

Early Childhood Program Information



Children Learn Through Play

The hidden value of play is the development of abstract thinking, necessary for more mature learning which involves reading, math and creative thinking skills. For the preschool child, this process occurs through spontaneous and directed play.

How St. Paul's Early Childhood Program teaches through play

CENTERS — children are allowed to experiment, explore, create and discover with a minimum of intrusion by the teachers who will suggest, observe or help when needed or asked. Materials available during this time include: paint, clay, crayons, scissors, blocks, trucks, housekeeping toys, dress-ups, puzzles, games and other learning materials. This learning period will offer choices of activities that have been planned by the teacher according to the Early Childhood themes and the individual needs of the class.

WIGGLE WORLD – A separate, thirty minute class where children have the opportunity to learn about songs, rhythms, musical instruments, nursery rhymes and fairy tales and cultures around the world.

PLAYGROUND - Large muscle, active play on the playground when the weather is nice or inside play in Beck Hall (with indoor large muscle equipment) when the weather is not.

RELIGION – A religion component is part of the regular school day. Grace is said before meals and snack. On the first Friday or Thursday of the month all children will participate in Children's Liturgy of the Word in our chapel.

CIRCLE– A time where children find out the themes for the day and learn about the different center areas. Stories are read and shared.

EXTENDED CARE

EARLY BIRD- A before school session that runs from 8:30 a.m. until the beginning of school at 9:30 every day. Children will have the opportunity to explore a variety of manipulatives and small learning centers. Students should be fed a healthy breakfast and come ready for the school day.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES- A variety of after school activities are offered at ECP to extend the school day until 2:15. Parents register their child for these optional classes. Fees for these classes are to be paid to the individual programs.

St. Paul's Early Childhood Program offers classes for children who are 1 year of age to pre-kindergarten. There is no discrimination with regard to race, color, or creed.

It is our goal at St. Paul's to provide an environment where each child feels loved not because of what they can do or what they look like but because of who they are —a creation in the image of God.

