



TRINITY LUTHERAN
PRESCHOOL
PARENT HANDBOOK

2024-2025

TRINITY PRESCHOOL STAFF 2024-2025

Director: Christy Cole
Director@tlc-preschool.org

Teachers: Misti Benson
Stacey Drake
Sally Gantner
Meghan Green
Elizabeth Henderson
Amy McGuire
Lindsay O'Connell
Bree Phillips
Jessica Schellman

Teacher Assistants: Kim Boschert
Anne Durfee
Betsy Eshelman
Cathy Geiger
Lauren Grosser
Jenny Lindahl
Kelly McKittrick
Katie Morrisson
Laura Neary
Elizabeth Stigall
Sarah Thies
Katie Weber

TRINITY PRESCHOOL PARENT HANDBOOK

**14088 Clayton Road
Chesterfield, Missouri 63017
636 527-6689
www.tlc-preschool.org**

PURPOSE

The purpose of Trinity Preschool is to make Christ known to preschoolers and their parents and to provide a developmentally appropriate educational experience that recognizes the spiritual, mental, emotional, social and physical needs of the child.

MISSION STATEMENT

Together with parents, we seek to reach children's hearts with the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ helping them to mature in faith, wisdom and stature.

HISTORY & RELIGIOUS CURRICULUM

Trinity Preschool was formed in 1957 with one preschool class and a Kindergarten class. As an outreach ministry, Trinity Preschool is dedicated to providing social and educational opportunities for children, ages twelve (12) months to six years of age, in a safe, nurturing, Christian environment. Each week the children learn a new Bible lesson. The themes are from the "Living the Word" Bible Curriculum. The "Living the Word" program is a four-year cycle of Old and New Testament Bible stories. Its weekly themes include activities for dramatic play, art/craft, finger play, music and science activities.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

The training children receive in the early years of their lives is some of the most significant they will ever receive. At Trinity Lutheran Preschool we provide:

1. A Christ-centered curriculum where children will experience and hear of Jesus love for them.
2. A safe, secure, and clean environment oriented to children which encourages the child's need to explore God's gifts of His creation, their creative abilities, senses, vocabulary, and capabilities.
3. A caring and nurturing atmosphere which fosters each child's creativity and positive self-image in order to develop an interest and joy in learning as well as a feeling of security, success, responsibility, and independence.
4. A balance of activities which includes outdoor and indoor play, teacher-directed and child-initiated learning experiences within the context of a developmentally appropriate curriculum.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Trinity Lutheran Preschool admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate based on race, color, national, or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and other school-administered programs.

TRINITY PRESCHOOL STAFF

Our strength lies in our qualified and experienced staff – their professional competence, personal dedication and their Christian commitment. All staff members are required to attend workshops and conferences every year to increase their knowledge in the field and are certified in Child CPR and first aid.

REGISTRATION, FEES & TUITION SCHEDULE

Registration will begin in January. Children currently enrolled in our program will have the opportunity to enroll prior to opening enrollment to the public.

The registration fee must be paid at the time of registration to guarantee your child's position. **The registration fee is non-refundable.** The tuition schedule is as follows:

MONTHLY PRESCHOOL TUITION

Monday/Wednesday AM	\$225
Tuesday/Thursday AM	\$225
Monday/Wednesday/Friday AM	\$285
Monday – Friday AM	\$425
Junior Kindergarten AM	\$425
Afternoon Class	\$ 90
Registration per child	\$100

Your May tuition for the following school year is due on May 1st. Your May tuition is non-refundable. Tuition is due on the first of each month (September through April). Tuition is figured on the total number of days during the school year and then divided into nine equal payments.

Tuition is due on the first day of the month. If your tuition payment is received after the 5th day of the month, a **\$10.00 late fee** must be included in your payment.

Tuition will be consistent regardless of absences, vacations, holidays or unforeseen closures. Days missed for inclement weather, vacation or illness will not be made up.

ACTIVITY FEE

An annual activity fee of **\$50 per preschool student** is assessed. This fee pays for the tote bag, school parties, special events, in-house field trips and general supplies (crayons, markers, glue, etc.). It is payable at the beginning of the school year.

The Preschool offers our own personalized tote bags. These totes have been designed and specially made to hold the large paper we use and other items, such as lunches, therefore, we ask that your child bring their tote bag each day (avoid using backpacks, please).

