



**VISITATION  
PRESCHOOL  
2019-2020**

**Mrs. Janney (Mrs. Ude)**

**Mrs. Marx (Mrs. Carillo)**

**Mrs. McHugh (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

## **A Day in the Life of your preschooler:**

Arrival: Activities while waiting for day to start

Rug Time: Prayer, music, phonemic awareness, daily calendar, weather and 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: Guided Reading program and introduce letter of the week

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

Math: Small groups with manipulatives

Science: Hands-on activities and experiments, books and films

Social Studies: Hands-on activities, books, films and guest speakers

Art: Projects, Fine motor skills, weekly Art class

Music: Songs, instruments, weekly Music class

Technology: Interactive smartboard in the classroom, weekly Computer class

Gym: Weekly Physical Education class, use of the playground (weather permitting)

Snack time: Snack schedule will be explained and sent home

Surprise Bag: Preschool's version of 'Show and Tell'

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

All preschool students need to be potty trained. Teachers cannot see any child undressed. If the child has a bathroom related accident, the parent /guardian will be called.

Each child may bring a “lovey” for rest time which will stay in the classroom. Please do not bring their favorite blanket / stuffed animal they may sleep with at night, so it does not have to be brought back and forth to school.

### **Conferences:**

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

### **Class List:**

A class list including names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses will be sent in early September.

### **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, your teacher 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 your teacher, email her at:

Mrs. Janney - [ajanney@visitationelmhurst.org](mailto:ajanney@visitationelmhurst.org)

Mrs. Marx - [smarx@visitationelmhurst.org](mailto:smarx@visitationelmhurst.org)

Mrs. McHugh - [mmchugh@visitationelmhurst.org](mailto:mmchugh@visitationelmhurst.org)

## **Backpack:**

Your child will need a backpack each day for school. He/she 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:**

All boys: please bring two rolls of paper towels and a box/bag of baby wipes.

All girls: please bring a bottle of spray cleaner, a box of Kleenex, and a bottle of hand sanitizer.

## **Birthdays:**

We try to make each child's birthday a special event. On your child's birthday, he/she will receive a crown, a birthday sticker and an item from the treasure box. Please do not bring 'Goodie Bags.'

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 will be explained at orientation.

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 that any person who has contact with children in the Diocese of Joliet,7 participate in this training. This includes teachers, volunteers, parent helpers, coaches, etc. Please register for the class at [virtus.org](http://virtus.org) if you have not taken this class.

### **Parties/Room Mother**

We have many parties and special events throughout the year. To make this successful, we need your help. We would like each parent to help with one party during the year. The room mothers, who are chosen through the Visitation Parents Association, 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: Preschool picnic

### **Arrival/Dismissal:**

The hours for the morning classes will be from 7:50-10:50. The afternoon class will be from 12:00-2:50.

Parents / guardians who are bringing their children for the 7:50 drop-off can park in the south lot or across the street from the school on Quincy Street, and cross York Street at the light. Children should be walked to the main entrance and delivered to their teacher. Please indicate on the Information Form, which will be discussed at the orientation, who can pick up your child.

Parents / guardians of the afternoon Pre 4 students should plan to park on Quincy St., across the street from the school and cross York Street at the light. Older students generally have recess in the south lot from 11:10-12:30 each day.

All classes will be dismissed from the main entrance. You will have to meet us at the door so your child can be handed off to their adult.

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

**Recess starts at 11:10, so morning Pre 3 / Pre 4 parents need to move their cars if they are parked in the parking lot.**