

Second Grade Curriculum

Theology - At Salve Regina Academy, the study of theology is infused in every subject throughout our day as students encounter stories of the Saints and biblical lessons in their study of Language Arts, and as they learn to view the world as God's creation in Science and Social Studies. By starting our day with our school-wide Theology Practicum, our students will learn to apply theology to their everyday life through time spent worshipping God in the Church at Mass, or engaging in various prayers or devotionals. We will also follow the *Spirit of Truth* curriculum from Sophia Institute. This program keeps students engaged through interactive lessons, sacred art reflections, games, and role-plays. It covers the breadth of the *Catechism* in a rich and age-appropriate way and is designed to connect with students of diverse backgrounds and differing familiarity with the Catholic Faith.

Language Arts - Our Second Grade class will be using the *Superkids Reading Program* from Zaner-Bloser, which is a comprehensive ELA program that was crafted using evidence-based literacy practices. In the Word Work section of the program, students at the second grade level consolidate their understanding of all phonetic elements and apply it in fluent reading of grade-level text. In the Reading portion, students read authentic literary and informational texts that have not been controlled for decodability and apply comprehension skills to longer, more complex texts. Lastly, in the Writing lesson, students use the writing process to write longer, more structured narratives, informational texts, and opinion pieces.

Social Studies - *Tour a Country* by Catholic Heritage Curricula is a hands-on course that provides an engaging introduction to world cultures and geography. This course guides our students through different countries which have been selected for their historical, geographical, and cultural features. Your child will be “touring” a country each month and creating a travel brochure for each. By the end of the year your child will have completed eight travel brochures and have a passport brimming with exciting memories!

Science – *Behold and See 2* presents both Creation and Creator, in a context familiar to the child: the family. Activities that follow lessons reinforce and bring topics to life. Through these lessons, children learn the scientific method of observing, comparing, grouping, and measuring change. Chapters include: Simple Machines, Work, and Energy; God Provides Water for the World that He Created; Natural Resources: God's Gifts to Man; The Earth on Which We Live; and Marine Life: Living Things in the Oceans.

Mathematics – *HMH Into Math* was built from expert insights and real teacher feedback to deliver a student-centered, outcomes-driven approach to learning mathematics that supports deeper understanding of concepts along with true procedural fluency and application embedded throughout. These solutions were designed to foster a longstanding culture of learning that helps students to grow and continue growing year after year by allowing teachers to tailor lessons to the needs and learning styles of their students. At the core of this curriculum is the belief that growth at every level is possible, and its driving goal is to create fearless problem solvers.

STEM - There will be weekly STEM projects and/or lessons for students PreK-8 at Salve Regina Academy. By adopting the popular interdisciplinary approach to combining science, technology, engineering, and mathematics into age appropriate hands-on activities, students will improve their ability to think critically and to form solutions to problems.

Art - Our art program is designed to introduce our students to basic art techniques, and build off of the basics with creative exploration, various mediums, concepts, skills, knowledge, and aesthetic awareness. Students will develop a sense of Art history within the Catholic Church including an ability to value art created by different cultures.

Library - We are introducing our very own library this year, which will be filled with stories of the saints, various classical books, and so much more. In addition, we will occasionally be using the Gorham Public Library in order to further introduce our Second Graders to the wonderful world of books. They will learn about the different types of books available, basic library etiquette, and how to locate books in a library. Our students will experience story time with a special focus on books with lessons about virtues and morals. They will also have the opportunity to work on their new reading skills by completing silent reading or by reading aloud in a group setting.

Music - Our music curriculum fosters a love of the arts by promoting creation of music, performance, individual response to music, and connecting in a personal way with music. Music will also be incorporated into our Theology lessons as children learn liturgical music and Gregorian chants as well as seasonal hymns and songs.

Physical Education - Our goal is to foster a life-long love of physical activity and to introduce our students to various ways to enjoy God's creation. At the Second Grade level, this is completed by challenging students through fun and engaging games to improve their physical abilities, balance, strength, and endurance. With these goals in mind, our students will be participating in hikes and nature walks which will also expose them to the beautiful trails that we have here in the White Mountains. Over the course of their time at Salve Regina Academy, students will be introduced to diverse age-appropriate outdoor activities such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, canoeing, swimming, ice skating etc.

Service/Outreach – Learning to give of one's time, talent, and treasure and adopting a mentality of service are crucial lessons for children to learn at an early age. We are dedicated to helping our students learn to love serving others in various ways including offering physical assistance to those in need, raising money for those less fortunate, lending a hand to a classmate, giving back to our community, and by praying for intentions daily. As is stated in our Mission Statement, "Students, faculty, and staff of Salve Regina Academy strive together to know, love, and serve God as we commit ourselves to the study of the world around us, to the imitation of Jesus, and to all the teachings of the Catholic Church under the Queenship of Mary, our Mother.