

# Welcome to Preschool



St. MARY  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# Preschool will help your child:

- Develop a positive **Self-image**
- Develop **Social Skills**
- Work on becoming **Independent**
- Learn to **Trust**
- Develop **Teamwork** skills
- Learn to **Respect** themselves and others
- Foster a **Desire to Learn**
- Know they are a **Child of God**

# Why DO YOU PLAY SO MUCH?

Dear Families,

Have you been wondering why your child always seems to be playing instead of working in our classroom?

**It's because play IS the work of a child!**

Research has shown that play is the most effective way to teach preschoolers.

Here's some of the things we are learning:

**Social skills** like sharing and self-control.

**Fine motor skills** to prepare us for holding writing tools.

**Gross motor skills** like coordination and balance.

**Creative expression** and taking pride in our work

**Literacy skills** like book care and recognizing familiar words

**Math skills** like counting, sorting, and comparing

**Science skills** like constructing, experimenting, and observing

Please feel free to ask any questions you might have about our curriculum.

Rest assured – your child is learning AND having fun!



# Why do we have snack time?

Snack Time provides an opportunity to develop:

- Social skills
- Independence
- Confidence
- Problem Solving
- Communication



Snacks should be:

- Easy to eat & drink
- Able to be eaten in 10 minutes (ex: fruit, cheese, cookie)
- Easy to open.....Imagine hard x 20!
- Non-messy snack (refrain from Go-gurt and other messy items, please)
- Something they like (let them help pick out their snack)
- Birthday treats

# Why not to send messy snacks?



# Communication is important:

- Parent orientation
- P3 progress reports 4 times per year
- P4/PK progress reports 3 times per year
- P4/PK Parent conferences in March & per request
- Monthly Calendars
- Newsletters
- Contact us with any concerns

# Best way to contact us:

Mrs. Lake:

[Jlake@smsbera.org](mailto:Jlake@smsbera.org)

Mrs. Sambenedetto:

[tsambenedetto@smsbera.org](mailto:tsambenedetto@smsbera.org)



# Transitioning your child to school:

- Attend the Welcome activity before the school year begins
- Phase in schedule: child attends a shortened 1<sup>st</sup> day
- Short and sweet goodbyes are best
- Positive words “you get to go to school today”
- Set up daily school routines; routines are comforting

# School Safety Procedures:

- Fire drills
- Tornado drills
- Lockdown drills
- The entire building is locked at all times
- Enter at the office (must be buzzed in)

# Pick up and drop off procedures:

## AM Classes

- **9am** - drop off at rear door of parking lot closest to playground.
- **P3: 11am** - pick-up at same door.
- **P4: 11:30am** - pick-up at same door.

## PM Classes

- **12:45pm** - drop off at front of building in circle drive by statue of St. Mary.
- **3:05pm** - pick-up at rear door of parking lot closest to playground.

# Preschool Day Care available:

- Hours 6:30am-6pm Monday-Friday
- Only students enrolled in SMS preschool
- Annual registration fee \$25
- Hourly rate: \$4 per hour
- A cap of \$28 per day
- Must provide packed lunch and snacks in separate bags.
- Milk can be purchased for lunch (\$5 for 20 tickets)

# If your child is ill:

- Notify the office in the morning
- Follow school guidelines for returning to school
- Follow school policy for sending in medication for your child
- If your child becomes ill at school you will be notified

# Discipline Policy:

- Redirection
  - No timeouts
  - Discussion with teacher
  - Conference/phone call to parent if needed
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- A faint, stylized logo is visible in the background of the slide. It features a large cross at the top, with two vertical bars extending downwards from the cross's base. Between these bars, there is a small, dark silhouette of a person standing with arms slightly out to the sides.

# Special activities throughout the year:

- P4 & PK field trip **Red Wagon Farm** combined classes (9-11:30am)
- P4 & PK **Art show & Concert**
- P4 & PK **Valentine Party**
- P3 **Donuts with Dads** - a Saturday in April
- P3 **Muffins with Moms** - a Saturday in May
- P4 & PK **Graduation** celebration

**W**hen you  
**E**nter this  
**L**oving school  
**C**onsider yourself  
**O**ne of the special  
**M**embers of an  
**E**xtraordinary family.





# For more information, or to schedule a tour of our Preschool:

- Personal tours of the preschool program can be scheduled on a Monday afternoon.
- Contact Mrs. Lake at: [jlake@smsbera.org](mailto:jlake@smsbera.org) to arrange a convenient date/time.