PROGRAM INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

Preschool Classes

Classes offered are based on enrollment demand. Class placement is determined by child's age on or before September 30th of the program year:

- 1's Class
Children must turn 1 year of age on or before September 30th of the program year and must be walking on their own
- 2's Class
Children must turn 2 years of age on or before September 30th of the program year
- 3's Class
Children must turn 3 years of age on or before September 30th of the program year and must be potty trained.
- 4's Class
Children must turn 4 years of age on or before September 30th of the program year and must be potty trained.
- Junior Kindergarten Class
Children must turn 5 years of age on or before September 30th of the program year and must be potty trained.

Extended Day Opportunities:

SonRise Monday- Friday (8:00am-9:00am):

Optional program with an extra charge of \$12 per day. SonRise is available to all students in our 3-year-old class and above.

Lunch Bunch Monday- Thursday (12:00pm-1:00pm):

An optional extended day opportunity available to all students in our 3-year-old class and above. Lunch is brought from home. Extra charge of \$12 per day.

CURRICULUM

Trinity Preschool curriculum incorporates the Handwriting Without Tears Program (www.lwtears.com), using manipulatives to engage students in multisensory learning.

In addition, children are introduced to age-appropriate STREAM (Sciences, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art, Math) activities throughout the week in each classroom. The following are a few examples of what may be included.

Science: Exploration of the natural world and our environment; weather observations and experiments; age-appropriate science experiments; observations of physical and chemical changes.

Technology: Exploring and utilizing tools; creation and use of simple machines such as balance scales; some use of electronic media as supplements or extensions of lessons.

Religion: Weekly Bible stories ("Living the Word" Curriculum) are taught along with supplemental activities.

Engineering: Planning and building structures using blocks and other materials; experimenting with different designs of "boats" to determine which design holds largest weight afloat; collaborating with other students to solve problems;" fix" items such as dismantled toys.

Art: Creative exploration is all about the process, not the product. We support open-ended art with various materials available. Each child is encouraged to explore and experiment with the materials to create what pleases them. Music is also a part of our daily routines, often including fingerplays or whole-body movement.

Math: Math is integrated into many of our activities, such as sorting and classifying, measuring or weighing, comparing and contrasting items or information, and charting or graphing our results. The rhythm and counting during music also aid in numeric awareness.

WITHDRAWAL

The May pre-payment will be refunded for withdrawal when one of the following conditions is met:

- Withdrawal is due to relocating out of the Metro St. Louis area.
- Withdrawal is due to the child's educational needs being met by Rockwood or Parkway school districts' special education departments. Written proof of testing is required.

SONRISE & LUNCH BUNCH

Both our Lunch Bunch & SonRise programs are offered every day for students in our 3-year-old class and above. We have two sessions during the school year: Fall and Spring. Sign-ups are prior to the beginning of the session and the number of children accepted for each session is limited. The dates are predetermined and published before sign-up.

SonRise begins at 8:00 AM and children are then escorted to their classroom to begin their school day at 9:00 AM. This is an optional program with an extra charge of \$12 per day.

The children who have signed up for the Lunch Bunch program bring their lunch (no peanut products) and stay until 1:00. This is an optional program with an extra charge of \$12 per day. Popcorn, whole grapes and hot dog slices are considered choking hazards and therefore they may not be sent in your child's lunch. Grapes may be cut in half and hot dogs quartered if you would like to send them in your child's lunch.

Drop-In Lunch Bunch:

Parents who do not have a permanent reservation in the Lunch Bunch Program, but who would like to use it occasionally, must call the Preschool Office by 8:30 a.m. for a reservation. Requests will be honored on a space available basis. The charge for "Drop-In" Lunch Bunch (\$15.00 per session) will be invoiced via Brightwheel.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

ARRIVAL: Parents will furnish the daily transportation to and from school. You may drop your child off at preschool between 9:00 to 9:10 and a staff member will make sure your child gets to his/her classroom. If you arrive after 9:10, please ring the doorbell to be let in to school so you can walk your child to class.

DISMISSAL: All parents will receive a carpool number. If at any time someone else will be picking up your child, please let us know via Brightwheel or in writing. **To make our carpool go quicker, we ask that, if at all possible, please use our carpool lane.**

If a child is late being picked up, a warning notice is sent home for the first offense. Any late pick-ups after, will incur a **\$10 late pick fee** added to your Brightwheel account.

MEDICAL & HEALTH POLICIES

Physical Exams & Immunizations

All children new to the program must submit a physical examination by a licensed physician (which includes a date and signature) within 30 days of the first day of school. The physical exam is good for the duration of your student's enrollment at Trinity Lutheran Preschool. The health form can be found on our website, www.tlc-preschool.com. All children must be **FULLY IMMUNIZED** and meet Missouri's immunization requirements prior to entering school.

