

Kindergarten registration is open now for all students.

In-house registration (for currently enrolled families) for those registering more than one student is <u>February 17</u>.

In-house registration (for currently enrolled families) is February 22.

March 1: Registration opens to the public



Registration Checklist:

- ⋄ Completed registration packet
 - ♦ \$70 Registration fee
- ♦ Birth Certificate (for new students)
- ♦ Current physical by September (school start)

St. John's Preschool **Kindergarten Open House Tours

Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022 10:00 AM -12:00 noon

St. John's Preschool 300 N. Pine Street Seaford, DE 19973 302-629-2289

stjohnspreschool123@gmail.com Fax: 302-629-2467



Dear Prospective Preschool Family,

Welcome to St. John's Preschool! St. John's is a place where "learning is fun." We feel blessed and honored that you are considering our preschool for your child.

At St. John's Preschool (SJP) we take a whole-child approach to learning. We value the importance of ABC's and 123's in a child's learning process, but we strive to achieve a balance where learning is fun. Our teachers plan lessons that help a child grow in the areas of social and emotional development, spiritual growth, fine and gross motor development, cognitive and intellectual development, as well as the academic foundations of language arts, math, science and social studies in a way that is age and developmentally appropriate for each level. Our students are engaged and active throughout their school day.

In the traditional school year (outside of Covid restrictions) our students are involved in many exciting learning opportunities in and outside of the classroom. Our hands-on approach includes exploring themes through sensory tables, singing, dancing, dramatic play, STEM projects, field trips, parties, programs, classroom enrichment (bringing professionals into the classroom), art and so much more. We look forward to a time when we can return to normalcy, but we have modified activities to the best of our ability so that we can maintain these rich activities for our students in the presence of Covid-19 restrictions.

We love the support of parents and encourage parental involvement at SJP (in normal times). It is our hope that we will return to our normal level of parent involvement once the virus is under control and the Office of Child Care Licensing lifts the restrictions currently in place.

Your child will become part of a wonderful preschool and church family as a student of SJP. Each day he/she will have someone praying for his/her success and assuring that he/she has an absolutely wonderful preschool experience. We would truly be blessed if you choose SJP as the place for your child to learn and grown in his/her early years.

Warmly,
Rae Murphy (Administrator)

Preschool Overview:

Two Year Old Program: 2 days/week 9:00-11:30

This program is designed for students that are two years old, turning three during or after the school year begins. This program has a heavy focus on a child's FIRST preschool experience. Children gain independence and confidence through learning to say goodbye and knowing that mom or dad will return shortly. Children learn through songs and fingerplays and hands-on activities that are developmentally appropriate for this age group. A main focus in this program is for students and parents to LOVE their first school experience.

Three Year Old Program: 3 days/week (T-Th) 9:00-11:30

This program is designed for students that are three at the start of the year and will turn four some time during or after the school year. Our three-four year old students have higher expectations, with more emphasis on letter and number recognition. Their circle time is longer and their activities are designed to meet their needs at this developmental stage. All of our classes participate in art, dramatic play and outdoor play daily.

Pre-Kindergarten Program: 4 days/week (M-Th) 9:00-1:00

This program is designed for students that are four at the start of the school year and will turn five. These students will be working towards kindergarten readiness. There is a larger emphasis on letter recognition as these friends move into identifying and blending sounds to start the reading process. The program is designed for students to learn in small group rotations that cover reading, handwriting, STEM, art, technology and independence. The goal of this program is to have students ready for the rigors of kindergarten.

This is the only pre-k program being offered this year.

Kindergarten: 4 days/week (M-Th) 9:00-1:00

This program is new to SJP and is designed for students that are 5 at the start of the year. Students engage in a print-rich curriculum that meets and exceeds the DE learning standards. It is an accelerated program designed to prepare students for their entry into first grade in all areas of learning.





