



Preschool Program Information Sheet 2017-2018

General Program Information

Welcome to the St. Francis of Assisi School preschool program for 4-year-olds!

The preschool program for 4-year-olds uses the *Creative Curriculum* to guide daily activities. Through various studies, the children will explore a wide variety of concepts and topics. Study-based activities will be presented through both teacher-directed and child-directed activities. Half-day and part-time care is available.

A child may attend the 4's program three, four or five, full or half days per week. Depending on the days a child attends, they will be able to participate in gym, art, music, library and Spanish classes taught by the school specials' teachers.

Four-year-old children still need a lot of time to play. A great deal of thought has gone into the materials that will be made available to the children each day. Through a combination of teacher directed and child initiated activities and free play, children will grow socially, emotionally and cognitively.

Mid-way through the school year we will begin focusing on developing Kindergarten readiness skills. These are some of the most important skills which we hope children grasp during the course of the year:

- the ability to follow directions
- sit and listen for a period of time
- develop socially throughout the year
- master basic self-help skills
- basic number concepts
- letter recognition
- pre-literacy skills
- color and shape recognition.

Religion concepts will be taught using the God Made the World series by Loyola University Press.

Daily Program

The program is organized so that children have a choice of activities in which to participate each day. Outdoor play, gym time, art, music, building, dramatic play and literature based activities will be available to the children. They will be able to participate in both large and small group activities as well as individual projects.

DAILY SCHEDULE

The specific schedule will vary from day-to-day. The schedule below shows what a typical day might look like in the preschool room.

7:45-8:30	Arrival and Free Play
8:30-8:45	Morning Group
8:45-9:10	Outside
9:10-9:30	Snack
9:30-10:40	Table Time
11:00-11:30	Specials Class
11:30-11:50	Sharing/Group Reading Time
11:50	Half-Day Session Ends
12:00-12:50	Lunch
12:50-2:00	Rest Time
2:00-2:45	Table Play
3:00	Say Good-Bye to Friends!

Staffing

The preschool program is staffed with well qualified adults who have had many years of experience with young children. The preschool staff meets or exceeds the Child Care Licensing qualifications.

The lead teacher has a Child Development Certificate or a Teaching Degree and many years of pre-school experience.

The ESP/Preschool Director has at least a Bachelor's degree in a field relating to child care or education. The ESP/Preschool Director has had extensive experience working with children in various settings.

The center exceeds the State of Michigan Child Care Licensing staff/child ratio requirements. The state requires a minimum ratio of 1 staff member for every 12 children at the four-year-old level. Our preschool room may enroll a maximum of 22 children and we currently have three full-time teachers.

Teachers participate in staff meetings, in-service training and continuing education courses and workshops to increase their knowledge of developmentally appropriate practice. All of the staff members have First Aid and CPR training.