

**St. Matthew Catholic School**  
**GRADE FOUR**  
**Grade Level Expectations**

These are the core grade level expectations based on the McRel standards and benchmarks that should be taught during fourth grade and represent what a student will learn. They are written from the student point of view. These grade level expectations are aligned with McRel standards and the standards-based progress report. The number listed is in reference to McRel 3rd edition; the number listed for Religion standard is in reference to *By Their Fruits You Shall Know Them*, Lorraine Ozar. The grade level expectations that are aligned with and developed by ITBS/ITED are noted in italics. Not all standards are addressed at every grade level which is appropriate considering a student's development.

**RELIGION**

1. Reads, interprets, and applies Scripture to life.

- Participates in discussion\*
- Knowledge of content\*
- Continues to explore how the Ten Commandments, Beatitudes, Works of Mercy and theological virtues are lived out in one's life
- Recognizes that God made a covenant of love with Noah, Abraham, Moses, and to all people.
- Continues to deepen one's understanding of scripture and its relationship to daily life
- Recognizes that God's everlasting love is revealed in the Old and New Testaments
- Recognizes that the Holy Spirit was sent by Jesus to be a helper, guide and inspiration.

2. Presents a reasoned rationale, based on faith and knowledge, for being a Catholic.

- 3. Illustrates basic understanding of Catholic dogma and doctrine in light of the "Catechism for the Catholic Church."
- Continues to develop a deeper realization of the role of Mary's Motherhood of Jesus, of the Church, our mother, and the greatest model of holiness
- Recognizes the Church as the people of God on the journey to heaven
- Continues to articulate more about the doctrine of the Catholic faith

4. Demonstrates the importance of sacraments, with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist in the life of Catholics.

- Recognizes that the sacraments give grace to help us grow spiritually
- Understands that the Church has been given the power to forgive sin through the priest in the sacrament of Reconciliation
- Knows the Seven Sacraments

5. Makes moral decisions consistent with Church teachings.

- Realizes that God's plan is that people be good in order to live with God forever in heaven
- Realizes that God gave humans the special gift of free will

- Recognizes that God gives us rules for living a life of love
6. Illustrates a basic understanding of the history of the Church.
  7. Acknowledges and affirms the diverse cultural expressions of Catholicism.
    - Recognizes the many gifts, talents and abilities that God has provided each of us
  8. Applies Catholic principles to interpersonal relations (e.g., family, peers, work, society, Church, etc.)
    - Practices Christian action toward others\*
    - Understands that the spiritual and corporal works of mercy are ways to show love for others
    - Continues to study the meaning of stewardship i.e., stewards of creation; stewards of the Church
  9. Demonstrates an appreciation for faith community as the way we come to know God.
    - Continues an awareness of various roles and ministries in the Church
    - Recognizes that the Church is a visible sign of the kingdom of God
  10. Uses effective community building skills in relating with others.
    - Applies skills to concrete life situations - is considerate of others and their feelings\*
    - Understands that God's gift of life needs to be protected and nurtured from conception to death
    - Understands that respect and care must be shown for the biological processes/changes of one's own body and that of others
    - Recognizes the importance of reflecting on what it means to live in relationship with God and to live a moral life
  11. Critiques societal structures in light of Catholic social justice principles and apply to social and personal situations.
    - Practices Christian action toward others\*
  12. Engages in service to the community (e.g., family, parish, local, national and global) in response to the Gospel call.
    - Participates in parish and community service projects
    - Is made aware of various roles and ministries in the Church
    - Recognizes that the Work of the Church is to show love, peace, and justice in the world
  13. Exercises responsible stewardship for the gift of creation.
    - Practices Christian action toward others\*
    - Responds joyfully to God's call to give of one's self in love to God and others (stewardship)
    - Understands that being a good steward is to respect all forms of life particularly human life from birth to death
  14. Examines the variety of Christian life styles as ways to respond to the baptismal call to a life of service.
    - Participates in parish and community service projects
  15. Demonstrates the relationship between faith and culture through arts, social sciences, sciences, technology.
  16. Uses appropriate resources to plan and participate in liturgy and other prayer experiences.

