



ST. NORBERT SCHOOL

4 Year Old Junior Kindergarten

Curriculum Guide

2019-20



ST. NORBERT SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

We hope you find this Curriculum Guide helpful! The guide is meant to give you an overview of what your child will be learning at his/her grade level. This overview will assist you when having conversations about classroom work with your child's teacher and when reinforcing learning concepts at home with your child.

We invite you to contact your child's teacher with any questions throughout the year. We look forward to a successful partnership to enhance each student's knowledge.

God Bless,

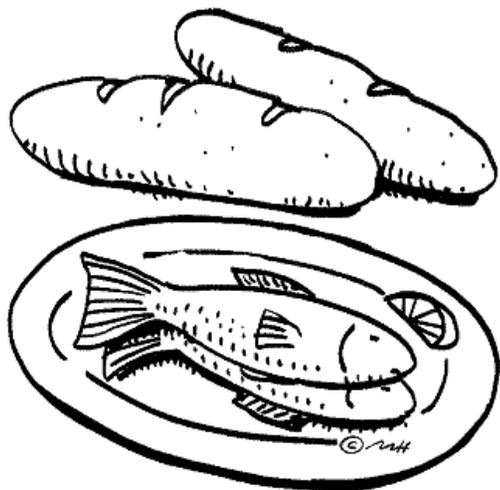
St. Norbert School Staff

RELIGION

True to our Catholic identity, children learn prayers, scripture stories, and understand the meaning of religious holidays. Bible stories are enhanced through art projects and songs. The importance of caring for others and treating others with respect and kindness is emphasized as it is basic to our faith.

By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

- recite events, characters and stories from the Bible
- describe stories of God as the creator and Jesus as his son
- describe prayer as talking and listening to God
- explain the celebrations of the church
- describe the church as a place of prayer
- demonstrate love for all God's creations through kind and loving acts



LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts explores the beginning steps of basic reading and writing in order to communicate for a variety of purposes. Reading, letter knowledge, and writing are the main literacy components. The Junior Kindergarten has implemented the reading series "Happily Ever After". The series includes books, music, and interactive games that foster the love of literacy and learning.

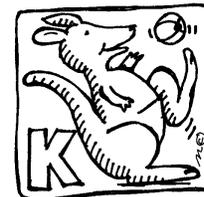
By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

Reading Comprehension and Language

- actively engage in group reading activities
- relate illustrations or other graphics to the words in a text as part of making meaning
- independently interact with books and other texts

Letter Knowledge and Phonological Awareness

- identify upper and lowercase letters, including those found in their name
- demonstrate letter-sounds relationship
- imitate rhythm/rhyme patterns
- express phonological awareness through the use of rhyming activities
- identify labels and signs in the environment



Writing

- write uppercase and lowercase letters
- understand the basic features of print (left to right, top to bottom)
- use drawings, letters, and words to communicate
- add drawings to writing to give additional detail

MATHEMATICS

Students participate in a variety of activities that strengthen their knowledge of key concepts and build their math-thinking processes. Opportunities are provided to: problem solve, use manipulatives, and learn math vocabulary. Learning through everyday experiences and content area lessons are the main focus.

By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

Counting and Cardinality

- count to 20 by ones
- identify numbers from 1-20
- write numbers from 1-10
- count sets of 1-20 objects
- understand the relationship between numbers and quantities; connect counting to cardinality.
- compare two sets of objects to identify greater than, less than, or equal



Operations and Algebraic Thinking

- solve simple mathematical problems

Measurement and Data

- describe measurable attributes of objects
- compare objects and describes differences
- make predictions about what will happen next

Geometry

- name the shape of two- and three-dimensional objects
- describe the relative position of objects in the environment
- use informal language to compare shapes

SCIENCE

In Science, students begin to explore the process of scientific inquiry, develop fundamental knowledge, and learn science vocabulary. Students are provided with opportunities for exploration using science tools and materials during free play and at the science table. Learning science through math and literacy is the main focus.