We must receive updates of immunizations or any other information regarding health concerns.

Illness & Absenteeism

If a child has had a fever, diarrhea or vomiting, the child must be kept home at least 24 hours after the symptoms are gone. Please notify the director/teacher via Brightwheel if your child is sick and unable to come to school.

When a Preschooler becomes ill or injured at school and should be sent home, first the parents, then the persons listed on the Emergency Form will be called. Please help us keep our emergency information up to date by informing us when changes occur. The Missouri Department of Health requires us to contact you and have you pick your child up for the following symptoms:

- More than one (1) abnormally loose stool
- Red or blue in the face or makes a high-pitched croupy or whooping sound after coughing
- Difficult or rapid breathing
- Unusual spots or rashes
- Sore throat or swallowing difficulty
- An infected skin patch-crusty, bright yellow, dry or gummy, areas of the skin
- Unusually dark, tea-colored urine
- Fever over one hundred degrees Fahrenheit (100F) or higher
- Headache and stiff neck
- Vomiting
- Severe itching of the body or scalp or scratching of the scalp, which may be symptoms of lice or scabies

Fever

Students who have been absent from school because of an elevated temperature must be kept home until their temperature has been 99.6 or less for twenty-four (24) hours without fever reducing medication (acetaminophen, ibuprofen) before returning to school.

Communicable Diseases

Please notify the Trinity Preschool Office immediately if your child contracts a communicable disease or illness. This would include strep throat, chicken pox, head lice, ringworm, COVID-19, conjunctivitis, etc. We will notify parents of any communicable illness to which your child has been exposed. The state requires reporting of all communicable diseases to the Missouri Department of Health.

Medications

Trinity Staff are NOT permitted to give medication to students (this includes Benadryl, cough lozenges, eye drops, and ointments). NO medication may be kept in a child's backpack. If your child is in need of medication, please administer the medicine to your child prior to the beginning of the school day.

An inhaler or Epi-pen (we require the double pack) are the only exceptions. An Epi-pen is required for all Nut Allergies. These must be kept at the teacher's desk during the school year and must contain the child's name, instructions for use and a doctor's note.

POTTY TRAINING

The staff at Trinity Preschool completely support the parents' efforts in their child's potty-training process. While a group setting can provide the best kind of peer encouragement, it can also come with challenges in the process.

2-year-old class-A child may begin to attend class wearing underwear once the child has had consistent success with using the toilet at home. In addition, our staff will support and mimic any reward system used at home to ensure a positive experience.

3-year-old class-A child enrolled in our 3-year-old classes and above must be completely potty trained. We do not have the facilities or supplies required to change children in these classes.

To be considered completely potty trained a child must:

- No longer wear diapers or pull-ups
- Can tell the teacher when they need to go to the bathroom and can attend to his/her own hygiene (including wiping following a bowel movement)

While potty training, we realize that "accidents" will happen. "Accidents" by definition are unusual incidents and should only happen infrequently. However, after the second bowel movement accident, we will contact the parent to pick up their child or come in to change their child while at school.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Each child must also have an emergency procedure form on file. ***It is absolutely necessary to notify the Preschool of any changes, especially telephone numbers, emergency contacts, or addresses during the school year.***

Accidents/Emergencies

Trinity Preschool Staff are required to have been certified in Infant/Child CPR. We update our certification every two years.

For minor accidents, first aid treatment will be administered. This treatment will consist of cleansing wounds with soap and water; band-aids; and application of cold packs. An incident report will be completed. Parents will be notified by phone, Brightwheel or in writing, depending upon the nature of the child's condition.

In accidents of a more serious nature, first aid will be administered, parents immediately contacted, and an incident report completed. Parents may be called to the preschool to make a personal assessment of the situation.

In a medical emergency which is life threatening, a 911 call will be dispatched, CPR/First Aid will be administered, and immediate efforts to contact parents will be made. If parents do not arrive to accompany emergency personnel to a medical facility, a staff member will go along if necessary. The cost of medical attention and ambulance are the responsibility of the parents. It is essential for the welfare of the child that the school be informed and given appropriate emergency phone numbers when the parents are out of town.

Weather/Disaster Emergencies

The emergency procedures for tornado/severe weather conditions and the fire evacuation route are posted in each classroom and in the gym. In the event of an actual emergency, you will be contacted by telephone/Brightwheel and given further instructions on necessary actions. Please make sure that the preschool office has a current telephone number on file for you and your family at ALL times.

