



2nd Grade Profile

Sections Available	Two
Teachers	Mrs. Kellie Rusnak Mrs. Julie Rodriguez
Class Size	22 students
Teacher Notes	<p>Catholic education at SJCS is rooted in the Catholic moral and intellectual tradition, focusing on the whole child. We offer a challenging curriculum within the framework of Christian morals and values, designed to deepen a child's relationship with God and develop knowledge and skills needed to excel. Second grade is a time of growth both emotionally and physically. What may seem too difficult for your child today will become easy tomorrow.</p> <p>Peer groups become very important to children at this age. In 2nd grade, we strive to help our students develop a strong self-esteem and sense of independence and responsibility. Interactive projects coinciding with lesson plans and requiring budgeting of time will be given throughout the year to aid in this process. A "Manner of the Week" is taught and implemented. Each classroom is equipped with a Qomo Interactive Board to enhance instruction. Our mission is driven by our Catholic faith.</p>
Highlights	Every year, our 2 nd grade students spend a day at Knapp Park in Arlington living and learning like pioneers in the 1800's. The students and teachers dress in period costumes, churn butter, make homemade ice cream, sew, make button spinners, play pioneer games, carve soap and spend time in a one room schoolhouse.
Core Curriculum	Religion, Handwriting, Language Arts (composition), English (grammar), Literature (reading), Phonics, Vocabulary, Math, Science, Social Studies, Enhanced Curriculum (Specials)
Religion	Each day begins in prayer. We pray again at noon as a school community, and end our day in prayer. We attend Mass on Wednesdays, First Friday, and Holy Days of Obligation. Eucharistic Adoration occurs once a week. Students are encouraged to memorize the monthly school-wide Bible verse. Religious iconography and artwork are studied. During 2 nd grade, our main focus is learning about and preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. While we spend the year studying these sacraments, Canon Law requires that the sacraments be administered by the parish and not the school; therefore, children planning to receive First Communion need to follow



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	their home parish requirements for preparation. We also study Virtues and how embracing these traits are to improve our lives and interactions with others for the greater glory of God.
Handwriting	Students will review manuscript-printing most of the year and will be introduced to cursive in the spring. Focus on hand-positioning and posture.
Language Arts	The Language Arts Block consists of Composition, English (grammar), Classic Literature-reading (some examples: <i>D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths</i> , <i>Little House in the Big Woods</i> , <i>Sarah, Plain, and Tall</i>), poetry memorization, Phonics, and Spelling. Students will be taught the connection among the words a student sees, hears, and speaks. The study of Latin and Greek Roots are also used to support the curriculum.
Math	We cover addition and subtraction through twenty. It is strongly encouraged that students practice their math facts at home on a regular basis. It is very important to master this skill because during the second quarter we will be teaching addition with carrying, and subtraction with borrowing. Time, money, graphing, fractions, roman numerals and other problem-solving methods will also be taught.
Science	Science is a time to conduct experiments and discover living things and how they change over time. Students are introduced to the physics of making things move and learn all about the earth and sky.
Social Studies	Students will study historic events, symbols of our country, the cultures of other countries and map skills.
Enhanced Curriculum	Spanish, Latin, Computer Lab, Music, Art, Physical Education, STREAM, Outdoor Learning, Library, Vocal Production, and Greenhouse/Gardening
Field Trips	Second grade goes to the Church of the Vietnamese Martyrs for an outdoor Stations of the Cross. They also take various trips to museums and other interesting places like the Fort Worth Stockyards.