Welome to Mrs. Holland's Three Year Old Class

Welcome parents! Thank you for considering joining the preschool. My name is Mrs. Holland and this is my fifth year at St. John's Preschool. I fell in love with the preschool when my children were students here. Miss Andrea is the teacher's assistant in our classroom. This is her seventh year assisting in the 3&4-year-old classroom. Miss Andrea's boys also came to preschool here. We love working at St. John's Preschool! Please feel free to look around the classroom. We welcome you to come in and see our students working this year. Check out our projects and activity areas and you can gain a sense of what we do!

A typical day in our room begins with the drop off routine. Here is a rough idea of what our daily schedule looks like:

9:00 Arrival

9:00-9:05 Wash hands and unpack our belongings

9:05-9:30 Circle Time

9:30-10:25 Centers (art, letter activity, dramatic play)

10:25-10:30 Clean up & bathroom break

10:30-10:40 Story

10:40-10:55 Snack

10:55-11:10 Recess

11:15-11:25 Bible Lesson

11:25-11:30 Pack up and prepare to leave

11:30 Dismissal

We work each day to make meaningful interactions with the studetns in our class. St. John's Preschool is a great place for children to learn and grow. They begin to understand boundaries and gain a sense of self control through peer interactions. Sometimes the best lessons aren't what we have planned on paper. We like to seize the teachable moment to make each day unique. We hope you have enjoyed your visit to our classroom.

Sincerely, Mrs. Holland & Mrs. Snider



Welcome to Mrs. Skelton's Three Year Old Class

Welcome parents! We are happy to have you visit our class-room today. Choosing a preschool for your child is a big decision and visiting classrooms is a great way to see if a preschool offers what you are looking for. My name is Mrs. Skelton and this is my fourth year at St. John's Preschool. I live in Lincoln with my husband, and two sons. My oldest son attends second grade and my youngest son is with me at St. John's Preschool in the pre-k program. Mrs. Walker is the teacher's assistant in our classroom. This is her first year at St. John's Preschool. She lives with her husband and two boys. Her oldest son is also in second grade and her youngest son is in the pre-k classroom here at St. John's Preschool. We love working at St. John's Preschool! Please feel free to look around the classroom and ask questions.

We believe preschool aged children best learn about their world through play, social interactions with their peers, concept instruction, exploring, new experiences and having fun. The children learn concepts such as, letters, shapes, colors, and numbers through a variety of hands-on experiences. They may be seen working on their fine motor skills by doing this such as, cutting with scissors, tracing, or lacing and string objects. Sometimes the children are busy learning through imaginative play, sensory play, or interacting and problem solving with their peers. When the children are not engaged in these types of activities, they may be exploring the sensory table (when not in Covid times) by playing in anything that is related to the season like, sand, leaves, ice, water, pinecones, grass, or many other fun things to touch. We also have group center time such as singing and dancing, story time, and circle time.

Throughout the year, we have a variety of field trips, parties, and special classes. We visit Fifer's Orchard, Pizza King, and other fun places. We also have parties for each holiday, birthday celebrations, and other theme related parties. There are many great things happening at St. John's Preschool! We hope to see your child here next year!

Thank you for visiting our classroom!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Skelton and Mrs. Walker





Welcome to Pre-Kindergarten at St. John's Preschool. Pre-K is a busy place where our students learn and grow. We strive to create a solid foundation of Kindergarten readiness for our students, while allowing them to just be little. We see the importance for both as Kindergarten has become very fast paced and demanding. They do, however, have the rest of their educational careers to sit quietly at desks. Our students engage in hands-on activities with the teachers and each other to create an environment conducive to learning by doing. Our lessons are created with the purpose to bring students to conclusions that they have had a direct part in creating, rather than telling them what to know or learn. We believe that even in the moments that students are not actively engaged in a prepared lesson, they are still learning and growing. Play is work, after all!

