



# St. Peter Catholic School

# Early Childhood Handbook

2019 - 2020



**“Let the children come to me and do not hinder them. It is to just such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs. I assure you that whoever does not accept the reign of God like a little child shall not take part in it. Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them. “**

**Mark 10:14-16**



## **OUR PURPOSE**

The St. Peter Catholic School early childhood education program exists to nurture all children in a loving Christ-centered and developmentally appropriate learning environment. We are committed to providing an education that enriches the spiritual, social, emotional, physical and academic growth of each child in an atmosphere that fosters uniqueness and positive self-esteem.

## **CURRICULUM GOALS**

The Early Childhood Programs (3K, 4K and 5K) are play based learning school experiences that balance academic and social developmental skills which build a foundation for subsequent years. We believe children learn better through active involvement with their environment. Our program ensures your child will have an easier transition from home to school, making their first school experience a successful and happy one.

The 3K program provides age-appropriate experiences in language, math, science, social studies, music and art. Children will discover letters, numbers, shapes, colors, as well as develop their small and gross motor skills. Each day includes time for center and creative play, large motor activity, snacks, socialization and faith sharing. Our children begin formal religious instruction within the 3K program.

The 4K program expands on the skills presented in the 3K program and children are introduced to a variety of pre-kindergarten reading and math readiness and writing skills. They continue to learn about Jesus through stories, songs, prayer and drama.

The 5K program continues to work on reading, writing and math skills through play based learning. Daily 5 reading and level books are introduced at this grade level.

All three programs will attend specials classes such as Spanish, art, music, physical education, computers and library. These classes are taught by other teachers. 5K attends Mass every week. 4K students attend Mass once a month and Holy Days. 3K students will attend prayer services and special mass days.

## **SCHEDULE**

For flexibility to meet the needs of a dynamic age, both our 3K and 4K programs are offered:

- 5 days all day (M-F)
- 5 half days in the morning (M- F)
- 3 days all day (M, W, F)
- 3 half days in the morning (M, W, F)
- 2 days all day (T and Th)
- 2 half days in the morning (T and Th)

5K program is all day Monday through Friday.

The half day schedule is 7:25 – 11:00 a.m. and the all day schedule is 7:25 a.m. – 2:25 p.m. The two, three or five day per week half day and all day format allows parents/guardians to assess the needs of their individual child and better provide them with a routine suited to their capabilities.

All three programs follow the school calendar. **Bussing is available for all day 5K and 4K students only.** For the half day students in 3K and 4K program, other transportation arrangements must be made at 11:00 a.m. **Bussing is not available for the 3K students, per bus company regulations.** If someone besides your child's regular means of transportation will be picking up, please send a note with your child.

### **ADMISSION**

Your child must be 3 years old on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> and have independent bathroom habits to enter the 3K program. Students entering 4K must be 4 years old on or before Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, in order to be eligible for the program. Students entering 5K must be 5 years old on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> to participate in the 5K program.

Proof of age is to be submitted at the time of registration. Students in both programs must have a current immunization record on file. Please send a copy of your child's birth certificate AND baptismal certificate to the school office by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Registration for the program begins annually in January and continues through the start of the new school year. Parents/Guardians are welcome to tour our school throughout the year by contacting our school principal.

### **SNACKS AND MILK (For Half Day and All Day Programs)**

Parents/Guardians will provide nutritious snacks for the entire class for the 3K and 4K programs. The 5K program, the students bring their own snacks. Please be sure to send along plates, as well as, forks/spoons, if necessary. Special treats may be sent for the child's birthday. Milk is provided to all children. Families will be billed a required milk fee to cover the cost of the snack milk. The milk fee will be determined at the beginning of each school year.

### **HOT LUNCH PROGRAM (For All Day students )**

- **Hot Lunch** – (optional) will be provided by the Slinger School District according to their schedule. Hot lunch must be paid for on a weekly or monthly basis. Cost of Hot Lunch and Milk will be determined at a later date.
- **Cold Lunch** - Milk is available for students bringing bag lunches or students wishing to purchase additional milk or snack milk. If a child forgets to bring a lunch and they are not previously scheduled for hot lunch, parents/guardians will be contacted to bring a lunch to school by 11 am
- All lunches brought to school by a child should be ready to eat. It is recommended that any foods intended to be eaten hot should come in a thermos to preserve heat. If needed, lunchroom volunteers and supervisors will be able to microwave food items - only for 30

seconds or less.

