

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
PRE-SCHOOL II PROGRAM

CHRISTIAN FORMATION: St. Mary's is a faith community--one that loves, cares, shares, helps, and prays. Christian formation in the Pre-school is designed to encourage the wonder and appreciation for God's creation. Opportunities for prayer and special celebrations are incorporated into the daily activities.

The classroom environment promotes self-esteem and is conducive to positive social and academic growth. Self-confidence and success in mastering new skills are emphasized in our program. The curriculum is carried out through monthly units of study:

August – Family, Home, Procedures

September – Colors, Friends, Shapes, Magic Triad

October – Fire Safety, Halloween, Investigative Learning

November – Fall, Leaves, Thanksgiving, Turkeys, Construction & Building

December – Advent, St. Nicholas, Birth of Jesus

January – Snowmen, Snowflakes, Winter, Healthy Living

February – Valentine's Day, Dental Awareness, Safety, Animals

March – New Life, St. Patrick's Day, Spring Weather, Splash and Dig

April – Easter, Eggs, Water It, Grow It

May – Flowers, Insects, Mother's Day, Weather Watchers

By the end of the school year, the student should be able to:

- Identify and print first name
- Repeat a six to eight-word sentence
- Pay attention when given instruction
- Follow simple directions
- Zip and button
- Jump, hop, skip, toss, and catch
- Complete a simple five-piece puzzle
- Draw shapes
- Hold scissors correctly and cut simple shapes
- Count and recognize numbers 0-10
- Know body parts
- Know parents' names
- Know who to call in case of an emergency
- Know days of the week
- Know how to be courteous
- Recognize letters A-Z, a-z

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Respect each other
- Wait their turn
- Express feelings appropriately
- Demonstrate self-control

LANGUAGE ARTS-The curriculum helps the child transfer thoughts into words by providing opportunities to:

- increase vocabulary
- speak in sentences
- describe objects and pictures
- identify and use words opposing in meaning
- name and tell functions of body parts
- gain an understanding of positional words (beside, between, behind, etc.)
- identify sounds of the alphabet
- recognize alphabet
- discriminate visually
- practice communication skills
- listen
- comprehend
- express orally
- tell stories

MUSIC AND ART-Creative activities are integrated throughout many aspects of the program. Crayons, markers, paint, watercolors, and chalk are just some of the media used in the art program.

Musical activities include:

- listening
- singing
- dancing
- clapping
- marching
- movement
- use of rhythm instruments

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS-Hand-eye coordination is developed through:

- catching
- throwing
- bouncing
- walking
- balancing
- hopping
- jumping
- marching
- clapping
- running
- climbing
- skipping
- responding to rhythm

FINE MOTOR SKILLS-Activities for small muscles include:

- pouring liquids, rice, or sand

- stringing beads
- working puzzles
- using pencils, crayons, markers, and scissors
- using the computer
- gluing
- folding paper
- working with clay and play dough
- building with various kinds of blocks
- painting with watercolor and tempera paint
- sewing with yarn

MATHEMATICS-We strive to help the child gain an understanding of:

- colors
- shapes
- counting
- size differences
- sets and numerals
- sorting
- comparing/contrasting
- measuring
- classifying
- patterning

SOCIAL STUDIES/SCIENCE-Various aspects of the world in which the children live are explored.

Topics include:

- Family
- Animals
- Nature
- Holidays
- Seasons
- Weather
- Senses
- environment