

Program Highlights

The first grade program supports our school's philosophy that **All students are blessed with unique gifts, talents, and abilities...** The targeted maximum is 24 students in fifth grade. School is in session from 8:20 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. In addition to the core academic program that includes Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science, Bible classes are part of each day's curriculum. Our students enjoy enrichment learning activities in Specialty Classes that include Computer Science, Music, Performing Arts, Physical Education and biweekly visits to the school library. Students learn about United States History in History, and in Language Arts, students read literature including *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*, *From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, *Dear Mr. Henshaw*, and *Tuck Everlasting*. They will also continue to explore the research and writing process by working on book reports, a topic paper, an autobiography, and a state report. Each trimester, students complete a science experiment in front of the class and include a brief write-up. Hands-on activities are included in all subject areas. Students enjoy 20 minutes for morning snack and recess and 30 minutes for lunch. Fifth grade students share their recess periods with the Middle School students; Support Staff members provide careful supervision. One field trip per trimester is part of the Fifth Grade program.

Each Wednesday, all students in Kindergarten through Grade 8 attend chapel in the Sanctuary where they sing praise songs and participate in the worship service. Chapel is led by one of our pastors every other week and by one of the classes on the alternate weeks. Students wear chapel uniforms and have the opportunity to bring an offering. Students are recognized for "making good choices" and for outstanding Christian character. Parents are always welcome to attend our chapel services.

The Fifth Grade Faculty

Mrs. Valerie Wilson, formerly Miss Baker, began teaching at RHLS in 2005 when she took a position teaching in Middle School. For the past two years she taught fourth grade and is currently teaching fifth grade.

Mrs. Wilson grew up in Orange County and graduated from California State University, Fullerton with a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies. She continued her education for one more year at CSUF to earn her Multiple Subject Teaching Credential.

This past summer, Mrs. Wilson got married! She enjoys spending time with her dogs and grabbing a good cup of coffee with her husband. She is always ready for an outdoor adventure, including hiking, biking, camping, and horseback riding! She looks forward to spending a fun and exciting year challenging her students to realize and use their unique, God-given talents and abilities.

Mr. John Dovenmuehler or, "Mr. D.," will be entering his thirteenth year at Red Hill. Besides being the fifth grade teacher, he also works with students in athletics during this upcoming school year, as he coaches flag football, boys basketball, and co-ed track and field. Mr. D. is originally from South Dakota, and he enjoys sharing stories about growing up there and about his enthusiasm for his favorite childhood teams, the Minnesota Vikings and the Minnesota Twins. He graduated from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, with a degree in Elementary Education. While there, Mr. D. also played on the baseball team in addition to running for the track and field and cross country teams. He earned his Master's Degree in Education from Concordia University in Irvine and was recently married to Sheila DiMaano, a pre-k teacher at Red Hill.



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Our curriculum and instructional materials are current, motivating, challenging, and responsive to student needs. All materials and instructional goals meet the California Content Standards. We emphasize hands-on learning activities that appeal to multiple learning modalities and are integrated with technology to support student learning.

Mathematics

Math covers a variety of topics. Some of the main areas include the following: multiplication and division of multi-digit numbers; addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and comparisons of fractions; factors; and multiples. We also work with algebraic expressions. Towards the end of the year, we start introducing concepts of geometry, such as area, volume, and perimeter. Nightly math homework is given to reinforce what is learned in class, and chapter tests are used for assessment.

Language Arts

A variety of concepts constitute Language Arts. These include Reading, Writing, and Spelling, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Speaking Skills. An Open Court Reading text is used in addition to several different class sets of books to enhance reading development. Writing is developed through weekly writing assignments in addition to three major reports throughout the year. In Spelling, students work through a spelling curriculum in class on a weekly basis and with weekly spelling and vocabulary test on Fridays.

Science

Through the Foss Science curriculum, fifth graders focus on five main areas: systems in living things, the solar system, the nature of matter, water on Earth, and weather and climate. Additionally, students will each conduct an experiment in front of the class during each trimester. This greatly enhances the "hands-on" aspect of science and helps the students understand the connection between science and the world in which they live.

Social Studies

The Social Studies curriculum focuses on United States history. This encompasses a time frame from the first Native inhabitants all the way up to the Civil War. In between, the class focuses on the colonization of America, the Revolutionary War, and how our country created and developed its system of government after gaining its independence. Additionally, students will learn about the United States by completing a comprehensive state report and completing an assessment over all 50 states and their capitals at year's end.

Bible

The ACSI Bible curriculum deepens understanding of Bible stories and fundamental principles of Christianity. Interactive Bible lessons and Bible memory verses are given weekly. These verses are then recited in class or performed as skits on Fridays in class. The curriculum covered in class helps the students and teachers learn more about their faith in addition to strengthening their faith.

Classroom Management

Our teachers consider their teaching profession a ministry, and they serve as Christian role models, teaching Christian truths and values. Our teachers provide a warm, loving environment where students can be nurtured and are free to learn without fear of failure or embarrassment. Public humiliation is never an acceptable form of discipline. Through continued encouragement and positive reinforcement, students learn appropriate behaviors.

