

Timeline of a typical day at St. Mary's Child Care

OPEN – 8:00 AM – FREE PLAY

Children are being dropped off, some are eating breakfast, some are resting because they came in early, and some are playing with toys and games. The school age (k and up) children go to class at 7:50 am, Pre-K4 go at 8:00 am, and the P.E.E.P.'s go at 8:30 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

8:00 – 8:30 AM – FREE PLAY WITH THE YOUNGER KIDS ONLY

Since the school age children are now in class, it is time to change the dynamic of play to better suit the younger children

8:30 – 8:45 AM – CALENDAR AND CIRCLE TIME

Every morning we talk about what month it is and figure out the day and date through songs, counting and ABCs. We sing songs and talk about the weather that day and then share a story or activity, and question of the day. We say a morning prayer and Pledge of Allegiance daily.

8:45 – 9:00 AM – Clean up, potty, diapers and wash hands for morning snack.

9:00 AM – MORNING SNACK

Snack is served at approximately 9:00 am every morning. The children sit at the table and leader (which is determined by a chart so that we all get a turn) hands out napkins or plates and cups for the snack. We start every snack with a prayer to thank God for our food.

9:15 – 10:15 AM – EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

There is a weekly theme and daily projects or activities to go along with this theme that help the children practice skills they will need for school, but in creative ways. Learning is mixed into activities all day – such as counting kids as we line up, lining up if we are wearing the color the leader calls, practicing name and letter recognition, along with numbers and counting.

10:15 – 10:45 AM – RECESS

This is time to work on our gross motor skills. We either play outside, or if the weather does not permit, we have access to the school gym. This is an awesome benefit of having our child care in a school.

10:45 – 11:00 AM – FINE MOTOR ACTIVITIES

Tangrams, gears, Magnaforms, puzzles, etc.

11:00 – 11:15 AM – GET READY FOR LUNCH: Clean up, potty, diapers, and all hands washed for lunch.

11:15 – 12:00 NOON – LUNCH

You may utilize the school's hot lunch program (\$2.50 per day) during the school year. Or you may send a cold lunch and drink. Milk tickets can be purchased for \$.25 each.

12:00 NOON – RECESS

Again, it's time to run off our excess energy and hone our gross motor skills. We have choices to play in the child care playground (geared toward younger children), the lower playground (geared towards a little older child) or the upper play area where there are swings on a climber, basketball hoops, and blacktop for us to ride our little cars/bikes. We can also use the gym if the weather is rainy or too cold.

12:30 – 1:00 PM – PRE-NAP TIME

We change diapers, go potty, wash hands and get settled in our sleeping areas. We read a story or watch a short video. PBS usually runs a nice relaxing show at this time of day.

1:00 – 2:00 PM – NAPTIME

This is quiet time. Soft music is played and we help the kids settle in for a nap.

2:00 – 3:30 PM – SNACK AND FREE PLAY

As children wake up from naps, they will be fed afternoon snack. School age children from St. Mary's come in at 2:40 pm; public school students arrive around 3:30 pm. Each group is fed their snacks as they arrive. Children are allowed to free play while the rest are fed.

3:30 – 5:30 PM – HOMEWORK / LARGE MOTOR SKILLS

If there are projects we are doing with the school-age children this is when we get them done. Free play in the room consists of everything from blocks, train table, dolls, dishes and play house, to board games, computer games, movies, music, art projects, coloring, puzzles, etc. We also play in the gym our outside on nice days after school. Help is offered to older children who have homework. If you would like us to specifically get your child started on homework, please speak to the Childcare Director to set up this service.

Updated 4/8/20