

**ST. STEPHEN'S
ACADEMY**



*A Classical
Christian School*

*embracing knowledge
pursuing wisdom
communicating truth*

We welcome you and your child to St. Stephen's Academy Pre-Kindergarten! The Pre-K program has the following goals:

- To develop a love for God and His Son, Jesus Christ, and an appreciation for all of God's creation.
- To help the child recognize himself/herself as a valuable individual through recognition, achievement, and praise.
- To prepare the child for Kindergarten.
- To give opportunities for language and speech development by encouraging the child to verbalize in structured and unstructured activities.
- To introduce various materials and equipment.
- To encourage socialization, cooperation, sharing, and sensitivity to others.
- To increase the child's awareness of the world around him/her with curriculum and science projects.
- To develop an enjoyment and appreciation of music and rhythms.
- To encourage the child to express himself/herself in creative ways through the use of art materials.
- To stimulate interest in stories and books.
- To develop fine and large muscles with activities and exercises.

The following are some curriculum projects planned for Pre-K. Stories, music, art projects, and equipment are used to stimulate interest.

Fall

Awareness of self and family
Five senses
Science projects
Fall season
Colors

Harvest activities
Apples and making applesauce
Native Americans and Thanksgiving
Beginning of letter writing and recognition

Winter

Christmas activities
Name writing
Winter season
Animals in winter
Stranger Danger
Feelings
Safety – police and traffic

Personal safety
Valentine activities
Beginning of number writing, counting, and
recognition
Dental health
Shapes

Spring

Spring season
Birds in Spring
Easter projects
Insects
Nutrition

Manners
Farm
Plant growth
Dinosaurs

Pre-K at St. Stephen's Academy has structured activities (music, stories, and group time) as well as unstructured activities (free play, art, and outside play) which are scheduled each day. Active and quiet periods are alternated to best suit the four-year-old child. Our approximate daily schedule is:

8:30-8:45	Arrival and Free Play
8:45-9:00	T and TH talk about our day, and Attendance; W – Chapel
9:00-9:30	Free Play / Art
9:30-9:35	Clean up
9:35-10:00	Circle Time
10:00-10:15	Playground
10:15-10:30	Snack and Show & Tell
10:30-10:50	Bible Story
10:50-11:10	Music
11:10-11:40	Class Activity
11:40-12:00	Story Time
12:00-12:15	Clean Up and Ready to Go

During **Group Time** we talk about the calendar, the weather, special holidays, and current news that would be of interest to the children. Also at this time the children are introduced to a concept or the subject we are presently exploring. This may include art projects.

Show and Tell is certainly one of the more important parts of the Pre-K experience. For the shy child, it gives something to talk about and tends to attract other children to him/her, and often proves to be the child's best way of making friends at first. For the child who needs attention, it gives him/her an accepted way to feel important and to get that attention. Show and Tell is also a good time to learn to listen and not interrupt when someone else is talking.

Not only is **Art** fun for the children, it is a great outlet for their creative abilities. It is very useful in developing their fine motor skills. We will be using paints, pencils, scissors, glue, paper, magazines, felt-tip pens, color crayons, and other materials in many ways.

During **Music** the children learn Bible songs as well as secular songs. The children will also hear a **Bible Story** or a story illustrating Christian ethics such as love, sharing, cooperation, respect, responsibility, and honesty. They learn that some things are right in God's sight and some things are wrong. Many Bible songs are also taught. Moral and spiritual developments are worked on continually during class as well as during Bible Story time.

Evaluation and Conferences

Progress reports will be sent home twice a year. If there are any problems, parents will be notified during the course of the year. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to email me (smiller@ststephensacademy.com) or call me (503-939-8223).