

Thank You for Visiting the St. Lawrence Nursery School and Preschool Family!

Your child will soon be embarking on a journey that will lead him/her on many roads of discovery and learning. We know you'll enjoy your visit today and we welcome the opportunity to answer any of your questions and concerns. St. Lawrence follows the State of Michigan guidelines regarding entry age to start school. Nursery school students must be **3 years of age by September 1st**. Preschool students must be **4 years of age by September 1st**.

No waivers will be accepted. Ultimately, we hope the St. Lawrence Nursery School or Preschool Programs will become an exciting milestone in your child's life.

Warmly in Christ,

Mrs. Bianca Recchia, Director and Teacher & Mrs. Michelle Buechel, Teacher

4 – Year Old Preschool Program

M, W, F – PM Class
12:40 PM – 3:30 PM

T / TH – FULL DAY Class
9:10 AM – 3:30 PM

M, T, W, TH, F – FULL DAY Class
9:10 AM – 3:30 PM

3 – Year Old Nursery School Program **M, W, F – AM Class:** 9:10 AM – 11:30 AM

Seven Areas of Development for a Student

At St. Lawrence Nursery School and Preschool, we develop the whole child. Our curriculum is age-appropriate and individually-appropriate. We focus on developing your child through The Creative Curriculum for Preschool. This curriculum is a research-based system that features exploration and discovery as a way of learning, enabling children to develop confidence, creativity and lifelong critical thinking skills. The children are immersed in learning through purposeful play-based experiences on topics they are familiar in their everyday lives.

Spiritual Development - We strive to develop the child's love for Jesus in their everyday life. We do this through prayer, bible stories, songs, learning the religious significance of holidays, and community service.

Social and Emotional Development - This is the child's growth in relating to others; playing, working, sharing, and communicating.

Self-Awareness and Work Habits - Development of the child's self- concept, self-confidence, independence, and responsibility is extremely important for future success in life.

Language and Auditory Development - This area focuses on how a child hears and understands the world and communicates his/her thoughts and ideas to others.

Fine Motor Development - Activities which develop muscles of the fingers, hands and wrists help with writing skills.

Gross Motor Development - This area includes activities that develop coordination and balance.

Cognitive Development - Most people focus on this in academics: it shows development of thinking skills.



3 – YEAR OLD *(by September 1st)*

Nursery School Program Curriculum and Goals

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT -- We use Loyola Press, “God Made Me” series which helps your child take their first steps on their journey of faith.

- Scripture Stories
- Is respectful in words and actions
- Sharing
- Kindness toward others
- Manners
- Attempt to make the sign of the cross prior to praying
- Prayers before meals, prayer for others, prayer to start the day
- Community service
- Religious significance of holidays

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Separates from caregiver
- Participates in classroom activities
- Follows classroom rules and routines
- Pleased with self and what he/she can do
- Plays cooperatively with others
- Handles conflict in the classroom
- Manages transitions in the classroom
- Develops an age-appropriate attention span

SELF AWARENESS AND WORK HABITS

- Develops the child’s self-concept
- Develops the child’s self confidence
- Develops independence and responsibility
- Listens to directions
- Follows directions
- Takes care of own needs and personal items
- Seeks help when necessary
- Shows self-initiative/self-motivation

LANGUAGE AND AUDITORY DEVELOPMENT

- Communicates appropriately with other children and adults
- Develops one’s vocabulary
- Shares experiences
- Comprehends oral language
- Demonstrates enjoyment when listening to stories, poems, finger plays, and music
- Demonstrates in words and actions that one likes to come to school and shows a delight in learning



3 – YEAR OLD *(by September 1st)*

Nursery School Program Curriculum and Goals

PREREADING:

- Listens to and experiences stories being read with attention to print
- Demonstrates an understanding of the story content (key events, characters)
- Exposure to letters (students will practice writing letters through various developmentally appropriate activities ex: playdough, sand, water color)
- Recognizes one's name (practice writing their name)
- Journals

MATHEMATICS

- Categorizes by color, shape and size
- Identifies likenesses and differences
- Recognizes a pattern object
- Participates in graphing
- Rote counts 0-10
- Counts objects
- Notices number in daily life
- Identifies the geometric shapes of circle, square, triangle, and rectangle
- Locates common shapes throughout the common world

SCIENCE

- Observes characteristics, similarities, differences, and changes
- Actively involves the five sense in discovery and manipulation
- Becomes aware of the seasons and weather

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Recognizes oneself as a unique individual and becomes aware of the uniqueness of others
- Develops the understanding of a family and how families are alike and different
- Shows an awareness of people in the community who provide help, goods and services