- **Refunds / Credits** – If a child is ill on a day that hot lunch or lunch milk was ordered and paid and the parent called the absence in by 7:45 am, the lunch or milk cost will be credited. No other refunds or credits will be issued.

### **RECESS**

The 3K and 4K students that are in the half day program will morning recess. The 3K, 4K, and 5K students that are in the all day program will also have recess before lunch.

### **REPORT CARDS**

The students will be assessing based on the Wisconsin Model of Early Learning Standards (WMELS). The assessment will be completed twice a year – January and June.

### **REST TIME**

The all-day students in the all day program will have rest time in the afternoon. The students should have a large bag to put their blanket/small sleeping bag and pillow (optional) for storage.

### **LABEL ITEMS**

Please label all items such as coats, school bags, boots, etc. with your child's name.

### **PARENT PARTICIPATION**

Parents/Guardians/Grandparents are welcome to visit us at any time. They are welcome to share a special talent or read a story. Please call ahead to plan your special time.

### **POSITIVE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE**

A newsletter describing the week's activities will be sent home every week. Encourage your child to tell you about the work he/she did and what they have learned new each day. Ask questions about the theme for the week. Help them communicate their thoughts in complete sentences. Knowing that you are interested in their day may help them remember the day's events more easily and it also makes them feel special.

### **TEACHER – CHILD RATIOS AND CLASS SIZE**

<b>Age of Children</b>	<b>Minimum Number of Teachers to Children</b>	<b>Maximum Number of Children in a Group</b>
3 years to 4 years	1:10	20
4 years to 5 years	1:13	24
5 years to 6 years	1:17	32
6 years and over	1:18	32

## **School Supply List**

Please label ALL items with student's name. All students will need a backpack, a set of headphones for technology class and an art smock (large old t-shirt)

### **3 Year Old Kindergarten**

- 1 Box of Crayola Crayons-Jumbo 8 Count
- 2 Large Glue Sticks
- 1 Pocket Folder with child's name
- 1 Package of Napkins
- 1 Roll of Paper Towel
- 2 Boxes of Dixie Paper Cups (5 oz)
- 2 Containers of Disinfecting Wipes
- 1 Containers of Hand Wipes
- 1 Container of Baby Wipes
- 1 small blanket, small sleeping bag or original NapMat  
(All day students only, name on mat and in a bag)
- Extra Change of Clothes in a gallon size Ziploc Bag (With child's name on it)

### **4 Year Old Kindergarten**

- 1 Box of Crayola Crayons – Jumbo 8 Count
- 1 Blunt End Fiskars Child's Scissors
- 2 Large Glue Sticks
- 1 Pocket Folder
- 1 Set of Watercolor Paints (8 count)
- 1 Package of Napkins
- 1 Roll of Paper Towels
- 2 Boxes of Dixie Paper Cups (5oz)
- 1 Container of Disinfecting Wipes
- 1 Containers of Hand Wipes
- 1 Container of Baby Wipes
- 1 small blanket, small sleeping bag or original NapMat
- Extra Change of Clothes in a gallon size Ziploc Bag (With child's name on it)

## **5 Year Old Kindergarten**

2 Boxes of Crayola Crayons – (24 count)

1 Blunt End Fiskars Child's Scissors

3 Small Glue Sticks

3 Elmer's School Glue

12 #2 Sharpened Pencils (5 sharpened)

1 Plastic Pocket Folder

2 Pocket Folders

2 Spiral Notebooks (Wide Ruled)

2 Crayola Markers - traditional colors

1 Crayola thin markers

1 Set of Crayola Watercolor Paints

2 Dry Erase Markers

1 Plastic Art Supply Box

2 Boxes of Facial Tissues

1 Roll of Paper Towel

1 Package of Napkins

1 Box of Dixie Cups (5oz)

2 Container of Hand Wipes

1 Container of Disinfecting Wipes

1 Blanket or Sleeping Bag (in a Bag)

Extra Change of Clothes in a gallon size Ziploc Bag (With Child's Name on it)