- Participates in planning liturgies and para-liturgies on student level of growth and awareness
17. Uses a variety of prayer forms (e.g., traditional, spontaneous, devotional, multicultural) to enrich and express personal and communal spirituality.
- Develops a personal relationship with Jesus that evokes a response of generous love
  - Can recite and use the designated prayers and gestures; Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Grace before/after meals, Morning Prayer, Doxology (Glory Be), Act of Contrition, Rosary, Apostles' Creed, and the Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love, Stations of the Cross and other prayers of cultural/liturgical significance as designated.\*
18. Celebrates the presence of the Sacred in experiences of sacramentals, symbols, and rituals.
19. Demonstrates an understanding of liturgical seasons and feasts.
- Increases knowledge of Church's liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter
  - Participates at their own level of growth and awareness in liturgical celebrations and other forms of prayer
  - Recognizes that the Church year celebrates Jesus as Savior of the world and gives honor to Mary and all the saints, living and dead

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

### **Writing**

1. Uses general skills and strategies in the writing process
  - Applies the writing process\*
  - Prewriting, drafting and revising, editing and publishing, evaluating peers' and own writing
  - Identifies strengths and weaknesses in own writing
  - Writes effectively for a variety of audiences and purposes\*
  - Writes a variety of stories, letters, or essays for an intended purpose
  - Handwriting - writes legibly using proper size and spacing\*
2. Uses stylistic and rhetorical techniques in written composition
  - Demonstrates an understanding of the English language, i.e., usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling\*
  - Spells high frequency words correctly
  - Identifies figurative language such as similes, alliteration and idioms
  - Uses a variety of sentence structure in writing - identifies and writes the four kinds of sentences
3. Writes with a command of the grammatical and mechanical conventions of composition
  - Applies rules of grammar usage, punctuation, and capitalization in writing
  - Identifies and uses nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives and prepositions
4. Gathers and uses information for research purposes
  - Effectively uses media resources to gather information\*

- Uses the library/media center on a regular basis and properly uses a variety of resources for research topics; dictionary, glossary, encyclopedia, atlas, and internet
- Distinguishes between fact and opinion
- Listens, views, and asks questions to collect information

### **Reading**

5. Reading Process - Uses the general skills and strategies of the reading process\*

- Uses a variety of decoding skills
- Monitors own reading strategies and makes modifications
- Adjusts speed of reading to suit purpose and difficulty of material
- Makes appropriate book selections to gain knowledge and for personal enjoyment
- Makes, confirms, and revises simple predictions
- Continues to develop a desire to read; engages in daily silent reading

6/7. Reading Comprehension - Uses reading skills and strategies to understand and interpret a variety of literary works and informational texts\*

- Responds to literary and informational texts (oral, written, artistic)\*
- Understands and comprehends stated information
- Determines the meaning of new words from their context
- Draws conclusions, makes inferences, and deduces meaning
- Interprets information in new contexts
- Interprets non literal language
- Determines the main idea of a text
- Develops and uses a variety of comprehension strategies, cause/effect; compare/contrast; classify/categorize, drawing conclusion, predicting outcomes, and giving details of main idea
- Identifies the author's views or purposes
- Analyzes the style or structure of a text
- Literary Texts
- Identifies theme, characters, setting, plot, sequence of events, conflicts and resolutions
- Connects literary characters/events with people or events in own life
- Infers traits, feelings, and motives of characters
- Makes and confirms inferences and predictions about events in a story
- Reads and identifies various genre of literature
- Informational Texts
- Identifies and uses the parts of a book to locate information, i.e., index, table of contents, glossary, appendix
- Identifies structures in information texts; uses text organizers to determine the main ideas or locate information
- Summarizes and paraphrases information in texts

