



**Welcome to
Kindergarten Orientation
2022 - 2023**

*Our Lady of Good Counsel
School*

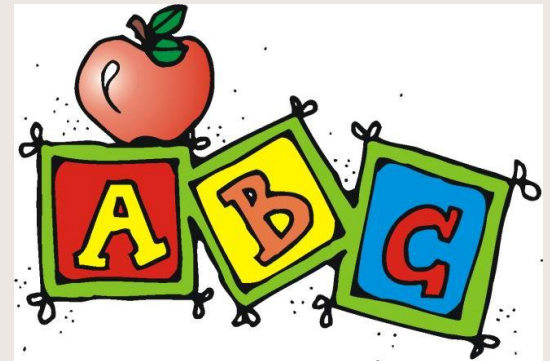
Agenda

- Opening Prayer by Mrs. Williams
- Welcoming by Mrs. Jewett
- Kindergarten Teacher Introduction
- Kindergarten Schedule
- Curriculum Overview
- Questions and Answers



Our Schedule

- Specials: P.E. (twice), Computer Lab, Library, Art, Music, Science Lab, and Spanish
- Mass on Wednesdays
- Language Arts and Math are usually taught in the mornings. Religion, Social Studies and Science are usually taught in the afternoons.
- Star of the Week, Show and Share, Seasonal Craft
- Rest and Digest/Brain Break



Curriculum Overview

✓ Language Arts:

- ✓ Daily phonics practice
- ✓ Letter recognition & letter sounds
- ✓ Develop reading skills
- ✓ Handwriting and journal writing
- ✓ Sight word recognition
- ✓ Role playing
- ✓ Rhyming and poetry
- ✓ Word Study



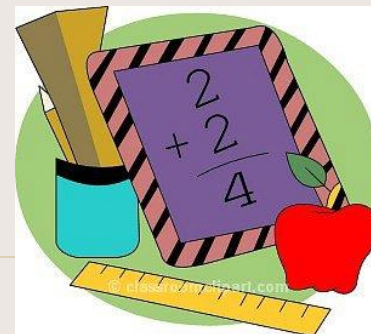
Curriculum Overview

✓ Reading Program:

- ✓ We read in whole groups, in small groups, and individually.
- ✓ Reading every day is essential!
- ✓ We will be sending home a book once a week to be read by your child to you. You will write comments to help the teacher in a parent log.
- ✓ Our homework reader is meant to reinforce the vocabulary words and phonics worked on in class. Please supplement this with books of your child's interest.
- ✓ Encourage your child to point to each word as he/she reads.
- ✓ Encourage your child to use the picture clues to help him/her figure out the words.
- ✓ Provide your child with a daily model by seeing you read.
- ✓ Word Study is a developmental method of teaching phonics and spelling.
- ✓ Word sorts will be related to the weekly phonics concepts and will be used in class and practiced at home.



Curriculum Overview



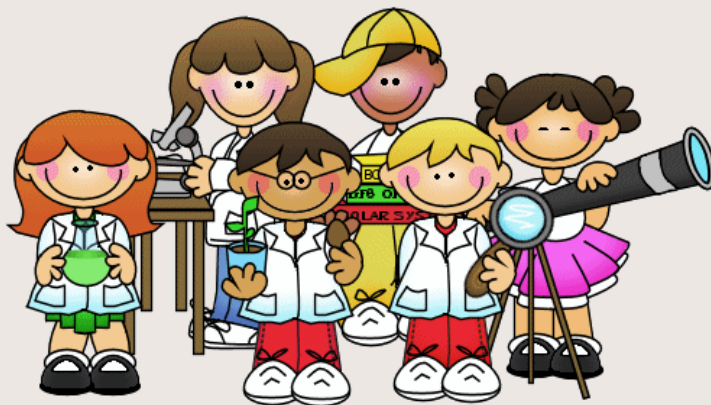
✓ Math:

- ✓ Patterning, sorting, grouping and comparing sets of objects - more, fewer and equal
- ✓ Manipulatives will be used to reinforce a solid understanding of numerals to 100
- ✓ Addition & subtraction - facts to 10
- ✓ Learning to tell time to the hour and to identify money
- ✓ Learning to count by 2' s, 5' s, & 10' s to 100
- ✓ Basic understanding of fractions and geometry
- ✓ Introduction to measurement
- ✓ Math journal writing

Curriculum Overview

Science:

- ✓ Making observations
- ✓ Seasons and seasonal changes
- ✓ Apples and pumpkins
- ✓ Spiders and bats
- ✓ Space
- ✓ Arctic animals
- ✓ Caterpillars and butterflies
- ✓ Dinosaurs



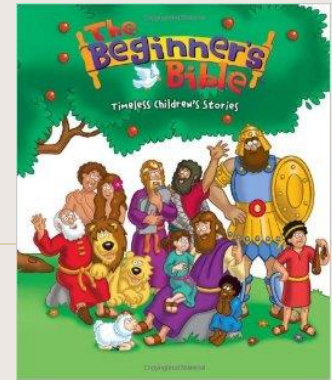
Social Studies:

- ✓ Mapping skills
- ✓ Christopher Columbus, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Harriet Tubman
- ✓ Pilgrims and the First Thanksgiving
- ✓ State of Virginia



Curriculum Overview

✓ Religion:



- ✓ Our goal is to establish a friendship with Jesus.
- ✓ We will learn prayers: *Our Father, Hail Mary, Guardian Angel, Glory Be, Live Jesus Live, Mother of Good Counsel, and the Prayer Before Meals.*
- ✓ We read from both the Old and New Testaments of the children's bible.
- ✓ We will learn to be mindful of Jesus' presence in our hearts.
- ✓ We will learn that saints are our special friends. Each classroom has its own patron saint.



