



May 2018

Dear Incoming Third, Fourth, and Fifth Graders,

We are sad to see all of our classes go, but we know you're ready to move up, and we look forward to seeing all of our new classes in August. We want to make sure that all the wonderful skills you've learned this year will remain sharp! We hope this information will help you understand our expectations for incoming students at each grade level, as well as provide you with some fun and varied ways to review and enhance your knowledge.

### **Incoming third graders should ...**

Math:

- have complete memorization of addition and subtraction facts.
- be able to add and subtract three digit numbers with regrouping.
- have a basic understanding of place value through the thousands place.
- be able to apply problem-solving strategies to solve word problems.
- understand and use symbols (+, -, <, >, =) correctly

Language Arts:

- read silently and independently for a sustained period of time (at least 15 minutes).
- read grade level material aloud with fluency and expression.
- understand basic spelling rules.
- use phonics to decode or spell unknown words.
- speak and write using correct grammar (nouns, verbs, verb tense, etc.).
- write an organized paragraph about a single topic in one sitting of about 20 minutes.
- use correct pencil grip and writing posture.
- correctly and legibly form all upper and lower case letters in both print and cursive

Science:

- be able to ask questions, then use research, observations or measurements to solve problems.
- be able to use a ruler to measure objects to the nearest 1/2 inch.
- understand how to observe using all senses, and record findings.
- distinguish human body parts and their functions (brain, heart, lungs, muscles, and skeleton).
- describe the different properties of solids and liquids.
- be able to work cooperatively in a group, follow instructions, and treat supplies with respect.

Social Studies:

- understand where they live.
- know the differences between a city, state, country, and continent.

Religion

- know basic prayers such as the Our Father and Hail Mary.
- understand how to use a Rosary.
- understand the process of Reconciliation.
- be able to genuflect and correctly make the sign of the cross.
- receive Holy Communion correctly.
- exhibit good behavior at Mass by listening, responding, singing, and praying.

## **Incoming fourth graders should ...**

### Math:

- have complete fluency with multiplication and division facts (0-12).
- be able to add and subtract four digit numbers with regrouping.
- have a basic understanding of place value through the millions place.
- be able to apply problem-solving strategies to solve word problems.
- understand and use symbols (+, -, x, ÷, <, >, =) correctly.
- have a basic understanding of fractions.

### Language Arts:

- read silently and independently for a sustained period of time (at least 20 minutes).
- read grade level material aloud with fluency and expression.
- understand basic spelling rules.
- use phonics to decode or spell unknown words.
- speak and write using correct grammar (nouns, verbs, verb tense, etc.).
- write complete sentences with proper punctuation and capitalization.
- write an organized three paragraph essay or story in one sitting of about 30 minutes.
- use correct pencil grip and writing posture.
- correctly and legibly form all upper and lower case letters in both print and cursive.

### Science:

- have a basic understanding of the scientific method.
- be able to ask questions, then use research, observations or measurements to solve problems.
- be able to describe climate in different regions of the world.
- understand how plants and animals are alike and different.
- understand the effect of force on objects.
- be able to work cooperatively in a group, follow instructions, and treat supplies with respect.

### Social Studies:

- know the regions of the United States.
- be able to name and identify different types of landforms.
- be able to name all of the continents and oceans.
- understand cardinal directions (north, south, east, and west).
- know how to interpret basic maps, graphs, charts and tables.

### Religion

- know basic prayers, prayers of the Rosary, and Act of Contrition.
- understand how to pray the Rosary.
- understand the process of Reconciliation.
- be able to genuflect and correctly make the sign of the cross.
- receive Holy Communion correctly.
- exhibit good behavior at Mass by listening, responding, singing, and praying.

*(In addition, please check the expectations for incoming third graders to make sure those skills are mastered.)*

## **Incoming fifth graders should ...**

### Math:

- have complete fluency with multiplication and division facts (0-12) and be able to solve a 100 problem test in 5 minutes; more importantly, they need to be able to use the facts in math problems quickly.
- be able to identify place value of given digits to the millions place.
- be able to accurately complete long division or 2-digit by 2-digit multiplication problems without counting up or counting on fingers.
- know how to find a common denominator given a pair of fractions.
- know how to add and subtract fractions.

### Language Arts:

- be able to identify parts of speech (noun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, and conjunction).
- be able to write sentences correctly with proper nouns capitalized.
- use correct punctuation at all times.
- be able to write an organized essay about a single topic. When writing for a sustained period of 40 minutes, students fill the front and back of a sheet of looseleaf paper using legible cursive writing. The writing should include adjectives, adverbs, sentence variety and be organized in a way that makes sense to the reader.
- read silently and independently for a sustained period of time (at least 30 minutes).

