

Holy Cross Preschool /Pre-K Curriculum



Holy Cross Preschool believes that each child has the ability to strive and challenge themselves through curriculum that is developmentally appropriate, engaging and unique to meet each child's social, emotional, physical, cognitive and spiritual development. Our staff provides a safe and supportive place that encourages open communication and the ability for children to express their feelings and work on their problem solving skills. Holy Cross Preschool acknowledges the importance of Kindergarten Readiness to provide a strong foundation. In doing so, we separate our Pre-K and Preschoolers to focus on the necessary skills to make them successful.

We believe if you foster a child's love of Jesus at an early age, it will help nourish spiritual growth and establish strong values throughout their life. We provide daily prayer and weekly religious education through the love of God, family and caring for others. Holy Cross Preschool provides our students with a strong foundation of faith, while preparing them to continue their education at Holy Cross School.

- ***Religion/Spiritual Development***-The religion curriculum we use is "Pflaum Gospel Weeklies" and the workbook "What

the Church Believes and Teaches.” The program provides weekly stories, exercises; activities, reflections and prayers that develop an awareness of God’s love through our everyday actions. The Pre-K students will participate in school-wide prayer services and liturgies in the church as well as celebrating special feast days.

- *Language Arts*- Our language arts curriculum includes a themed/phonic based approach. We provide many opportunities to incorporate alphabet recognition and phonemic awareness throughout the child’s day. Activities include practice and reinforcement in recognizing and identifying letters, forming and writing the uppercase and lowercase letters. We also integrate the 5day read aloud to promote early literacy in young children. The preschool also participates in the “Raising A Reader.” This is take-home book bag program that encourages families to read together.
- *Math*: Our math curriculum includes basic concepts through our everyday interactions with the class environment. We will explore “Number sense” concepts of numbers and their relationships development of counting skills. “Algebra and functions” concepts of classification and patterning. “Measurement” concepts of comparing, ordering, and measuring objects. “Geometry” concepts of shapes and spatial relationships. Experiences include developmentally appropriate and challenging materials throughout the classroom environment.
- *Science*- Our science curriculum includes hands on experiences in our preschool life lab. Science concepts and skills are incorporated in our themed units. We explore the weather, plants, animals, the seasons, environment and the world around us.
- *Art*- Our art activities include painting, drawing, gluing, cutting, and exploration of open-ended art activities. Art is integrated into all areas and there are many opportunities for self-directed projects.
- *Music/Movement*-The students will have the opportunity to participate in music in various ways. We sing religious, traditional, and nursery rhymes everyday in class. We also have ample times for movement games and physical exercise in our school gym.

- *Spanish*- The Preschool and Pre-K students will get Spanish twice a week. The children will learn greetings, counting, color words and names of animals. They will also learn songs and do activities to learn about the cultural traditions.
- *Social-Emotional Development*- We encourage a play-based active learning environment to allow for many opportunities to practice social interaction and relationship skills. We promote children's active involvement with activities, and materials that offer children opportunities for responsible and cooperative roles in the classroom. Teachers will observe children in their play, to understand each child's needs and interests to promote growth in their development.