### **Listening and Speaking**

8. Uses listening and speaking strategies for different purposes; listens actively\*

- Expresses ideas clearly\*
- Participates effectively in group discussion\*

- Participates in presentational activities
  - Viewing
9. Uses viewing skills and strategies to understand and interpret visual media
- Understands different messages conveyed through visual media
  - Responds orally and in writing to higher order thinking questions in all content areas

### **Media**

10. Understands the characteristics and components of the media
- Knows the main formats and characteristics of familiar media, e.g., quiz shows, documentaries
  - Understands similarities and differences among a variety of media, e.g., how documentaries, internet, television, and radio present a story in a different way.

### **MATH**

1. Problem solving - Uses a variety of strategies in the problem-solving process\*
- Solves single-step and multiple-step math problems
  - Brainstorms possible approaches before starting a problem
  - Identifies extraneous or insufficient information in problems
  - Chooses a method for solving a problem - some methods more helpful than others
  - Checks reasonableness of results through estimation
  - Constructs physical representations for complex problems
2. Concept of Numbers - Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concept of numbers\*
- Checks reasonableness of results through estimation - estimates measurements with appropriate precision
  - Uses standard rounding to estimate
  - Uses order of magnitude to estimate
  - Uses number sense to estimate
  - Represents, compares, and orders numbers
  - Describes and applies properties of numbers
  - Classifies numbers by divisibility
  - Demonstrates ways of performing operations
  - Uses place value; writes numbers in standard, expanded, and exponential form
  - Uses and interprets operational and relationship symbols
  - Solves equations and inequalities
  - Uses variable expressions to model situations
  - Explores numerical patterns
  - Understands the basic relationship of fractions to decimals and fractions to whole numbers
  - Uses number lines to model a variety of numbers
  - Communicates mathematical concepts verbally and in writing
3. Computation - Uses basic and advanced procedures while performing the process of computation\*
- Adds and subtracts fractions and mixed numbers having like denominators
  - Adds, subtracts, multiplies and divides money problems

- Adds, subtracts, multiplies, and divides whole numbers and decimals with accuracy
- Accurately translates between decimals and commonly encountered fractions - halves, thirds, fourths, fifths, tenths, and hundredths
- Knows multiplication and division facts through 10
- Understands that choices must be made when determining which operation to use.
- Counts and shows amounts of money to \$10.00

4. Measurement - Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concept of measurement\*

- Tells time to the nearest minute
- Measures length/distance, time, temperature, weight, mass, and volume
- Identifies and uses appropriate units of measurement; selects and uses appropriate units of measurement according to type and size of unit (standard and metric)
- Understands the relationship among area, volume, and weight, and between time and cost
- Understands that scale drawings can be used to represent shapes and compare locations of things very different in size
- Estimates, calculates, and compares perimeter, area, and volume

5. Geometry - Understands and applies basic and advanced properties of the concepts of geometry\*

- Finds perimeter, area and volume of figures
- Identifies angles, points, lines, rays and segments
- Identifies radius, and diameter of a circle
- Identifies congruent and symmetrical figures
- Compares shapes in terms of such concepts as parallel, perpendicular, congruence, and symmetry
- Understands the basic characteristics of the concept of three dimensions
- Uses motion geometry, e.g., turns, flips, slides to investigate concepts of symmetry, similarity, and congruence
- Identifies, classifies, and compares geometric figures
- Describes geometric properties, patterns, and relationships
- Applies the concepts of perimeter, area, and volume

6. Data analysis - Understands and applies basic and advanced concepts of statistics and data analysis

- Gathers and records data to make generalizations\*
- Understands that data comes in many different forms and that collecting, organizing and displaying data can be done in many ways
- Reads amounts on scales of bar and line graphs
- Reads and constructs bar, line, pie charts, and pictographs
- Given a table of data, selects the correct graphic representation for the data
- Locates amounts in specific cells of a table
- Compares quantities to determine ranks, sums, or differences and to find ratios
- Uses tables and graphs to determine rates or identify trends, understand underlying or functional relationships, and generalize or draw conclusions

