

## PRE-KINDER OVERVIEW

St. Matthew's Pre-Kindergarten is committed to the spiritual, moral, intellectual, social and physical development of each child. Our curriculum follows the curriculum designed by the Archdiocese of San Antonio. We are focused around hands-on activities that develop sensory perception, fine and gross motor skills, listening and language skills, readiness for reading and math, self-confidence and social adjustment. By the end of the school year, each student will have successfully mastered the majority of these skills and be ready to enter our Kindergarten program.

### LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

**Oral** – The Pre-K student will be engaged in conversation, speak in complete sentences, develop listening and social skills, be able to follow simple oral instructions, use and appreciate rhyme, build vocabulary, and participate in story telling.

**Comprehension** – They will be able to sequence a story or event, recall events/details within a story or event, identify characters, and be able to retell a story using words, pictures or dramatization.

**Print Awareness** – Students will be able to recognize their own name and the names of other students within the class. They will be introduced to the alphabet (capital and lower case), beginning sounds, and that the concept that print has meaning. They will use dictation, write personal names, and the letters as they are introduced in the classroom. A variety of forms of writing will be used. They will also have an understanding of the reading sequence (left to right and progression from top to bottom of the page).

### MATH

Students will be able to recognize and reproduce simple patterns, be familiar with the days of the week and months of the year, recognize numeral zero through ten and be able to count concrete objects using one-to-one correspondence as well as understand the concept of zero. They will be able to compare groups using mathematical terms (ie: more than or less than, equal, ....), use positional terms (ie: under, above, on, ...), and recognize, describe and name shapes. By the end of the year, the students will be able to classify and sort into groups by an attribute. They will be able to make size comparisons between objects and to use tools to imitate measurement.

### RELIGION

At this age, young children have a great capacity for the spiritual element of Religious Education. They are able to grasp the invisible and they have an

openness about them, that they are able to experience and form a beautiful relationship with God. Opportunities will be provided for them to hear scriptural stories and be a part of liturgical and prayerful experiences to help them develop this relationship with God.

Over the course of the year, the Pre-K student will learn the Sign of the Cross, practice and memorize daily prayers, listen to and experience Scriptural stories, and develop an understanding of Church. They will begin to understand God as Father, Son and Spirit. The sacrament of baptism will be understood as a way for a community to be welcomed into God's family and as a way to share their faith with others. Through service projects within the church and larger community, the students will be able to have a sense of social justice and the dignity of others.

## SCIENCE

The curiosity and sense of wonder of young children lead them to observe, question, investigate, and interpret the wonders of the world around them. During the year, the Pre-K student will be given opportunities to explore, observe, and investigate the world around them. As they come to see, appreciate, and respect the interconnectedness of the universe, children are inspired to become responsible citizens of the Earth.

## SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This area of development involves learning how to have positive relationships with other people. Learning to form and value friendships is a key part of social development. The Pre-K children will understand their feelings about themselves, the people in their lives, and the environment in which they live. The emotional well-being of children is paramount to ensure that children reach their overall potential.