



MEET THE TEACHERS



Mrs. Colibaba & Ms. Ripoli

What's Exciting about Grade 4:

- 2 teachers: Mrs. Colibaba (Monday - Wednesday), Ms. Ripoli (Thursday, Friday)
- first year as an intermediate student at Holy Cross
- a variety of extra-curricular activities for the students to explore
- field trips include snowshoeing at Grouse Mountain and Soapstone Carving workshop
- each student will have the opportunity to be "Superstar" for a week
- students will take part in writing the FSAs in October
- students can join the school Spelling Bee, Roman Catholic Challenge team, altar serving and other activities

Teaching Philosophy:

We believe that every child is a unique gift from God and will have a unique path in their learning process; therefore, we will provide the children with a variety of learning experiences and work with each child to meet their individual needs.

We believe that children should actively participate in their own learning process; therefore, we will encourage discovery, creativity and exploration during our lessons as well as providing cooperative and independent learning opportunities.

Communication:

Open communication between parents and teachers is extremely important as we work together for the benefit of your child. Please feel free to contact us by email or seesaw to find a time to speak on the phone or in person. Please include both teachers in your email message so we can all be on the same page.

For absenteeism, late arrivals or early pick ups; please email the school office. The secretaries will forward us the email.

School Emails: acolibaba@hcschool.ca & tripoli@hcschool.ca

Grade 4 Curriculum:

Math

- We will use a variety of sources for math work including Math Makes Sense, Seesaw activities and teacher created materials.
- Students will be introduced to new concepts through a variety of hands-on learning activities.
- On most days, the students will do practice questions in class; however, sometimes students may be given practice questions to be completed at home.
- At the end of every unit there will be a test and/or assignment for the students to demonstrate what they have learned. Several days notice will be given for major tests.

Christian Education

- We will be using the Finding God program to enrich the student's knowledge of our Christian Catholic faith.
- The Archdiocesan theme for this school year is "Living, Celebrating and Proclaiming Our Faith." It is a 3 year theme and we will be focusing on "Celebrating Our Faith" this year.
- Please keep an eye on Mr. Veltri's Principal's Memo for Mass dates and times if you would like to attend. The Grade 4 class will prepare a Paraliturgy with Mrs. Auld on October 24, 2024 and will lead Mass on January 9, 2025 and April 3, 2025



Living,
CELEBRATING,
and Proclaiming
OUR FAITH

Language Arts

Reading:

- Reading is an important part of all subject areas. A variety of literature will be used to compliment the various themes this year. Students will read 2 novels in class this year (*Stone Fox* and *Frindle*). Students are encouraged to read at home daily for at least 20 minutes. Students should read both silently and aloud to further develop their reading skills. It is also important that students read a variety of fiction and non-fiction books.

Writing:

- The overall writing process (pre-writing, drafting, editing, proofreading, publishing, and presenting) will be explored. Students will also learn about writing paragraphs, developing short stories, writing poems, report writing, and journal writing.

Spelling

- Weekly spelling lesson and words will be given to the class on Monday. They will also receive sheets to complete for homework which will be due on Thursday. Formal spelling tests will be given on Fridays. Please ensure your child studies the weekly words on a daily basis.

Listening and Speaking:

- Various listening and speaking experiences will be provided. Students will also be involved in choral speaking, oral reading, presentations, discussions, and drama.



Grade 4 Curriculum:

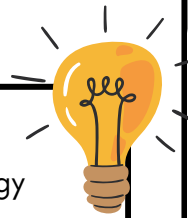
Socials Studies

- The focus of the social studies program is how the indigenous peoples were impacted by the Europeans pre-confederation.
- First Term - European explorers, Valuable Natural Resources and First Contact
- Second term - Fur Trade, Demographic changes and Colonization
- Third term - Impact of Colonization and British Columbia joining Confederation



Science

- Types of energy and energy transformations
- Changes in phases of the matter
- Biomes and animal adaptations
- Earth and moon movements



Health and Career

- Regular Class Meetings and Check-ins with students
- Goal-setting inside and outside of school
- Body image/self identity and the impact from medial (parent involvement at home)
- Awareness of potentially unsafe situations and prevention (parent involvement at home)
- This will also be partly covered in PE and ADST



Specialty Classes

- PE (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) - Miss Campbell
- Daily Physical Activity (Monday, Friday) - Ms. Ripoli
- French (Tuesday and Friday) - Madame Ponis
- Music (Wednesday) & ADST (Friday) - Ms. Ranallo
- STEAM (Tuesday) - Mr. Villella
- Library (Monday) - Mrs. Wilkinson



Enrichment

- Monthly themed activities will be provided in class for those students who are fast finishers or would like enrich their learning by taking activities home to complete as extra homework.
- Each month a Math, Language Arts, Problem Solving and Creative Enrichment will be provided for students.
- Students will complete this based on their own initiative.



Grade 4 Expectations:

Homework:

- A guideline for Grade 4 is to expect 30-45 minutes of homework per day.
- This will vary for each child (No homework = 30 mins of reading that evening).
- Students will be using their agendas as a tool to prioritize their work and studying during the week.
- Homework notices will be given to students who do not complete work regularly or who have not completed large assignments or projects on time. These notices will have to be signed and returned.
- Please make sure to **check and sign** your child's agenda each evening.



Tests and Quizzes:

- Students will receive ample time to study for tests.
- Study guides will be provided to students with resources to support their studying.
- Completed and marked tests will come home via the student's agenda and must be signed and returned to school the next day.

Marks and Grading:

- At Holy Cross our goal is to teach the whole child.
- Student tests and assignments will be marked using the proficiency scale
- Please do not compare the proficiency scale to letter grades, this is "old school" way of learning.
- The proficiency scale measures student progress based on how far along they are in demonstrating a specific skill or knowledge.

FSA's:

- October 15 - November 15 (the exact schedule is still being developed)
- Please refrain from booking any family gatherings or appointments during this time. We will be sending out a detailed schedule shortly.
- Online component for math and reading.
- Written component in the booklet for math word problems and reading response paragraphs.

Field Trips:

- In-class workshop for Soap Stone Carving in the Spring
- Grouse Mountain in January - Permission forms for field trips will be sent home a few weeks in advance of the field trip. 6 Parent Volunteers are required for this field trip and will be drawn at random.
- End of the Year School Party will be taken offsite this year for grade 4 students. This event is TBA, and this may require some parent supervision.



Superstar:

- Each student will have a turn to be the “Superstar” for a week.
- They will have several special jobs to do around the classroom, such as helping us and doing a special presentation on Thursday.
- Students will be given a package to complete the week prior to their presentation, which will be displayed in the classroom during their week.
- The Superstar package requires photographs, writing, colouring and planning for the extra sharing portion.
- Students should practice for their presentation at home.



Birthdays:

- We know birthdays are very exciting events and want to recognize students on their special day. Please let us know ahead of time if you wish to bring treats into the class for your child’s birthday.
- We also ask that birthday invitations not be distributed at school, as this can sometimes be very difficult when some students are left out.
- Each student will receive a small gift and card from us!



**Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.
We are looking forward to a great year!**

Mrs. Angela Colibaba and Ms. Tanya Ripoli