7. Probability - Understands and applies basic concepts of probability

- Applies probability concepts and counting rules
- Determines the probability of events
- Understands and applies measures of central tendency and variability
- Understands that summary predictions about large collections are more accurate than about just a few events

8. Functions and Algebra - Understands and applies basic concepts of functions and algebra

- Recognizes and extends basic number patterns
- Uses patterns and relationships to represent mathematical situations
- Constructs a pattern and articulates why the pattern works

**SCIENCE/HEALTH** - listed by strands

**Earth and Space**

- Demonstrates the causes of day and night and explains the Earth's revolution around the sun and compares and contrasts rotations and revolutions of the Earth
- Knows that the surface of the earth changes, e.g. due to erosion, landslides, weathering
- Knows that the rotation of the earth causes different patterns in the sky
- Describes and illustrates phases of the moon and explains solar and lunar eclipses
- Describes an asteroid, meteor, meteorite, comet, and planets
- Illustrates and labels the weather cycle
- Explains how rain and snow form
- Records measurements with weather instruments
- Illustrates how weather systems develop and explains information weather maps
- Predicts weather patterns by interpreting weather maps

**Life Science**

- Knows that animals and plants have life cycles, e.g., birth, growth and development, reproduction and death
- Knows that many characteristics of an organism are inherited from the parent of an organism
- Explains what the digestive system does
- Explains the role and function of the body parts from ingestion to digestion
- Identifies the structure and care of the skeletal and muscular systems

**Physical Science**

- Knows how to measure properties of objects using rulers, balances, thermometers, and other technological tools
- Knows that electrical circuits require a complete loop; demonstrates the ability to connect simple electric circuits
- Explains the importance of electricity and its uses
- Explains the relationship between electricity and magnetism
- Knows the properties of magnets
- Knows the properties of motion

- Nature of Science and Technology
- Draws conclusions, identifies, patterns, generalities and trends, and makes inferences
- Uses scientific method (asks questions observes, records, and interprets results)\*

### **Health**

- Identifies and shares feelings
- Identifies practices that promote good health
- Describes how exercise and nutrition help the body stay healthy
- Describes food pyramids and servings in each food group
- Plans a healthy diet for a 4th grader
- Sets personal health goal
- Describes the difference between prescription and nonprescription drugs and the uses and abuses of alcohol and tobacco
- Discusses bus, pedestrian, Halloween, etc. safety topics
- Progress report descriptors deal with using scientific method and demonstrating knowledge of relevant science content standards\*

### **SOCIAL STUDIES** - listed by strands

#### **Civics**

- Understands the need for rules and laws
- Demonstrates the responsibilities of good citizenship
- Understands differences and similarities among people of different cultures
- Knows the basic tenets of democracy and the symbols that represent it

#### **Economics**

- Understands the concept of supply and demand and how it determines a price
- Knows the functions of a bank
- Understands the concept of taxes
- Understands that some nations have greater productive resources
- Understands the impact of location on economic activities

#### **Geography**

- Identifies geographic features; land forms, climates, resources and a brief history of the geographical regions of the United States (i.e., New England, Middle Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest, Great Plains, Southwest, Mountain West, and Pacific West)
- Identifies states and capitals
- Interprets and creates pie graphs, line graphs, bar graphs, resource maps, and elevation maps
- Understands characteristics and uses of maps and other geographical tools
- Knows how land resources are shaped/changed by physical and/or human development, e.g. farmland into roads and housing developments
- Knows causes and effects of human migration
- Understands cultural change, e.g., role of women, schooling, technology, clothing, transportation

