3rd, 4th, 5th Grade Technology/Computer Syllabus
Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School
2017-2018

The technology program at Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School is incorporated across all grade levels. Kindergarten and 1st grade students use computers and tablets in their classrooms. The 2nd through 8th graders come to the technology lab. MS Word is introduced in 2nd grade and is used to help learn the spelling words introduced by the classroom teacher. The students will learn to insert a table, create headings, change fonts, and use other enhancements available in Word. The 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades all use Word effectively in several different ways and create PowerPoint presentations during each year. Middle school students work in Word, Publisher, Excel, and PowerPoint. All students are encouraged to type using the home row keys. Code was introduced last year and will continue as part of the technology curriculum for all the grade levels using Ozobots and Code.org. The students will be using code to program the little robots to follow commands. They are fun! We use Windows based desktop computers in the computer lab and will have access to IPads for the students to use depending on the lesson.

Third – Fifth Grades

The students learn a lot in computer class. Several lessons are ongoing throughout the year. First for all grades are typing assignments. These are done in class. The guidelines are visible in the classroom and will be available online. I will occasionally assign the topic but most of them are "pick a card". I have several topics on index cards and the students pick a card and write (type) about that topic. They are easier for the 3rd graders and get progressively more challenging for the older students. Each grade level has their own set of cards and there are no two alike. There is a grading rubric hanging in the computer lab and will be posted online for the typing assignments. The typing assignments are graded and returned to the students. There are 3 due dates for the trimester and will be posted in Renweb and on the board in the classroom. The grades will be posted on Renweb.

Each trimester will also include typing either a summary, giving an opinion, or answering a specific question based on an article on TweenTribune which is by Smithsonian. These 2-3 articles will be assigned by the teacher with a specific due date. These are only 1 paragraph long (topic sentence - 3 supporting details sentences - closing sentence). These may be done and printed at home. Each student will have a user name and password to get into the Smithsonian website where the assignments are posted.

The students also need to practice keyboarding skills. All students are encouraged to always use 2 hands to type, even if they are not yet able to use all 10 fingers both hands are to be actively engaged in the typing process. We go over the correct typing techniques and this year the students will use typing.com to assess their typing. They will be required to spend one hour per quarter practicing their typing. This is to be done at home. If you do not have a computer available at your home please e-mail me so I can try to help them at school. Each student will have a user name and password to access the program.

Then there are the class projects, depending on the project there may be 1 or 2. This could be an Ozobot/coding project, a PowerPoint or newsletter, a research report and an oral presentation. These are done in class however if research is required the students are permitted to do some research at home and bring in their notes. I will post what the in-class project is on on Renweb.

There may be some vocabulary words assigned. These words will be relevant to what is being learned in class. It could be general computer terms (beginning of the year), Code, PowerPoint, Word, etc. These quizzes will be in class and done on the computer where the students receive instant feedback on their grade.

The lessons that will be taught are not being broken down into trimesters, however each lesson that is covered will be posted in RenWeb. This is how we will start the year:

- STAR reading and math assessments will be done in computer class 3 times a year
- Introduction to computer class
    - The requirements and assignments
- Computer class basics
    - With vocabulary
- Internet Safety
    - With vocabulary

The following are some of upcoming projects with dates to be determined, these are often based on what is being learned in the classrooms:

- PowerPoint project
- Research papers
- Ozobot project
- Publisher project
- Oral report

Grading

All grades will have the same weight – all are formative. There will be no summative grades in specials classes.

Behavior Policy

I will be following the behavior policy that is set forth by the homeroom teachers.