

# Saint Leo the Great Preschool

The first five years of a child's life is a time of tremendous social, physical, cognitive, spiritual and emotional growth. Engaging the heart, the spirit, the mind, and the body is the most effective way to create both a strong foundation and a life-long love of learning.



And you thought they were just having fun...

Fundamentally, children learn through play. It is a natural way for them to explore, to become creative, to problem solve, and to develop social skills. Our teachers use play to further language and vocabulary development, to improve social skills, to introduce scientific and mathematical concepts, and to strengthen their spirituality through Religion.

Children benefit from activities that focus on all intelligences. Cognitive skills, linguistics, social skills, math readiness, music and rhythm, fine and gross motor skills, and spatial awareness are fostered daily.



## Adventures in Movement

Every element of development can be addressed through a quality movement program. Yoga is used to calm, focus and center oneself; as well as to address balance, poise, strength building, and flexibility. Other Adventures in Movement strengthen not only a child's physical abilities (gross motor skills), but also his/her ability to listen, cooperate, follow directions, and socialize. Incorporating dance and music into the program further enhances agility, coordination, and confidence.

## Spanish

Our Spanish program introduces students to the fun of learning Spanish in a stimulating classroom environment. Students are introduced to colors, numbers, and parts of the body through songs, games, crafts, and dance. They also learn appropriate greetings, self-introduction, basic expressions, and prayer.

## Technology

Technology offers additional ways to learn and to demonstrate learning. The classroom use of iPads is yet another aspect of our early childhood development program. For Preschoolers, the use of iPads provides benefits in being able to handle the technological world in which we live. We carefully choose educational apps that, when properly used, can serve as a catalyst for cognitive and social skills.

## Sign Language

Our preschoolers are given the opportunity to learn American Sign Language (ASL). It has been found that ASL enhances learning and increases long term learning potential. It facilitates spoken language development and cognition. There are three kinds of learners: auditory, visual and kinesthetic. Sign language can enhance all three learning modalities. By using sign language, we increase the learning potential in all our students. Sign Language and finger spelling are fun and productive ways to actively engage young children in the reading process.

## Library

Our state of the art library / media center is equipped with computers and an interactive white board to engage our students and enhance their learning experience. Additionally, we boast a children's reading area, where large print books and felt boards captivate our young learners. The importance of reading to children is emphasized to:

- develop language skills
- enhance concentration
- encourage a thirst for knowledge
- develop imagination

## 2019-2020 Class Schedules:

### 3 Year Olds

2 day 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
3 day 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
5 day 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### 4 Year Olds

3 Day 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
5 Day 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Extended Care option - Preschool students may use our Extended Care Program from 1:00 PM to 2:40 PM for an additional fee.

PM Care option - Preschool students may use our PM Care Program from 2:40 PM to 5:40 PM for an additional fee.



\*\*\*\*\*All Preschool students must be fully toilet-trained. No Diapers or Pull-ups are permitted. Parents will be called and asked to come in to school when accidents occur.