Homework



- ✓ Homework will be given Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
- ✓ On Mondays, we will be sending home a book for independent reading at home.
- ✓ On Tuesday - Thursday, we will send home phonics, math, handwriting and reading comprehension homework - one page per night.
- ✓ It is your child's responsibility to complete the homework.
- ✓ Please review your child's homework daily.
- ✓ Remind your child to place his/her homework in the Red Folder and return it to school each day - this will help establish a lifetime of good school habits.
- ✓ Homework is meant to teach responsibility as well as reinforce what we do in school.

Social Skills

- ✓ Learning through play is an important part of our day.
- ✓ Time is given each day for your child to interact in an unstructured environment.
- ✓ Learning to share, take turns, use kind words, follow the rules, and to be considerate are our goals.
- ✓ Please practice social skills with your child by, helping them to use appropriate language, and to take turns during supervised play dates.

Attitude is Everything

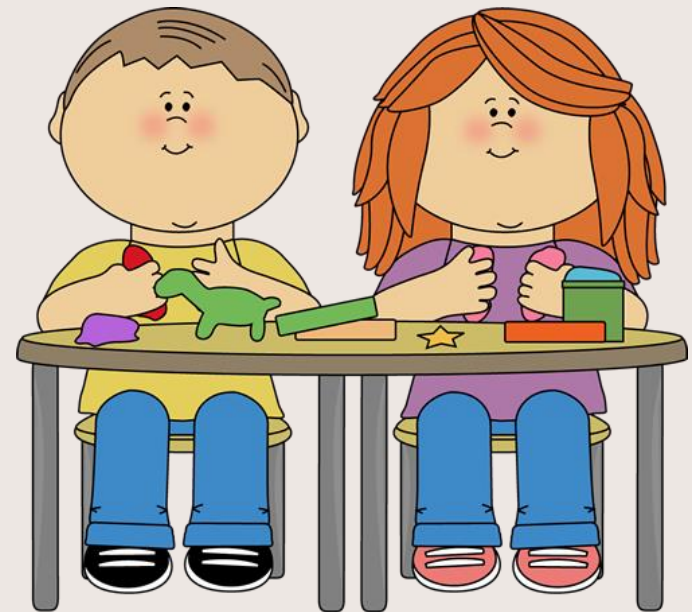
- ✓ **Sell it!**
 - Start now with speaking often about how great Kindergarten is going to be!
 - Listen to concerns, but stay positive
- ✓ **Separation Anxiety**
 - Is normal and varies with every child (& parent!)
 - Practice makes perfect - sitters/play dates
 - Speak of “your new school” often



Encourage “Big girl/boy” Activities and Behaviors

- Daily chores

- Make bed
- Dress themselves
- Practice tying their shoes
- Make their own lunch
- Help empty dishwasher
- Help mom/dad in the yard



- Clean up after themselves

- After meals, toys, activities and clothes
- Do nothing for your child that they can do for themselves

Rules to Live By

Firm limits at home means easier acceptance of rules at school

- Encourage sharing, taking turns, and being patient
- Practice not interrupting adults
- Words instead of hitting, tears, and tantrums
- "Our hands are God's hands and God's hands are helping hands, not hurting hands." (Dr. Margaret Adams)
- Tantrums are for 2 year olds! Zero tolerance at home helps reinforce it at school.
- "Vitamin N" goes a long way!" (John Rosemond, PhD)
- Practice saying "no" to your child and helping them accept that "no means no!"
 - This helps teach patience and tolerance
 - Limits tantrums

Suggestions for Helping Your Child Prepare for Kindergarten

- ✓ Your child should be comfortable speaking and responding to adults.
- ✓ Be able to handle a backpack, lunchbox, sweater, and jacket.
- ✓ Read with your child everyday!
- ✓ Be able to use a belt and tucking in their shirts.
- ✓ Be able to say their full name and address, and be in the process of memorizing their telephone number.
- ✓ Be able to hold and use pencils, crayons, markers, and scissors, successfully. They should be able to manage these items in a responsible way.
- ✓ Be able to write their first name from left to right.
- ✓ Be able to recite and recognize the alphabet and numbers from 1-10.
- ✓ Be able to listen to simple directions and respond appropriately.
- ✓ Be able to interact positively in a group by using good manners and kind words.
- ✓ Be able to attend Mass with appropriate behavior, know simple prayers, and use the Sign of the Cross.
- ✓ Learn to be **independent** in the bathroom, washing hands, blowing their nose, and using tissues appropriately.

Things to Bring to School

- ✓ A backpack without wheels
- ✓ One healthy snack and a lunch every day
- ✓ Please label all of your child's items and clothing with his/her first and last name!
- ✓ You will pay a flat supply fee and all supplies will be distributed at school.



Mark Your Calendars...

- School Begins on Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Kindergarten will attend from 8:00 am to 3:00pm
Monday - Friday.

Thank you for joining us!