

OUR LADY OF PEACE KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

Kindergarten Growth

Kindergarten is a year of great growth and development. It is important that each child is introduced to developmentally appropriate activities. Our program is structured to help each child grow in self-confidence, socialization, awareness of the world, and respect for others in a Christ-centered environment. Realizing that parents are the primary educators, our kindergarten program encourages parental involvement. Many opportunities are available for parent participation.

Our Lady of Peace is one of the few schools that offers both a half-day/morning and a full-day program. Our time together is spent learning:

Religion

Kindergarten students will learn through the religion textbook, stories, activities, the Bible, prayer, discussion, and reflection about their Catholic faith focusing on:

- traditional common prayers
- creation
- God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit
- going to Mass
- lives of people in the Bible and various saints

Our religion text is *Blest Are We* published by RCL Benziger.

Language Arts/Reading

Kindergarten students use the text *Reading Street* published by Scott Foresman/Pearson, which is aligned with Common Core State Standards. Reading fluency will develop and improve as students are presented with the following skills:

- rhyming
- onset and rime
- phonemic awareness
- blending
- sequencing of events
- high frequency words
- concept of print
- comprehension
- comparing/contrasting
- drawing conclusions
- reading emergent reader texts with purpose and understanding

Writing is paralleled with the language arts program as students engage in journal writing, shared writing, phonetic and interactive writing.

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Math

Our kindergarten students use the text *My Math* published by McGraw-Hill incorporating the Common Core State Standards. Instruction includes hands-on activities to develop concepts. Our students are introduced to the following areas of study:

- counting and cardinality, composing and decomposing numbers to 20, sorting, classifying, graphing, patterns, and movement
- counting to 100
- place values - tens and ones
- exploring geometry, addition and subtraction
- measurement of objects

Science

Our curriculum is aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards, or NGSS. Some websites we use are “Mystery Science” and “Scholastic/Let’s Find out,” and the children learn through reading articles and stories, making projects, as well as and hands-on experiments.

Social Studies

Our social studies curriculum focuses on our community and the world around us. The children learn how people in communities work together, and how important it is to become productive citizens. They also learn about holidays and various cultures around the world.

Specials

Children in kindergarten will attend classes in music, art, library and computers once a week, while attending physical education class twice a week.

Technology

Technology is used throughout the day in a wide variety of settings/subjects. The Elmo projector, along with an Eno board (like a Smartboard), as well as iPads and a full computer lab are used to enhance learning.

Homework

Kindergarten students will be assigned homework as needed for practice and reinforcement. There is letter-week homework, math homework, language arts “at home practice,” and a variety of special-occasion projects.

Grading

Each student will receive a report card at the end of each quarter. There are four quarters in total. Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled in November and March but may be requested at any time.