



**VISITATION  
4 YEAR OLD  
PRESCHOOL  
2018-2019**

**Mrs. Pontrelli**

**Mrs. Marek**

## **Philosophy**

Catholic early childhood education is founded on the basic belief in the dignity of each child as a unique person created by God and endowed with gifts that are distinctly his/hers. Parents, as primary educators, form the basis of a child's earliest experience of love, community and faith. In partnership, we build upon this foundation and provide developmentally, age-appropriate experiences designed to meet the physical, psychological, emotional, social, spiritual and cognitive needs of your child.

## **Program Goals**

- To welcome children into a larger Christian community
- To develop a positive self-concept
- To develop an awareness of the wonder of learning and the wonders of God's creation
- To encourage social and emotional growth
- To foster independence and self-confidence
- To encourage cooperation within a group, especially the aspects of listening, sharing and taking turns
- To develop large and small motor skills
- To develop the potential for understanding and thinking critically
- To provide experiences which develop a child's attention span
- To develop communicational skills through art, music and language
- To develop conceptual skills
- To develop a sense of responsibility

## **Schedule of the Day:**

### **(4 Year Olds)**

Arrival: Fine motor skills (writing name/letters/numbers) while waiting for day to start

Rug Time: Prayer, music, phonemic awareness, daily calendar & story

Small group: While children are working one on one or in small groups, the others will have time for free choice play

Religion: **Stories of God's Love**, songs, films, Bible stories

Reading: **Happily Ever After Series**, guided reading

Writing: Letter and number of the week, words, small sentences

Math: Small groups with manipulatives

Science: Hands on activities and experiments, books & films

Social Studies: Hands on activities, books, films & guest speakers

Art: Projects, Fine motor skills, once a week Mrs. Letellier comes in

Music: Songs, instruments, visit music room once a week

Technology: Interactive smartboard, once a week visit computer room

Gym: Go to gym once a week, outside if nice

Snack time: Prayer, parent/student helper set up

Closing: Books, flannel board, experience charts, finger plays & sharing

## **Conferences:**

There are two planned conferences set aside each year. One will be in the beginning of the year and the other in the springtime. However, if you wish to speak with me during the year, arrangements will be made to meet before or after class time.

## **Class List:**

A class list including names, addresses, all phone numbers and all email addresses will be sent in early September. Please let me know if you wish not to be on the list.

## **Email/School Speak:**

School Speak is the computer program that will have all the school announcements for the year. At the beginning of the year you will receive an individual code to log on to your account. Please make sure you update your information frequently.

Every month I will have a detailed calendar on school speak. The calendar will have the important dates for each month. It's very important to mark down these dates.

If you need to contact me, my email address is: [ppontrelli@visitationelmhurst.org](mailto:ppontrelli@visitationelmhurst.org). I will check my email before school, in between classes and after school.

## **Backpack:**

Your child will need a backpack each day for school. They will be coming home with papers and art projects. Make sure the bag is big enough to hold a large piece of construction paper. Put your child's name on the outside of the bag. Please check the bag daily.

## **Supplies:**

4 year old boys: please bring two rolls of paper towels

4 year old girls: please bring a bottle of 409/cleaning spray

3 year old boys: please bring a box/bag of baby wipes

3 year old girls: please bring a box of Kleenex and a bottle of handsanitizer

## **Birthdays:**

We try to make each child's birthday a special event. On your child's birthday, they will receive a crown, a birthday sticker and an item from the treasure box. If desired, parents may send their child to school with a take-home birthday treat for the class.

Remember that if your child has a summer birthday, we will set aside a special day for them during the month of May.

## **Snacks/Parents Helpers:**

Each child will be assigned a snack day. The schedule is made up alphabetically and given out the first day of class. On your child's snack day, a parent is invited to come help in the class that day, but it is not required. If you would like to come, just let me know via email, note in backpack or verbally. If you do not attend that day, you are still responsible for sending the snack.

When it is your child's day, you are responsible for snack, juice, cups and napkins. Some examples of healthful snacks are: pretzels, goldfish, prepared raw vegetables, sliced fruit, cheese or crackers.

**NO PEANUTS PLEASE!!**

## **Protecting God's Children:**

The Joliet Diocese has mandated this program for any person who has contact with children in the Diocese of Joliet. This includes teachers, volunteers, parent helpers, coaches, etc. Please contact the school office if you have not taking this class.

## **Parties/Room Mother**

We have many parties and special events throughout the year. To make this successful we need your help. I would like each parent to work one party during the year. The room mothers oversee the organization of these parties.

The following is a brief list of parties we have:

October: Halloween Party

November: Thanksgiving Day Feast

December: Christmas Program

February: Valentine's Day Party

April: Easter Party

May: Mother's Day Tea

Last Day of School: 4 year old picnic

## **Arrival/Dismissal:**

The hours for the morning classes will be from 8:00-10:50. The afternoon class will be from 12:00-2:50.

All classes will use the north parking lot of the school off of Kearsage Ave.

All classes should park and walk your child down the sidewalk next to the school and enter through the outside entrance of the library. I will be there waiting for them. I will also have two eighth grade students helping me to take them to hang up their coats and backpacks.

The morning children can be dropped off, beginning at 7:45 and the afternoon class at 11:45. Please wait for us to arrive before you leave.

All classes will be dismissed from the school library entrance. You will have to meet us at the Library door so I can dismiss the children properly.

The morning class will dismiss at 10:50 and the afternoon class will dismiss at 2:50. If you are later than 10 minutes you can pick up your child in the school office.