

Saint Bernadette Catholic Academy



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PRESCHOOL 2011/2012 School Year

Dear Preschool Family,

My name is Sue Power and I will be your child's Preschool teacher this year. We have many fun and exciting things planned for your child throughout the year. Most of all we will have fun learning as we make new friendships while developing our social skills with each other. Since Preschool is the foundation of education, it is our job to lay the groundwork for the best possible learning environment.

A positive learning environment!

Saint Bernadette Preschoolers will know and learn about the importance of "Practicing Peace" daily. We promote peace in solving problems, expressing ourselves through words, and being respectful in our relationships with others. Children will learn to take turns, share, use gentle hands and voices, accept and celebrate differences, and show respect for others. Preschool should be a safe and happy environment where a child can feel ownership for his/her classroom and the decisions made within that classroom.

Social Skills & Self Discovery

We are dedicated to providing and monitoring various types of sensory and hands-on activities to encourage children to take responsibility for their own learning. Social skills, self-help skills, Religion, Math, Science, Pre-reading and Writing, Motor skills, and self-discovery are areas in which we will promote growth and understanding that is relevant to each individual child.

Multi-age Classroom

Preschool consists of three and four year old students together in one classroom. The goals for the individual age groups are different. The two ages co-exist together in one class and practice the same social behavior and "peace in preschool" motto. The students are grouped by age and ability for centers and schoolwork, but as the year progresses the groups change as the student's knowledge and ability grow.

Throughout the day we will cover Language Arts, Math, Religion, Social Studies, Science and many art projects:

- ❖ **Phonemic Awareness.** An auditory phonics learning system that begins in PRINT at the Kindergarten level. We INTRODUCE it in preschool and change the exercises to meet the goals of a three and four year old classroom!
- ❖ **Jolly Phonics.** Teaching of recognition, writing and sounds of the alphabet, through visual, auditory and kinesthetic practices!
- ❖ **Reading.** This year we are very excited to be adding a new reading series called "Treasures." This reading series is used in Kindergarten so it will be a great start for the children. "Treasures" will focus on a letter a week and a new theme each week.
- ❖ **Math.** Students grouped by age and ability level move through several different centers with Math concepts such as: Patterning, sorting, colors, shapes, number recognition, graphing, adding one, subtracting one, counting, sequence, and order. Centers consist of hands-on activities and one-on-one teacher student interaction. In addition to our Math Centers we will incorporate Saxon Math. This math program focuses on hands on learning, discussion and a worksheet to reinforce what we have learned.
- ❖ **Religion.** Finally, we will be using the "God Made Me," series for Religion. This series has all the components needed to nurture and enrich the faith and spiritual lives of children, ages three, four and five.



I am so looking forward to meeting you and your child and starting our year together.

Ms. Power