<u>Circle time</u> - Our typical Pre-K day begins with a question of the day and <u>circle time</u> that includes: Students learning to sit, listen, take turns, have jobs and contribute to the classroom, say the Pledge of Allegiance, comprehend calendar and weather concepts, counting (on the calendar as well as to 100), patterning, sing songs, math concepts and gain a general understanding of the weekly theme through discussion and exploration.

Small Groups - Because studies show that students learn more effectively in smaller groups, we have designed a large portion of our preschool day with this in mind. Small groups include four to five rotations. Stations include a reading and handwriting task, an arts and crafts project related to the theme, a STEM activity related to the theme, a iPad station with apps related to the theme, and an independent station (i.e. craft table, puzzles, play dough, sensory table, tangrams, letter building, etc.). Every student's progress is mapped in a collection of works by that student throughout the school year and placed in a portfolio. Students also write a journal entry 3-4 times a week in a separate journal.

<u>Centers</u> - Students enjoy the freedom to choose and the opportunity to socialize through play. Center time includes blocks, LEGO, trucks and cars, dolls, kitchen, books and more. There is always something for everyone at center time.

<u>Lunch</u> - Students bring a packed lunch each day and enjoy socializing and eating lunch with their peers.

<u>Library</u> – This is a time for our students to learn how to handle books and look at books that are related to the weekly theme.

<u>Outdoor Play/Recess</u> – Because being active is an important part of being a preschooler, students have many opportunities, including a scheduled recess to be active. This time enforces gross motor skills, balance and personal awareness.

<u>Christian Education</u> – Students are exposed to the Word of God daily through our morning prayer and a short bible story to end our day.

<u>Music & Movement</u> - Each day students will get to express themselves through music and movement with a variety of musical selections. This time reinforces balance and coordination as well as educational concepts (letters, numbers, vowel sounds, Christian values, etc.)

<u>Math Concepts</u> – Often times during STEM, the activity will give a whole approach to Science and Math. In an effort to reinforce math skills, we participate in a separate math concepts activity that could be anything from graphing, counting and sorting to lining up and grouping.

<u>Classroom Enrichment</u>- We often have events that enhance what we are learning about in the classroom. Our class traditionally has a fall field trip, a walk to the fire house and a spring field trip. We also look for opportunities to bring programs into our room that support our week's lessons (when Covid is not an issue).

We invite you to take a look around the room. Please feel free to ask us any questions you may have. We hope you have enjoyed your visit to St. John's Preschool.





Hello, I'm Mrs. Connie Ayers the Kindergarten teacher for St. John's. I have over 30 yrs. experience and a BS in Early Childhood, Masters in Educational Technology and Special ED K-12.

I am excited to say our 2nd year of Kindergarten has been very successful. The children were able to meet for face to face instruction in a safe, happy and nurturing setting. Different techniques are used to meet individual learning styles to help students reach their fullest potential in a warm and loving classroom.

Our class schedule and curriculum together have made it possible for students to meet and exceed state standards with our 4 day program. The parents this year are extremely happy with the experiences we included to enrich the learning process. The children are excited and happy to come to school! Parents are kept informed through texts, pictures/videos, emails and weekly news letters and our classroom Facebook page. The children start each day with a prayer, bible verse, pledge the flag and moment of silence.

Our school and classroom is a wonderful environment where your child can learn the love and joy of learning.

We look forward to having your children join us in September!