Drills are done regularly with the children, and they are instructed what will take place in case of an emergency.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Notices of days off due to holidays or conferences are sent home in advance of these activities. A calendar of these days off can be found on our website: www.tlc-preschool.org. Please read your monthly newsletter and/or Brightwheel for an update on these events.

Trinity Lutheran Preschool follows the Parkway K-12 schedule except as noted. When Parkway is closed, we are closed. Parkway school closings are announced on major TV or radio stations and are listed on the internet. There is no tuition discount for cancelled classes.

TRINITY PRESCHOOL BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT POLICY

We believe that children learn best through experiences. We believe that the teachers must lovingly guide and redirect the children to help them learn to cooperate with their peers, to have a positive educational experience, and to encourage and enhance their growth and development in our care. We believe that we can best accomplish this by:

1. Having a variety of activities for the children.
2. Limiting the number of children in each area of the room to avoid overcrowding and to allow for sufficient use of materials.
3. Speaking with a child if their behavior is inappropriate for the area or materials that they are using, i.e., "we take the blocks down this way".
4. Using positive language with the children.

After using the above techniques, if the child is having a problem cooperating in an area of the room, he/she will be asked to go to another area for a set time. If the problem still persists, the child will be asked to take time to think about what happened. The teacher will then talk with the child to find better solutions to handle a problem in the classroom. If incidents repeat, an informal conference to notify the parents and to enlist their assistance in working with their child.

Children with consistent difficulties are taken through the above procedures, and the parents are counseled. If necessary, the child could be dismissed from the program. This is seriously considered when the health, safety, and welfare of this child and/or another child or the children of the group are at risk.

We try to be as consistent as possible with our classroom rules so that the children will know what is expected of them. We find that this helps the children and leads to their success.

Biting/Physical Aggression

Please be aware that biting is a common behavior in young children. Understanding why it happens will help but will not prevent its occurrence. Children bite for many reasons: relief from the pain and discomfort of teething; frustration compounded by undeveloped language skills; immature social skills, lack of impulse control and reasoning abilities for handling conflict. The majority of biting occurs in the toddler age group. When a child bites, we:

- Let the child know that biting is unacceptable by voice and facial expression, and calmly communicate and suggest alternatives.
- Focus attention on the victim by comforting and sympathizing with the child. Allow the biter to console the victim.
- Encourage the victim to express feelings about being bitten.

The appropriate first aid treatment is administered, and parents of biter and victim are notified of the incident by phone or on the written daily report. For reasons of confidentiality, staff cannot divulge the names of the children involved.

GENERAL POLICIES

Clothing

All children should be dressed in washable play clothes appropriate for the weather, art activities, and physical play. Dress your child so he/she can go to the bathroom easily. Sturdy shoes, preferably tennis shoes, must be worn at all times. WARM clothing (including hats and mittens) is recommended for outdoor play in cold weather. Please permanently mark all clothing with both first and last name. This includes hats, gloves, jackets, etc.

Personal Items

Trinity Preschool does not assume responsibility for loss or damage of personal items. Therefore, we ask that you do not allow your child to wear or bring items of value to preschool. The preschool supplies an adequate number of appropriate toys for each classroom. We **strongly discourage children from bringing personal items/toys from home** (unless for a school activity), as they can be easily lost, broken, or create dissension among playmates.

Communication

We feel that communication with the parents of our children is extremely important. Our main form of communication will be through the Brightwheel App. In addition, you may refer to the following for information:

1. Parent Handbook (can be found on our website)
2. School Calendar
3. Monthly newsletter from the Director & Classroom Teacher
4. Trinity Preschool website – www.tlc-preschool.org

Please call the Preschool Office with any questions at 636-227-5720. If we are out of the office when you call, please leave a voice mail and your call will be returned as soon as possible. You may also contact Christy Cole via e-mail at: Director@tlc-preschool.org This site is checked on a regular basis.

Conferences

Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences are optional and are only scheduled at the request of either the parent or the teacher. Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for every student. (There will be no school that day so that teachers are available to meet with parents.) Additional conference times can be scheduled at either the parent's or teacher's request. Please do not try to have a conference with your child's teacher during classroom time or while dropping off/picking up your child. Instead, contact your child's teacher via Brightwheel to discuss any concerns.

Solicitations

Birthday invitations are NOT to be distributed at school unless the entire class has been invited.

