



## FIFTH GRADE BENCHMARKS

Saint Hilary students are challenged to be true Christians, inspired learners and effective communicators. Students are encouraged to develop self-advocacy skills. Our departmentalized curriculum begins in 5th grade and includes a core academic program of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Spanish, Religion, Physical Education, Art and Music. Strong support for all students are provided through the use of differentiation strategies, adaptive technology, teacher aid support and learning resources. Students are encouraged to explore their curiosity around spirituality and faith. Students gather for daily prayer to contemplate God's grace. Students are strongly and provided various opportunities to serve others and live out the Gospel Message.

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### MATH AND ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) – Based on Common Core Standards:

- [Common Core for Parents](#)
- [Ten Things Parents Should Know About the Common Core State Standards](#)
- [Growth Mindset and Common Core](#)

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

In grade five, students will continue to build important reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. They will read more challenging literature, articles, and other sources of information and continue to grow their vocabulary. Students will also be expected to understand and clearly summarize what they have learned from readings and classroom discussions, referring to specific evidence and details from the text. Students will write regularly and continue to develop their ability to gather, organize, interpret, and present information. These areas will include:

- Determining the theme of a story, play, or poem, including how characters respond to challenges
- Comparing and contrasting stories that deal with similar themes or topics
- Explaining how authors use reasons and evidence to support their points or ideas
- Drawing on information from multiple books, articles, or online sources to locate an answer or to solve a problem quickly
- Learning the rules of spoken and written English
- Learning and using new words, including words related to specific subjects (such as science words)
- Understanding figurative language
- Participating in class discussions by listening, asking questions, sharing ideas, and building on the ideas of others
- Giving a class presentation on a topic or telling a story, introducing relevant facts and details in a clear, logical order
- Writing research or opinion papers over extended periods of time

\*\*\*Handwriting/Typing: Cursive is expected to to be used by students. Proper typing techniques are practiced and used.

## **MATH**

In grade five, students will build their understanding of the place value system by working with decimals up to the hundredths place. Students will also add, subtract, and multiply fractions, including fractions with unlike denominators. They will continue to expand their geometry and measurement skills, learning the concept of volume and measuring the volume of a solid figure. Activities in these areas will include:

- Quickly and accurately multiplying multi-digit whole numbers
- Dividing numbers with up to four digits by two digit numbers
- Using exponents to express powers of 10 (in  $10^2$ , 2 is the exponent) • Reading, writing, and comparing decimals to the thousandths place
- Adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals to the hundredths place
- Writing and interpreting mathematical expressions using symbols such as parentheses. For example, “add 8 and 7, then multiply by 2” can be written as  $2 \times (8+7)$ .
- Adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators (bottom numbers) by converting them to fractions with matching denominators
- Multiplying fractions by whole numbers and other fractions
- Dividing fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by fractions
- Analyzing and determining relationships between numerical patterns • Measuring volume using multiplication and addition

## **RELIGION (as outlined by the Archdiocese of San Francisco)**

- CREED
  - Students will:
    - explain that Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God and the Messiah sent to save them
    - explain the Church as the “people of God” and the “Body of Christ”
    - explain the meaning of the “communion of saints”
    - identify ways that the Church carries on the mission of Jesus
- SCRIPTURE
  - Students will:
    - demonstrate the ability to relate Scripture to one’s life
    - identify psalms as songs of praise, thanksgiving, and petition
    - know the four gospel accounts of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
    - apply the meaning of God’s message in selected Sunday readings
- PRAYER/WORSHIP
  - Students will:
    - know meanings, signs, and symbols of each of the seven sacraments
    - identify the Sacraments of Initiation, Healing, and Service
    - recognize the Liturgical Calendar and explain the Seasons of the Church year, their meanings and colors
    - demonstrate a knowledge of the four marks of the Church
- CHRISTIAN LIVING
  - Students will:
    - discuss the consequences of sin in their own lives and in the life of the community
    - share stories that demonstrate how to live their faith at home, school, and social activities
    - reach out to people at home, school, community, and the world through positive words and actions and give examples of these

- identify people and present and past (saints) who are examples of Christian discipleship
- PRAYERS
  - Prayer of St. Francis
  - Ritual and prayers of celebrating the sacraments:
  - Eucharist and Reconciliation
  - Prayer to the Holy Spirit
  - Christian Meditation

## SCIENCE

- INVESTIGATION
  - Students will:
    - develop a testable hypothesis and carry it out
    - create a procedure for an investigation
    - identify the dependent and controlled variables in an experiment create criteria and classify objects
- PHYSICAL SCIENCE
  - Students will:
    - understand how elements are organized on the periodic table and that all living organisms and many other materials are composed of just a few elements
    - identify that in a chemical reaction the reactants rearrange their atoms to form products with different chemical properties
    - identify the difference between chemical and physical properties and be able to use that knowledge to separate mixtures and identify elements know the properties of the different states of matter
- LIFE SCIENCE
  - Students will:
    - understand the internal structures that organisms use to transport materials
    - recognize how blood circulates through the body using the circulatory and respiratory systems
    - know the steps of digestion
    - identify how plants and animals remove waste from their bodies
    - know how plants and animals use each other to get the energy they need to live
- EARTH SCIENCE
  - Students will:
    - understand the water cycle and the role it plays in weather patterns
    - recognize that freshwater is a limited resource and be able to identify ways to conserve water
    - understand the causes and effects of severe weather
    - be able to use weather maps and data to predict weather patterns
    - identify the different components of the solar system
    - understand the role of gravity in planetary motion

NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) were developed so that students could do less memorizing and more critical thinking, make connections between the Common Core and Science, align classroom practice with scientific research all while encouraging students to apply their knowledge in an appropriate framework. Please use the link below learn more and view the standards.

- [About the NGSS Standards](#)
- [The Standards](#)
- [Why Science Matters](#)

**SOCIAL STUDIES** (per California State Standards)

- Students will:
  - describe the major pre-Columbian settlements, including the cliff dwellers and pueblo people of the desert Southwest, the American Indians of the Pacific Northwest, the nomadic nations of the Great Plains, and the woodland peoples east of the Mississippi River.
  - trace the routes of early explorers and describe the early explorations of the Americas.
  - understand the political, religious, social, and economic institutions that evolved in the colonial era.
  - explain the causes of the American Revolution.
  - understand the course and consequences of the American Revolution.