By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

Scientific Inquiry

- use the senses to explore and observe materials and natural phenomena

Technology

- become familiar with the use of devices incorporating technology

Life Science

- show an awareness of changes that occur in themselves and their environment
- describe and compares basic needs of living things

Physical Science

- make comparisons among objects that have been observed

Earth Science

- use common weather-related vocabulary
- identify types of weather such as sunny, rainy, cloudy, snowy and windy
- identify basic changes in the natural environment



SOCIAL STUDIES

Students learn a basic understanding of the United States and the community in which we live. Real life experiences are used to explain many of the concepts that are studied. Nature walks, circle time, field trips and community members visiting the classroom help the students gain a better understanding of the world around them.

By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

- describe rules that help children treat each other fairly
- show awareness of time and how the past influences our lives
- describe how people live together in communities
- describe a community and family tradition



SPANISH

Starting to learn a new language at a young age can be very beneficial to children. In class, students will speak almost exclusively in Spanish allowing them to develop an ear for the language. Basic vocabulary is taught and reinforced through songs and hands-on activities.

By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

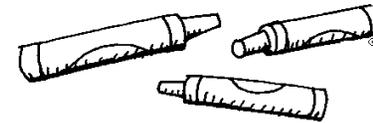
- count to 10
- introduce themselves
- ask others their age and name
- respond to the questions of other students
- recognize colors
- talk about feelings (such as cold, hot, or hungry)

ART

Students will learn to identify the elements of art: line, space, color, and then become familiar with a variety of media and tools and how to use them. Students will begin to use more original art expression while increasing their confidence with various tools, and demonstrating the use of elements of art.

By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

- integrate line, shapes, and colors with appropriate use of tools to create a variety of art expressions



MUSIC

Through music, students will learn about the world around them and various cultures. Students will build basic musical skills in the classroom and demonstrate them in school performances such as the Christmas play.

By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

- know the names of various instruments, how they sound, and how they are played
- identify and play classroom instruments with correct technique
- echo a steady beat and simple rhythms
- sing simple melodies using solfege

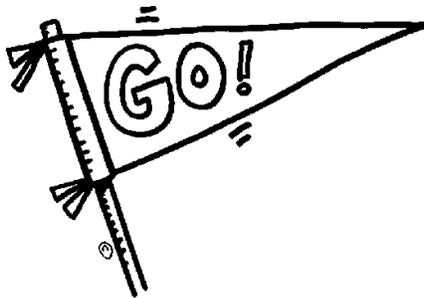


PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The purpose of Physical Education in Junior Kindergarten is to promote physical activity in a fun and meaningful way. Students learn basic ways to protect their own health as well as understand that physical activity is an important part of staying healthy.

By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

- participate in a variety of age appropriate games, sports, and health-related fitness activities
- demonstrate good sportsmanship
- demonstrate the ability to work cooperatively with a partner or small group during physical activity
- follow specific rules and directions in order to successfully participate in activities
- distinguish between healthy and unhealthy foods



SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (S.E.L.)

Many key sets of skills and behaviors provide a strong foundation for achieving success in school and in life. One skill is knowing emotions, how to manage them, and ways to express them constructively. Another skill is building and maintaining positive relationships with others and contributing to the well-being of a school. These skills help all students learn to recognize the feelings and perspectives of others.

By the end of Junior Kindergarten students will be able to...

Self-Awareness and Self-Management Skills

- recognize and accurately label emotions
- demonstrate control of impulsive behavior
- identify one's likes and dislikes, needs and wants, and strengths and challenges
- identify family, peer, school, and community strengths
- identify goals for academic success and classroom behavior



Social Awareness and Interpersonal Skills

- recognize that others may experience situations differently
- use listening skills to identify the feelings and perspectives of others
- describe the ways that people are similar and different
- describe positive qualities in others
- identify ways to work and play well with others
- demonstrate appropriate social and classroom behavior
- identify problems and conflicts commonly experienced by peers
- identify approaches to resolving conflicts constructively

Decision-Making Skills and Responsible Behavior

- identify a range of decisions that students make at school
- make positive choices when interacting with classmates

The mission of St. Norbert School
is to find God in all things through
learning, faith, and service.



ST. NORBERT SCHOOL

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