Book Orders

Book order forms will be sent home monthly from Scholastic Book Club. This is an optional service. While it is not a fundraiser for the school, the teachers can order books or other classroom equipment with points from the order. Checks must accompany the order and be made payable to "Scholastic", or you can order online by going to www.scholastic.com/bookclubs and use our code: **LFRT9**. The books are sent home with the children.

In-House Field Trips

Due to current seat belt recommendations, we do not take any school-sponsored field trips. Instead, we ask various individuals and organizations to make presentations of interest at school. **If you or someone you know is involved in an activity which would be of interest to our students and are willing to make a presentation, please contact the Preschool Director, Christy Cole.**

Snacks

All students will bring their own individual snack each day and a water cup with a lid with their name clearly written on it. **Due to allergies, please do not send items containing peanuts or tree nuts.**

A child may choose to bring in a birthday snack for his/her birthday. Please coordinate the birthday snack with your child's teacher. **Per the Health Department, only commercially made foods can be served for snacks. If you send a home-baked item, or an opened package, we will have to return it unused.**

Only in the One and Two-Year old Classes: The children will take turns providing daily snacks. A snack calendar with your child's assigned snack day will be sent home at the end of every month.

NOTE: Please note Trinity Preschool's goal is to ensure the safety of all children. We do have children enrolled with severe peanut/ tree nut allergies, because we want to ensure that all children are safe, we require that no peanut/ tree nut products, and/or food that has been processed with peanuts/ tree nuts be sent to Trinity Preschool.

Tote Bags

Please have your child bring their tote bag each time they come to school. We ask that you check the bags regularly for important information. **Please do not send backpacks** as many of the children have trouble with the zippers, and our large paper doesn't fit well when we send artwork home.

ONE-YEAR-OLD PROGRAM

The one-year-old program recognizes and respects the individual rate of development of each child and is committed to assisting the child to grow and develop.

- I. Language Development
 1. Says at least two words together, like "More milk."
 2. Follows one-step directions without any gestures
 3. Points to at least two body parts you name like nose or toes
 4. Uses more gestures than just waving and pointing, like blowing a kiss or nodding yes
 5. Points to things in a book when you ask, like "Where is the bear?"
- II. Social and Emotional Growth
 1. Points to show you something interesting
 2. Put hands out for you to wash them
 3. Looks at a few pages in a book with you
 4. Developing self-confidence with separation from parent
- III. Motor Activity
 1. Walks without holding on to anyone or anything
 2. Climbs on and off a chair without help
 3. Follows movements to music
- IV. Fine Motor
 1. Holds something in one hand while using the other hand, for example, holding a crayon box and taking out a crayon.
 2. Drinks from a cup without a lid
 3. Feed themselves with their fingers.
 4. Tries to use a spoon.
 5. Tries to use switches, knobs or buttons on a toy.

TWO-YEAR-OLD PROGRAM

The two-year-old program recognizes and respects the individual rate of development of each child and is committed to assisting the child to grow. Each child is unique and special and, therefore, develops at his/her own rate. Expect to see big things happening with gross motor skills, fine motor skills, and social/language development.

- I. Language Development
 1. Uses language to express needs/resolves issues with peers
 2. Makes eye contact when name is called
 3. Recognition of names—own, classmates, and teachers
 4. Listens and follows simple one step directions
 5. Initiates conversation with peers
 6. Points to things in a book
- II. Math and Science
 1. Rote counting 1-5.
 2. Basic shapes
 3. Shape matching.
 4. Basic colors
 5. Color matching.
 6. Spatial words: up/down, over/under, in/out
- III. Social and Emotional Growth
 1. Developing self-confidence with separation from parent
 2. Developing a positive relationship with peers
 3. Is comfortable with school routine and transitions
 4. Demonstrates increased attention span
- IV. Motor Activity
 1. Stands on one foot.
 2. Rolls a ball.
 3. Rides a tricycle with feet on ground first, working towards using pedals.
 4. Follows movements to music.
- V. Fine Motor
 1. Enjoys painting.
 2. Places pegs in a pegboard
 3. Draws a vertical line.
 4. Holds a crayon without a full fist grip.

THREE-YEAR OLD PROGRAM

The three-year-old program creates a positive foundation to meet the needs of the total child for present and future years of educational experiences. A variety of learning centers are provided to meet the unique characteristics of each child within the program. The curriculum is designed to develop language, cognitive abilities, fine and gross motor skills, and social, emotional, and spiritual awareness in each child. Utilizing theme units, the children are guided through self-selection and teacher-directed activities. A variety of manipulatives are available in each classroom.