## Historical Understanding

- Understands historical figures who believed in the fundamental democratic values through holiday observations, e.g., Martin Luther King Jr., Presidents Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving
- Knows about European explorers of the 15th and 16th centuries and their reasons for exploring, e.g., Columbus, Magellan, Marco Polo, etc.
- Knows about people who made significant contributions in the fields of transportation, communication, and technology
- Understands the people, events, and problems that were significant in creating the history of the state.
- Progress report descriptors deal with analyzing and applying information using concepts of history, geography, civics, and economics and demonstrating knowledge of social studies content standards\*

## MUSIC

1. Sings alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music\*
  - Sings partner songs and rounds in small groups and able to sing own part
  - Can sing and identify scale
  - Participates and contributes in class activities
  - Sings on pitch in rhythm with appropriate dynamics and timbre, and maintains a steady tempo
  - Matches pitch
  - Listens and follows directions
2. Performs on instruments alone and together a varied repertoire of music\*
  - Finds and performs steady beat
  - Creates movement to accompany music or poems
  - Demonstrates correct hand position and air support on recorder
  - Performs d, e, g, a, b, c, d correctly on recorder
  - Aurally identifies instruments of the orchestra and band including percussion instruments
3. Improvises melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
  - Improvises short songs and instrumental pieces.
4. Composes and arranges music within specified guidelines
  - Creates musical accompaniments\*
  - Improvises short four bar rhythms and melodies
5. Reads and notates music
  - Understands musical notations\*
  - Identifies notes on the scale
  - Defines standard musical symbols
6. Knows and applies criteria to music and musical performances
  - Appreciates music and is able to analyze in simple terms
7. Understands relationships between music and history and culture
  - Knows and demonstrates appropriate audience behavior
  - Understands the role of musicians (i.e., song leader, conductor, composer, and performer) in various musical settings and culture
  - Understands that music preferences reflect one's own personal experiences

## **ART**

1. Understands and applies media techniques and processes related to visual arts\*
  - Maintains an imaginative approach while following simple instructions
  - Use a wider variety of tools safely and economically
  - Enjoys using different art media
  - Expands in the use of different media and techniques to personalize their self portrait
2. Knows how to use structures and functions of art
  - Follows simple instructions, but maintains an imagination while creating art
  - Applies the elements (line, shape, color, space, texture, form) and principles of design (proportion, rhythm, dominance, balance and/or unity)
  - Expresses creativity through art projects\*
3. Knows range of subject matter.
  - Uses art symbols to communicate and convey ideas
  - Uses shapes and lines in drawings and paintings
  - Continues to grow in an art vocabulary
4. Understands the visual arts in relation to history and cultures\*
  - Identifies specific works of art as belonging to particular cultures, times, and places - art appreciation
  - Becomes knowledgeable of famous artists and their work
  - Knows how women and men, and different cultures; past and present have shaped our world
5. Understands the characteristics and merits of one's own artwork and the artwork of others
  - Understands that specific art works can elicit different responses

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

1. Uses a variety of basic and advanced movement forms (running, skipping, hopping, eye-hand/eye-foot coordination-dribbling while running)
  - Demonstrates knowledge of concepts\*
  - Demonstrates fundamental skills\*
  - Throws, catches, and kicks using mature form
  - Demonstrates kinesthetic awareness (balance, personal space, base of support, objects, dodges, chases) while participating in games and activities
2. Uses movement concepts and principles in development of motor skills
  - Understands a variety of relationships with objects (over/under, behind, through, etc.)
  - Demonstrates basic sport-specific skills in a variety of physical activities
  - Develops passing and receiving a ball with a moving target
  - Uses basic offensive and defensive strategies in unstructured game environments
3. Understands benefits and costs associated with participation in physical activity
  - Knows factors that inhibit participation in physical activity, e.g., substance abuse
  - Assesses personal performance
  - Celebrates personal successes and achievements as well as those of others.

