St. Stephen Protomartyr Preschool Curriculum Guide

Preschool Philosophy
We will use a variety of creative play, structured learning, and differentiated instruction to encourage life-long learning and success in a Catholic, Christian environment.
Social/Emotional Development

Your preschooler will be engaging in a variety of social situations throughout the day, where he or she will be interacting with both adults and peers. SSP provides a balance of both free and structured time so your child can easily transition into the regular academic school day.

Literacy:

Each day will be filled with numerous activities for your child to create and discriminate letters and sounds. These activities will focus on pre-writing and pre-reading strategies.

Math:

Our program focuses on developing logical thinkers, by creating situations where math can be learned naturally. For example, combining groups of items used for play, calendar counting, pattern creation, etc.

Science:

SSP focuses on the discovery aspect of science. By using your child's natural wonder and curiosity, we will explore the world around us!

Religion:

We read stories daily that illustrate how Jesus would like us to act. This is integrated into our day during work and play. We also pray before meals and at the beginning and end of each day. We celebrate
major Catholic holidays, and religious seasons such as Advent and Lent.

**Fine and Gross Motor Skill Development:**
It is our goal that by the end of our preschool year, your child will be able to use pencils and crayons properly, cut on both straight and curved lines independently, and manipulate small objects. With the use of our school gym and physical education equipment, your child will learn to use his or her body with ease and coordination.

**Fine Arts:**
Your child will discover, play, and create with a variety of tools and materials. We will create pieces of art, learn to use our voices and bodies for music/dance, and explore rhythms and sound in our environment.

**Introduction to Technology:**
SSP encourages young minds to become familiar with current technology so children are able to learn and create with a variety of tools. Our classroom is equipped with a Promethean Board to enhance our computer knowledge.

**Expectations for our Preschoolers**
- FULLY potty trained on a regular toilet prior to beginning program.
- Able to dress or change clothes with minimal adult help.
- Able to verbally convey needs, wants, and ideas to adults.