Connie Ayers

ayers.connie@gmail.com



Kindergarten Daily Schedule

2020-2021

9:00-9:10 Students Arrival

Greet students at check-in Bathroom break, Unpack

9:10-9:30 Morning Meeting

Greeting song, Devotion, Boost-Up (spinning) Promotes brain activity,

Power point review skills

9:30-10:00 Reading & Writing Program (Open Court)
10:00-10:45 Reading Workshop Groups (15 min. rotations)

10:45-10:55 Bathroom Break

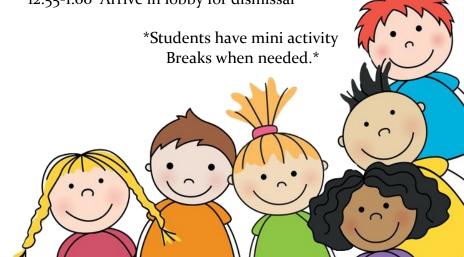
11:00-11:40 Math 11:40-12:00 Lunch

12:00-12:20 Science & STEM/Social Studies 12:25-12:50 Recess/Specials/Center Time

> Social interaction, promote language and speech skills, large motor skills, engineering, building, math, handeye coordination, creativity and

dramatic imagination

12:50-12:55 Pack Up 12:55-1:00 Arrive in lobby for dismissal





Parents want to know, what are we doing to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in our classrooms? What happens if the virus has another widespread outbreak? Do the students wear masks? What protocols do we follow?

When Covid-19 hit the state in 2020, Governor Carney shut everything down. As a result, we were forced to close. We remained closed through May and the end of our school year. We issued refunds for days missed or allowed families to carry a credit into the next year. The preschool took a massive hit financially, but we knew it was the right thing to do.

Once restrictions loosened over the summer, we were able to put a plan in place by following guidelines set by the state of DE and the Office of Childcare Licensing. The next page outlines our Covid-19 Template.

Our rooms are professionally cleaned daily. During the day teachers wipe all surfaces after use and in between students. Toys are wiped and cleaned regularly. We are keeping Lysol and Clorox in business!

In the event of another widespread outbreak, we will follow the lead of Governor Carney. Closing will only happen if mandated by the state.

All staff members wear masks 100% of the time until a time comes that this is no longer required. Our kindergarten students wear masks into and out of the building. Our younger students are not mandated to wear masks. We do, however, have some students whose parents prefer that they wear a mask during the day and we work to honor their requests. Social distancing is implemented when feasible. All classrooms are kept separate, even using different entrances to the building for drop off and pick up times.

We take the health and safety of our staff and students very seriously and work diligently to ensure they are well.

The Covid-19 Template: Keeping our preschool safe.

- Staff will practice every day preventative measures.
- We will follow the current requirements for face coverings.
- Parents will be notified if their student has been exposed.
- We will have screening measures in place for students and staff.
 - Drop off and arrivals will be staggered.
 - Ill students and staff will be sent home immediately.
 - Social distancing will be implemented when feasible.
 - Classes will not mix.
- Materials that cannot be easily cleaned or may increase transmission will not be used or shared.
- Snacks will be provided by parents, will be disposable and will be not be shared by students.
- Bathrooms will be cleaned daily and disinfected between students.
- All students will wash hands upon arrival, any time they leave the room and after space or materials have been shared between students.
- Quarantine times will be encouraged to be longer than the CDC recommended time of only 5 days.
- The preschool will require all non-covid illnesses to observe the 24 hour symptom-free rule and remain at home for the duration of their illness.





2022-2023 School Calendar Overview **dates subject to change**

September:

5: Labor Day

6: Open House

7: First Full Day of School

October:

13: Closed for Teacher In-service Day

November:

21-24: Closed for Thanksgiving

December:

19-29: Closed for Christmas

January:

2: Return from Christmas Break

16: Closed for MLK Day

26: Parent Conference Day

February:

20: Closed for President's Day

April:

10-13: Spring Break

May:

23: Last Day of School

You've registered. Now what???

Once you have registered this is what you can expect next. Between May and June the preschool will mail the tuition packet to you. This packet will come with the payment information as well as a letter including some brief back to school information. The first payment will be due at the beginning of August.

Then in August, a packet will be mailed to you that will include the back-to-school information including details about our Parent Night and a letter and supply list from your child's teacher.

On Thursday, September 1 we will host Parent Night. This is an evening event for parents only. The event is informational and goes over all of our policies and procedures.