### Science:

- have a basic understanding of the scientific method.
- be able to ask questions, then use research, observations or measurements to solve problems.
- be able to use a ruler to measure objects to the nearest 1/4 inch or the nearest centimeter.
- understand that energy can be transferred from place to place by sound, light, heat, and electric currents.
- be able to explain the differences between sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic rocks.
- be able to work cooperatively in a group, follow instructions, and treat supplies with respect.

### Social Studies:

- understand cardinal and ordinal (northeast, northwest, southeast, southwest) directions.
- be able to interpret basic maps, graphs, charts and tables.
- know the different parts of a map (key, symbols, scale, compass rose, etc.)
- understand the impact of human migration and exploration on today's populations.
- have knowledge of the native groups, exploration, settlement, and establishment of Florida as a state.

### Religion

- know the prayers of the Rosary
- know and understand the Ten Commandments and their impact on our relationship with God (1-3) and each other (7-10).
- Name and explain the difference between the two parts of the Bible: the Old and New Testament
- know the seven Sacraments and when they are received.
- exhibit good behavior at Mass by listening, responding, singing, and praying.

*(In addition, please check the expectations for incoming third and fourth graders to make sure those skills are mastered.)*

**We have some ideas to help continue your learning throughout the summer;** this is not a checklist, just some suggestions to continue your journey as life-long learners. Try to choose one or two from each subject category. Share your work with your family or friends. We look forward to hearing about your favorite activity!

### Religion

1. Attend a vacation bible school.
2. Volunteer at your church or an organization such as St. Vincent de Paul.
3. Visit interesting religious sites, such as a cathedral or a mission.
4. Bring in a copy of the bulletin from churches you visit when you're traveling. If your travels take you the Orlando area, Mary Queen of the Universe Basilica is a unique place to attend Mass. <https://maryqueenoftheuniverse.org/>
5. Lead family prayer.
6. Make a rosary and use it.
7. Research the patron saint of a topic or subject that interests you.



### Math

1. Make and use flashcards to practice basic facts
2. Use fun apps or websites to practice facts.
3. Sign up for XtraMath and practice frequently.
4. Help a younger sibling, cousin, or friend practice their facts or teach them a new math skill.
5. Watch Number Rock or Khan Academy videos.
6. Complete any IXL skills remaining from the grade you just finished. (Please do not begin the IXL skills for the grade you are entering).
7. Use real life math skills: figure out the tip at a restaurant or divide the check, use a recipe to cook something, look at a grocery ad and plan your family's meals for the week, make a model of your bedroom, using the area, perimeter and actual furniture size.



### LA

1. Read!
2. Look into programs at your local library.
3. Sign up for the Spirit FM summer reading program: <http://myspiritfm.com/readDOSP>
4. Keep a journal for your family when you travel.
5. Participate in Reading with the Rays: <https://www.mlb.com/rays/community/reading>
6. Write a story or a play. Perform your play or use an app to create it.
7. Read! (Be sure to read at your grade level or most recent STAR level).



### Social Studies

1. Visit historical sites either in the local area or when you travel.
2. Read about historical figures (please check with an adult when researching on-line). The Who Was/Who Is and I Survived books are great for intermediate grade students.
3. Interview your parents, grandparents, or other family members about your family history or what their lives were like when they were your age.
4. Create a family tree.
5. Research the country or countries where your family originated.
6. Send us a post card from someplace you visit for our back to school bulletin board.

Send post cards to your incoming grade:

Third Grade/Fourth Grade/Fifth Grade  
St. Cecelia School  
1350 Court Street  
Clearwater, FL 33756



### Science

1. Visit an aquarium, zoo, or science center
2. Cook with your family.
3. Look on Pinterest or science websites like <https://www.stevespanglerscience.com/lab/experiments/> for STEM/STEAM/STREAM activities to do as a family. Please be sure to have adult supervision for experiments!
4. Research the plants or animals that live in place you visit.
5. Research a question you have – Why are there clouds? How are shells formed? How do different animals adapt?



### More ideas

1. Use Duolingo to practice Spanish
2. Create art – draw, paint, sculpt, etc.
3. Listen to music or play an instrument.
4. Make a musical instrument out of things you have around the house.
5. Attend a sporting event or try a new sport or activity.



**We hope you enjoy your summer break and look forward to seeing you all in August!**

*Happy Summer!*

**The St. Cecelia Intermediate Team**

*Mr. Mink and Mrs. Galley* (Fifth grade)

*Mrs. Jewett and Mrs. Honey* (Fourth grade)

*Mrs. Kunnen and Mrs. Manfred* (Third grade)