

## **Early Childhood Curriculum: Kindergarten**

Holy Family Catholic School provides a full day program. A foundation of successful schooling is formed during the kindergarten year through the development of positive attitudes and learning habits. Kindergarteners are active participants in our weekly liturgies and learn through essential common core standards.

## **Religion**

Kindergarteners learn about their Catholic faith through prayer circles, Scripture stories, musical and artistic activities, discussion and reflection, and weekly liturgies.

## **English Language Arts**

The Language Arts program is all encompassing and includes reading, phonics, writing, speaking, listening, and the study of literature. The components of the program emphasize the development of those skills that allow students to read with fluency, comprehend and interpret written materials, apply correct spelling, grammar, and phonemic awareness, communicate well, and listen and speak effectively. The skills acquired and understood are applied and reinforced in all content areas.

### *Reading*

Students experience different genres such as poetry, folktales, informational literacy, and fantasies. Reading fluency will develop and improve as students are presented with the following skills throughout the year:

- Linking spoken and written languages
- Using word identification strategies
- Developing vocabulary (listening and sight)
- Using structural analysis
- Comprehending the main idea
- Sequencing events of a story
- Analyzing details
- Using illustrations as context clues
- Retell familiar stories
- Identify basic features of a book
- Rhyme
- Compare and contrast characters and stories

### *Writing*

Students will use writing to convey thoughts and meaning. Our students will write legibly using words and pictures to convey thoughts, write simple sentences, apply spelling knowledge and phonetic patterns. In addition, basic grammar and mechanics will be used (basic capitalization, proper spacing, basic punctuation, and forming letters correctly).

### *Speaking and Listening*

Students will listen for understanding, follow directions and respond appropriately to the speaker. Students will use acquired language and vocabulary to express opinions.

Students will participate in class discussions, recall and retell stories, and use their own illustrations to explain personal overall comprehension.

## **Mathematics**

Kindergarten students acquire a knowledge of mathematics and the ability to apply math skills and to solve math problems. Our kindergarten students will:

- Identify, write and order numbers from 0-100 (counting up and down)
- Add and subtract numbers up to 10
- Use grouping and regrouping
- Solve simple word problems
- Chart, compare and graph data
- Measure/compare length and weight
- Use a calendar
- Use a clock to determine time to the hour
- Identify monetary values
- Identify patterns
- Complete a hundred chart
- Identify and describe characteristics of shapes
- Use manipulatives to solve for an unknown
- Use ordinal numbers for position
- Sort and classify objects
- Identify position and location of a given object
- Compare numbers to 10
- Skip count by 2's, 5's, and 10's
- Count to 20 to tell the number of objects
- Fluently add and subtract within 5

## **Science**

Kindergarteners will use concrete, hands-on experiences to understand science in the physical and natural world around them. They learn through observing, predicting, questioning, and explaining.

Our students will study:

- Weather and seasons
- Five senses
- Animals (Complete an animal report/visit Brookfield Zoo)
- Healthy body
- Plant growth
- Motion
- Farms (Visit a Pumpkin Farm)
- Our Earth
- Motion

## **Social Studies**

Kindergarten students will develop an awareness of communities and people around them. The focus will be:

- Traditions from different countries (Visit the Museum of Science and Industry)
- Families
- Safety
- Neighborhoods/Communities
- Why we Work
- Holidays/Celebrations
- Getting Along Together

## **Physical Education**

In kindergarten, our students learn and explore factors that affect a healthy lifestyle. Students will maintain personal fitness, acquire an awareness of personal health needs, demonstrate and build gross motor skills, and participate in cooperative group games.

## **Art**

In kindergarten, the students will have the opportunity to express themselves in various art forms.

## **Technology**

Our kindergarten students visit the technology lab and use websites for reinforcement of classroom lessons. They will recognize basic computer components and be comfortable using them. In the classroom, students get the opportunity to use a SMART Board and iPads.

## **Library**

Kindergarten students will use the school library and locate books of interest to be checked out each week.