4. Understands how to monitor and maintain a healthy enhanced level of physical fitness
  - Understands wellness - demonstrate benefits of healthy life style\*
  - Identifies the health benefits and participation in physical activity
  - Selects and participates regularly in physical activities for the purpose of improving skill and health
5. Understands the social and personal responsibility associated with participation in physical activity
  - Demonstrates the willingness to join in an activity\*
  - Demonstrates good sportsmanship\*
  - Understands safety concepts\*
  - Plays and cooperates with others regardless of personal differences
  - Follows appropriate rules, procedures, and behaviors while participating in games/activities; accepts the teacher's decision regarding a personal rule infraction without displaying negative reactions toward others
  - Demonstrates acceptance of the skills and abilities of others through verbal and nonverbal behavior

**TECHNOLOGY** - References McRel with NETS alignment

1. Knows characteristics and computer hardware and operating systems (NETS 1)
  - Knows and is able to properly use the more advanced features of the computer keyboard
  - Uses proper fingering for all keys, beginning from home row, maintaining proper posture while using the keyboard
  - Use keyboards and other common input and output devices (including adaptive devices when necessary) efficiently and effectively
  - Learns to use scanner
  - Applies technology skills\*
2. Knows characteristics and computer software programs (NETS 2)
  - Practices responsible use of technology systems and software
  - Uses a word processor to edit, copy, move, save and print text with some formatting, e.g., centering lines, using tabs, forming paragraphs
  - Learns basic word processing skills in order to print a document containing a paragraph
  - Knows basic and more advanced features of databases
  - Uses menu options and commands
  - Uses the keyboard to open and close application and retrieve, save, and print documents
  - Contributes to a group/teacher made presentation program
  - Defines the basic elements of a multimedia presentation
  - Places text into a simple, static screen
  - Uses grade appropriate software
3. Understands relationships among science, technology, society, and the individual (NETS 3, 4, 5, 6)
  - Works cooperatively and collaboratively with peers, family members, and others when using technology

- Effectively uses media resources to gather information\*
  - Demonstrates positive social and ethical behaviors when using technology, e.g., illegally copying software, software piracy, copyright laws\*
  - Discuss basic issues related to responsible use of technology and information and describe personal consequences of inappropriate use
  - Effectively uses media resources to gather information\*
  - Knows areas in which technology has improved human lives, e.g., transportation, nutrition, health care, entertainment
  - Discuss common uses of technology in daily life and the advantages and disadvantages those uses provide
4. Understands the nature of technological design (NETS 3)
- Knows how to use graphics
  - Evaluates product and design and makes modifications
5. Understands the nature and operation of systems (NETS 1)
- Gather information and communicate with others using telecommunications, with support from teachers, family members, or student partners.
6. Understands the nature and uses of different forms of technology (NETS 3, 6)
- Can define how technology is used today in medicine, transportation, banking, agriculture, architecture, etc.
  - Uses technology productivity tools to support personal productivity, remediate skill deficits, and facilitate learning throughout the curriculum. (NETS 3)
  - Uses telecommunications efficiently and effectively to access remote information. (NETS 6)

## **GUIDANCE/HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT** - listed by strands

### Working with Others

- Contributes to the overall effort of a group
- Uses conflict-resolution techniques
- Works well with diverse individuals and in diverse situations
- Displays effective interpersonal communication skills
- Demonstrates leadership skills

### Self-Regulation

- Sets and manages goals
- Performs self-appraisal
- Considers risks
- Maintains a healthy self-concept
- Restrains impulsivity

### Human Growth and Development

- Understands tenets of a Safe Environment
- Shows respect for God's gift of life
- Understands that every person has gifts and limitations
- Recognizes God created people of both genders to be equal and complementary
- Understands tenets of a safe environment

## **PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT/SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY/CITIZENSHIP**

(All items are referenced on the progress report.)

- Interacts respectfully with others
- Works effectively as a team member
- Makes an effort to solve social problems
- Participates appropriately
- Follows directions
- Works independently
- Completes high quality work
- Completes homework assignments