

## All-Day Academic Kindergarten:

### Math:

Text: Saxon Math

Our math series and instruction uses the guidelines from the Diocesan of Jefferson City Standards to build Kindergarteners' early math skills. Our goal is to set an early foundation for students by strengthening basic skills, which they can then expand upon. We focus on counting and identifying numerals from one to one hundred, matching sets of objects to their numerals, greater than, less than, shapes, basic addition, and subtraction concepts. We also supplement with other crucial math skills like money, time, graphing, and measuring. We use calendar time daily to build foundational skills in counting, addition, subtracting, and more topics. We use Promethean Boards, tablets, games, and many hands on manipulatives to reinforce math lessons.

### Reading:

Text: Saxon Reading

The Diocese of Jefferson City sets rigorous standards for reading and writing. Reading curriculum includes literature, comprehension, phonics, phonological awareness and vocabulary. Our lesson focus on phonemic awareness and this is supported with weekly readers.

### Religion:

Text: None

Religion is taught by Mrs. Bertsch, our Preschool Director. She gathers Kindergarten and Preschool together weekly for formal lessons on biblical stories from the Old and New Testament, as well as to discuss the teachings of our Lord. Religion is incorporated to daily lessons and the students work on developing and enhancing Christian behaviors of respect, friendship, and responsibility. We also attend all-school mass three times a week with 7<sup>th</sup> Grade buddies. Each morning, we pray together as a school by doing the Sign of the Cross followed by the Morning Offering. Students pray before and after meals, as well as at 2:00pm when the school participates in "Stop, drop and pray!" The students gather at dismissal to pray the Angel of God prayer before we dismiss for the day.

## **Science:**

Text: None

Our science curriculum is planned around inquiry-based learning. Students will focus on using STEM skills to think and act as scientists, mathematicians, and engineers. We use our current classroom themes to encourage children to ask questions about earth science, life science, and physical science. We explore various topics such as the five senses, the way things move, living vs. nonliving, space, and the human body.

## **Social Studies:**

Text: None

Social Studies units have a heavy focus on community and citizenship. We study church, school, community helpers, how we obtain and trade goods, government and diversity. We often have guest speakers join our class to teach us about their professions and how we can be safe in our community. We focus on acceptance of all people by exploring other communities and traditions in addition to our own.

## **Spelling and Handwriting:**

Text: None

Our curriculum incorporates the use of songs, dances, fine motor manipulatives (Play-Doh, etc.), wood pieces, and online apps. Each letter is introduced to the children as being made up of big lines, little lines, big curves, and little curves. The curriculum teaches all uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet according to the way they are formed. The curriculum also outlines lessons on writing, beginning with capitals, leaving spaces between words, and using punctuation correctly.

## **Enrichment Activities:**

We attend Music, Art, and Library once a week and Physical Education twice a week. Students have recess twice daily, as well as lunch and a small afternoon snack. Students also perform in the St. Joseph Christmas Concert and the Spring Concert.

# Highlights from Kindergarten 2022-2023