FINE MOTOR

- Develops eye to hand coordination
- Participates in sensory activities (play dough, rice, finger paint)
- Begins to develop an understanding of the purpose of drawing
- Manipulates a variety of tools (pencils, crayons, markers, paintbrushes, scissors, paste)

LARGE MOTOR

- Recognizes, names, and locates one's body parts
- Demonstrates flexibility and balance
- Begins to develop the ability to walk backwards, catch a ball, jump on two feet, and stand on one foot momentarily

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Learns ways to keep body clean
- Practices safety procedures



4-YEAR OLD *(by September 1st)*

Preschool Program Curriculum and Goals

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT -- We use the Loyola Press “God Made the World” series which helps your child take the first steps on his/her journey of faith.

- Scripture Stories
- Is respectful in words and actions
- Sharing
- Kindness toward others
- Manners
- Prayers before meals, prayer for others, prayer to start and end our day
- Community service
- Religious significance of holidays

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Separates from caregiver
- Participates in classroom activities
- Follows classroom rules and routines
- Pleased with self and what he/she can do
- Plays cooperatively with others
- Handles conflict in the classroom
- Manages transitions in the classroom
- Develops an age-appropriate attention span

SELF AWARENESS AND WORK HABITS

- Develops the child’s self-concept
- Develops the child’s self confidence
- Develops independence and responsibility
- Listens to directions
- Follows directions
- Takes care of own needs and personal items
- Seeks help when necessary
- Shows self- initiative/self-motivation

LANGUAGE AND AUDITORY DEVELOPMENT

- Communicates appropriately with other children and adults
- Develops one’s vocabulary
- Shares experiences
- Comprehends oral language
- Demonstrates enjoyment when listening to stories, poems, finger plays, and music
- Demonstrates in words and actions that one likes to come to school and shows a delight in learning
- Listens to and comprehends oral language
- Participates in songs and finger plays
- Demonstrates understanding of locational terms



4 – YEAR OLD *(by September 1st)*

Preschool Program Curriculum and Goals

PREREADING

- Listens to and experiences stories being read with attention to print
- Demonstrates an understanding of the story content (retell, dramatize)
- Mastery of the letters of the alphabet: upper and lower case and the sounds that the letters make
- Writing the letters
- Introduction to simple words and sight words
- Recognizes one's name
- Writes one's name
- Children "read" interactive books
- Journals

MATHEMATICS

- Classification
- Identifies likenesses and differences
- Recognizes a two-pattern object
- Participates in graphing
- Rote counts 0-20 without errors
- Writes numbers
- Recognizes numbers 1 - 20
- Counts objects
- Simple addition facts
- Notices number in daily life
- Identifies and draws the geometric shapes of circle, square, triangle, and rectangle
- Locates common shapes throughout the common world
- Measurement
- Estimation
- Logical thinking
- Positional words
- Spatial relationships
- Problem solving – sets
- Time

SCIENCE

- Observes characteristics, similarities, differences, and changes
- Predicting outcomes
- Actively involves the five senses in discovery and manipulation
- Becomes aware of the seasons and weather

SOCIAL STUDIES

- Recognizes oneself as a unique individual and becomes aware of the uniqueness of others
- Develops the understanding of a family and how families are alike and different
- Shows an awareness of people in the community who provide help, goods, and services



4 – YEAR OLD *(by September 1st)*

Preschool Program Curriculum and Goals

FINE MOTOR

- Develops eye to hand coordination
- Manipulates small objects
- Participates in sensory activities (play dough, rice, finger paint)
- Develops an understanding of the purpose of drawing
- Draws a self portrait
- Writes letters, numbers, and draws shapes
- Manipulates a variety of tools (pencils, crayons, markers, paint brushes, scissors, glue)
- Progresses from scribbling to form
- Colors in the lines

HANDWRITING

- Develops prewriting and handwriting skills (includes mazes, basic strokes, letters, and numerals)
- We use the “Handwriting Without Tears” curriculum

LARGE MOTOR

- Recognizes, names, and locates one’s body parts
- Demonstrates flexibility and balance
- Develops the ability to walk backwards, catch a ball, jump on two feet, stand on one foot momentarily, and skip

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Learns ways to keep body clean
- Practices safety procedures

SPECIAL EVENTS

While your child attends St. Lawrence Nursery School and Preschool, they will participate in field trips throughout the year. We have many celebrations. These include classroom parties for holidays (Halloween, Christmas, Valentine’s Day), a Grandparent’s breakfast, Donuts with Dad, and Muffins with Mom. We also have guest speakers from the community throughout the year. At the end of the year, we have a special celebration for our 4 year old Preschoolers.