notes about the lifestyle and customs of Native Americans and how they used natural resources
- Conduct a bake sale demonstrating the basics of economics in meeting wants & needs
- Develop an awareness of another culture in preparation for International Day
- Explain why we have government, the three branches, national symbols, and landmarks

## ART

- Use their senses to perceive works of art
- Identify visual structure of art
- Develop knowledge of and artistic skills in a variety of visual arts media and technical processes
- Create original artworks based on personal experiences or responses
- Explore the role of visual arts in culture and history
- Derive meaning from artworks through analysis, interpretation, and judgment analysis, interpretation, and judgment

# THIRD GRADE

# Academic Goals

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- Develop an enjoyment for sports and increase ability in coordination and basic skills
- Encourage good sportsmanship
- Develop confidence in their physical abilities

## MUSIC

- Read, write and play rhythm patterns using quarter notes, eighth notes, half notes, and rests
- Read, write and perform patterns including rhythmic and melodic patterns using (Solfege= Sol, mi, do). Play and sing songs on glockenspiels
- Identify and describe music forms (AB, ABA etc.) tempo, dynamics, and melodic direction and content
- Identify visually and aurally individual brass, strings, woodwinds and percussion instruments
- Sing and play rhythmic ostinatos on classroom instruments (Boom Whackers, Xylophones)
- Sing, play and dance to perform songs from various Christian artists, cultures and styles in class and in performance. (Identify how to prepare for performances with practice and rehearsals)

## COMPUTER

- Develop general technological awareness
- Develop basic keyboarding
- Develop painting, drawing and graphics skills
- Develop word processing skills
- Introduction to the Internet
- Introduction to multimedia presentation

## SPANISH

- Learn basic vocabulary to make polite conversation
- Identify foods, times of day, and relatives
- Make statements and ask questions
- Learn about meals and special occasions in Spanish-speaking countries