

KINDERGARTEN AT ST. PAUL

Curriculum Summary

Welcome to St. Paul's Kindergarten

Welcome to St. Paul Elementary School! Our early elementary students are offered an exciting, engaging curriculum that lays a solid foundation in all subject areas. Students explore and discover as they develop a love and passion for learning. Early elementary students also engage in a variety of additional classes including technology, Spanish, music, gym and library. The following sheets describe the curriculum for kindergarten. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like more information.

The St. Paul School Kindergarten curriculum and classroom environment take into account the strengths, interests, needs, and cultural backgrounds of all children. Our developmentally appropriate program offers experiences, materials, and interactions that are safe, healthy, interesting, achievable, and challenging to kindergarten aged children.

The outcomes listed below reflect the grade level expectations (as defined by the *Michigan Curriculum Framework* and the *Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*) that will move your child toward achieving the Michigan elementary content standards and more by the end of fifth grade.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our kindergarten teachers or our director of admissions. The teacher will be working together with you to provide your child with a meaningful, positive kindergarten year.



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Math

Students explore everyday uses of math as they begin to explore temperature, time and calendars. Manipulatives are used to increase awareness of sets, sizes, and shapes. They are also used to sort and classify. Counting and understanding of numbers increases students' ability to write and recite numbers and group them into sets. Making and recognizing patterns is an integral part of kindergarten math. The concept of measurement is introduced using non-standard units. Simple addition and subtraction skills are introduced and developed.

Language Arts

A phonetic approach to language helps students in their developmental stages of reading readiness. As students participate in active listening and speaking, they involve themselves both emotionally and intellectually in the learning process. Expression of ideas is in the form of role-playing, retelling, or illustrating. Students listen to a wide variety of children's literature, including selections from classic and contemporary works, both fiction and non-fiction. Students develop a love for reading books. Expressive writing is introduced and modeled. Journaling helps to bring the reading and writing process together.

Handwriting

Students will recognize and reproduce capital and lower case manuscript letters and numerals correctly. Proper posture, pencil grip, and paper positioning will be taught to ensure good writing habits. Spacing between letters will be introduced. Self-evaluation of written work begins at this age.

Religion

Wanting to please God because of the love and trust they have for Him, the students eagerly learn to pray their own prayers, whether memorized or spontaneous. They learn how God makes them his children through Baptism. Students learn about sin and why Jesus died for everyone. They feel a sense of belonging with others in church as they worship together. Students gain an appreciation of the liturgical seasons. Students learn some short Bible passages and songs by heart.

Social Studies

As students observe what is around them everyday, they learn more about God's world. They begin to understand more about sequencing events and time which will aid them in future learning. Working together and independently helps them foster an appreciation for becoming a part of the class and school communities. Students also enjoy learning about the world around them by studying topics like transportation, community helpers as well as different family traditions and customs from around the world.

Technology

Students are introduced to a variety of skills related to computer use. They spend part of their library time in technology instruction, learning to use technology and using technology to learn. Technology is used regularly in the classroom and the children participate in the use of this technology.

Science

Students begin to look at caring for God's creation. They learn how plants and seeds grow. They observe weather and its effects that bring about seasonal changes. Their inquisitive minds are eager to learn more in explorative ways as they compare items through scientific experiments. They learn to classify animals such as mammals, birds, fish and reptiles and are intrigued about their habitats. Students learn more about themselves by exploring their five senses.

Music

Rhythm continues to be fun for this age. Students can echo rhythm, clap, or beat to different tempos. Some attention is given to melody and the range of notes as they go up or down. They enjoy accompanying with instruments and moving while singing.

Physical Education

The student will be able to understand that being physically active is healthy, demonstrate an active level of participation during physical activities, and execute several flexibility exercises on their own. Cooperation and being responsible for themselves is fostered by group play. Age appropriate skills such as balancing, bouncing, passing, and kicking large balls are practiced.