- I. Language Development
 1. Follows simple directions
 2. Engages in simple conversation
 3. Verbalizes wants and needs
 4. Is able to use whole sentences
 5. Listens to simple stories, songs, and finger plays
 6. Recites or sings songs, rhymes, and finger plays
 7. Asks many "why" questions
 8. Recognizes some letters of first name in print
- II. Math and Science
 1. Recognizes some shapes
 2. Sorts by size or color
 3. Indicates an awareness of numbers
 4. Is curious about the natural environment
 5. Begins to develop powers of observation
- III. Social and Emotional Growth
 1. Is eager to include self in the group
 2. Begins to share and take turns
 3. Responds agreeably to suggestions of adults
 4. Is sensitive to the needs of other children
 5. Participates in clean up
- IV. Motor Activity
 1. Plays at ease on playground equipment
 2. Catches and kicks a large ball
 3. Climbs stairs easily
 4. Is learning to hop
- V. Fine Motor
 1. Enjoys painting
 2. Is beginning to use scissors
 3. Attempts to draw a person

FOUR-YEAR OLD CURRIULUM

Building on the basic philosophy of the three-year-old program, the four-year-old program utilizes small and large group activities to develop reading readiness skills, problem solving, and science awareness. Creativity is encouraged through art projects and centers. Language development and auditory skills are further developed.

- I. Language
 1. Follows simple directions
 2. Begins to use complex sentences
 3. Enjoys looking at books and having them read
 4. Asks questions for information
 5. Uses many descriptive words
 6. Recognizes printed name
- II. Math and Science
 1. Recognizes basic shapes
 2. Recognizes colors
 3. Uses counting skills and recognizes numbers 1-20
 4. Is starting to compare quantities and sizes
 5. Is aware of body parts
 6. Knows the seasons
- III. Social and Emotional
 1. Separates from parent easily
 2. Develops friendships
 3. Shares and cooperates with others
 4. Shows sympathy toward others
 5. Makes smooth transitions from one activity to another
 6. Is able to wait for his/her turn
 7. Develops a respect for others and their property
 8. Participates in clean up
 9. Stays with a task for a reasonable amount of time
- IV. Motor Activity
 1. Plays comfortably on playground equipment
 2. Pedals a tricycle
 3. Is able to catch, throw, bounce, and kick a large ball
 4. Hops on each foot
 5. Alternates feet when ascending/descending stairs
- V. Fine Motor
 1. Enjoys painting and using markers
 2. Is able to use scissors to cut a straight line
 3. Builds structures with blocks
 4. Draws a person with four or more body parts
 5. Prints first name and some letters

FIVE-YEAR OLD PROGRAM

It is the goal of our Junior Kindergarten Program to provide opportunities and resources for the children to experiment, discover, dream, imagine, and express original ideas. The program also develops oral language and self-expression through conversation, singing and sharing. The children will learn to express themselves freely through a wide variety of media and will grow in the ability to initiate, think, judge, and evaluate.

- I. Language
 1. Follows more complex directions
 2. Enjoys books and can retell simple stories
 3. Understands sequence
 4. Expresses feelings and needs verbally to other children and adults
 5. Recognizes most upper case and many lower-case letters
 6. Has the concept of beginning, middle, and end
 7. Participates in discussions and dramatizations
- II. Math and Science
 1. Counting skills improve
 2. Sorts by size, shape, or color
 3. Begins "measuring" skills - i.e. in cooking
 4. Is able to classify simple objects
 5. Uses reasoning to problem solve
 6. Recognizes numerals 1-20
- III. Social and Emotional
 1. Plays comfortably in a group or alone
 2. Is able to share and waits for turn
 3. Shows evidence of self-control
 4. Begins to handle frustration appropriately
 5. Takes responsibility for own belongings
 6. Works independently
 7. Attempts to solve own problems, asks for help when needed
 8. Stays with a task for a reasonable amount of time
 9. Is able to share the teacher's attention
- IV. Motor Activity
 1. Runs, jumps, and climbs with ease
 2. Is able to throw, catch, bounce, and kick a large ball
 3. Is able to gallop
 4. Walks on a balance beam
- V. Fine Motor
 1. Shows consistent handedness
 2. Can copy a circle, triangle, and cross
 3. Beginning to use scissors effectively
 4. Prints first name
 5. Manipulates puzzles, peg boards, and lacing effectively
 6. Draws a person with recognizable body parts