



St. Eugene School Kindergarten Program

An Adventure

When students first step into one of our kindergarten classrooms, they are beginning an adventure in learning. At St. Eugene, children learn to feel at home in the classroom. They learn to ask questions, to work together, and to enjoy school.



A Partnership and A Community

Enrolling at St. Eugene School means becoming part of a partnership. We work together with parents and guardians to provide students with a positive start to their school career. Communication is important, involvement is encouraged, and questions are welcomed.

St. Eugene School is also a community, both for the students and for the families. Students make friends within their own classes, but also with other students. Our Guardian Angel program puts older students together with younger students, making the kindergarten students feel cared for and welcome.



A Mission

At St. Eugene, teaching is not just a job – it is part of a faith commitment, a dedication to help our students learn and succeed. Our mission is not just to help students get better test scores – it is to help them be better people, to help them grow in faith, virtue, and service to others.

Centers and Play

For part of every day, students are in small groups working in centers. Centers are skill building activities set up around the kindergarten classroom. Centers are developed to maximize the children's experiential learning. Students have an opportunity to explore, develop, and interact as they learn in a multi-sensory way.



While St. Eugene School provides a strong academic foundation, we also believe that play is an important part of a kindergarten student's learning experience. Weather permitting, our children have a chance to be outside on the playground every day, but purposeful play also

extends into the classroom as well. Through play, children learn about their world, themselves, and each other. Early childhood research shows that children learn by exploring the world around them. Play-based early education produces better results in reading and math, social and emotional adjustment, creativity, intelligence, and oral expression.



Specialty Classes

Our 4K and 5K students have a different specialty class each day: art, music, library, physical education, computers, or Worship Circle. We believe strongly in a balanced education that allows students to develop their interests and talents.

Flexible 3K Preschool Program

Our 3K (preschool) program teaches and nurtures our youngest students three or five days a week, half day or full day. Each child, at their own pace, will learn to communicate with each other, share, grow, and thrive in a fun and engaging atmosphere. Our 3K classroom incorporates our mission statement through teaching faith, academics, and development of the whole child. Instruction is based on thematic units. The lessons taught are followed by a project of the day, free play, and learning centers.

4K Program

Our 4K program welcomes students into the world of school and helps them develop a love of learning. Here are a few of our 4K learning goals.

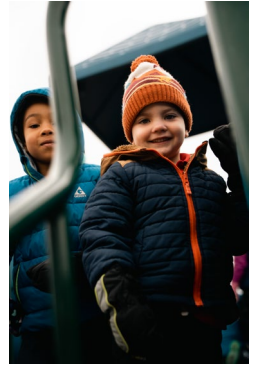
Religion: Students are taught that we are created and loved by God. They learn about the life of Jesus and participate in prayer and Mass.

Language Arts & Reading: Students are taught letter recognition, letter-sound relationships, phonemic awareness, oral language, comprehension, and handwriting.

Math: Students learn how to count, identify, and write numbers. They learn one to one correspondence, recognizing simple patterns, and geometrical awareness.

Science: Students learn about the role of our five senses. They investigate and explore the environment through hands-on activities.

Social Studies: Students learn how to recognize community helpers. They celebrate special calendar days and holidays.



5K Program

Our 5K program is a bridge that builds on the introduction that our 4K provides and prepares students for first grade.

Religion: Students are taught to be thankful for God's love, knowing that we are children of God through baptism. They also learn Bible stories.

Language Arts & Reading: Students are taught reading strategies and given various opportunities to read and interpret informational and fictional text. They are taught to be life-long writers and are introduced to different writing styles.

Math: Students take an active role in their learning of math concepts. Students record, represent, solve, and explain as they discover and build an understanding of counting, identifying and writing numbers, sorting, and classifying objects with common attributes.

Science: Students learn about the earth, plants, animals, weather, and simple chemistry concepts.

Social Studies: Students learn about important people and events in U.S. history, distinguishing between past, present, and future.

A Place to Learn About God

At St. Eugene School, our faith is shared and lived. We begin each day with prayer in the classroom. Hearing about God becomes a natural part of the school experience. Students learn that they are created and loved by God, and that we need to treat each other as God's children. Our students sing songs about Jesus at our Christmas concert each year, and when a child tells her teacher that her grandmother is sick, the teacher is able to respond, "Would you like us to pray for your grandmother today?"

Worship Circle

During Worship Circle, students learn Bible stories through the use of scripture, music, prayer, and manipulatives. This interactive program draws young students into the stories of our faith in a developmentally appropriate way.



Through song, movement, wooden figures, storytelling, and prayer, our students experience Bible stories in a climate of love, gratitude, and wonder. Students love to move the wooden figures that represent people from the Bible.

Full Day or Half Day 3K and 4K

As a way of meeting the varied needs of families and students, St. Eugene School provides an option of full or half day kindergarten for our 3K and 4K program. The curriculum is introduced in the morning, so students in half day kindergarten are not missing any new material after they leave. In the afternoon there are other exploratory activities that allow for review and reinforcement of prior learning. Half day kindergarten runs from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Full day kindergarten runs from 8:00 am to 3:10 pm. Parents with questions about our full day or half day options for 3K or 4K are encouraged to talk with the principal or with one of our kindergarten teachers.

