

## **St. Brendan's Preschool Curriculum and Learning Goals**

We believe that all children are unique and develop and learn in different ways and at different paces. Children in our program will play and learn in an atmosphere which is rich in opportunities to explore and discover things with many hand-on and student directed activities. The staff at SBPS is committed each child's growth *and* wellbeing.

We combine the Georgia Early Learning Development Standards (GELDS), Georgia Pre-K Learning Goals and the Forsyth County Public Curriculum Guidelines to create our theme based curriculum standards. These guidelines are our minimum academic expectations for our students and many will far surpass these by the time they are ready to move on to elementary school. We pull from a variety of resources, including but not limited to Frontline Phonics, Handwriting without Tears, Teacherspayteachers, and of limitless on-line resources. Our MMO and two year old teachers create opportunities for the children to build on developmental milestones and exercise the fine and gross motor skills on a daily basis through play and planned lessons. The following is an example of the specific areas of development the teachers will focus on at St. Brendan's Preschool.

### Mathematical Development:

1. Children will classify or sequence objects or events by using one attribute at a time.
  - Children will manipulate objects through play to identify similarities and differences.
  - Children will sort and classify materials in more than one way.
  - Children will classify, sort, and sequence objects using their own criteria.
  - Children will be able to explain their classifying, sorting, or sequencing strategy.
2. Children will identify and create patterns.
  - Children will recognize copy, extend, and create patterns with objects and in drawings.
  - Children will participate in activities using materials with a variety of properties in identifying, extending, and creating patterns.
3. Children will develop an understanding of numbers.

- Children will participate in activities related to number sequencing and counting.
  - Children will manipulate a variety of objects and describe their observations about quantity and comparative relationships (more, less, same)
  - Children will participate in activities that attach numeral names, in order, to a series of objects in a group.
  - Children will participate in activities that associate numbers with objects.
4. Children will develop an awareness of simple time concepts.
- Children will recall past experiences
  - Children will start/stop an action on signal
  - Children will use terms such as before, after, yesterday, tomorrow, morning, afternoon, day and night appropriately
  - Children will experience/describe different rates of speed such as fast and slow
  - Children will participate in activities using a variety of time instruments.

#### Spiritual Development

1. Children will become familiar with some of the catechism of the Catholic Church as well as the virtues of a Catholic Christian person.
  - Children will be introduced to vocabulary that is used during mass and in the Bible.
  - Children will be taught the Our Father and Hail Mary prayers.
  - Children will be exposed to the miracles of Our Savior and learn that He is their friend.
  - Children will hear stories that confirm that The Holy Trinity is with us every day.
  - Children will visit our church and learn of its importance in our life.

#### Scientific Development:

1. Children will actively explore their environment.
  - Children will observe, compare, classify, measure, predict, hypothesize, and infer
  - Children will have opportunities to explore the world and materials around them, and share their findings with others through discussions, charts, graphs, etc.

- Children will participate in a variety of science experiences utilizing age appropriate scientific equipment and collections of materials

#### Creative Development:

1. Children will express their individuality through many types of representation including music, movement, drama, and art.
  - Children will participate in activities using objects as symbols for other things, such as a scarf to represent bird wings or a hoop to represent their house.-
  - Children will engage freely in dramatic play
2. Children will have opportunities to share what they have learned through drawings, constructions, discussions, making charts, etc.
  - Children will talk about their work with teachers and other children
  - As the year progresses, children will be involved in increasingly complex activities
3. Children will develop confidence and a positive self-concept as they engage in the creative process.
  - Children will display pride in their own creative work, and respect for the creative work of others.
  - Children will have daily opportunities to use different types of symbolic representation (art, print, drama, dance, construction) to express their own ideas
4. Children will acquire knowledge about the arts and artists.
  - Children will be exposed to a variety of art, music, literature and drama