

ST. JOHN – SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL

K3 CURRICULUM

The curriculum for the K3 program is designed to be developmentally appropriate and will focus on seven major areas: social emotions, language and literacy, math, science, social studies, creativity, and health/physical development.

The K3 program is a 2-day opportunity for children that are 3 years old as of September 1. Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:15-12:30.

Children enrolled in the K3 program will develop skills and understandings as listed in the following curriculum outline.

Social Emotional Development

Self-Esteem: Develop a sense of one's own self-worth.

- Respond to own name.
- Stand up for own rights in an appropriate manner.
- Recognize and express own feelings and respond appropriately (all emotions, happiness, surprise, anger, etc.).
- Demonstrate appropriate behaviors when completing a task or solving a problem.

Attitude: Develop a positive attitude toward life.

- Separate easily from parent.
- Play well with other children.
- Respond sympathetically to peers who are in need.
- Recognize the feelings of others and respond appropriately.

Cooperation: Develop skills which will teach them to cooperate.

- Develop increasing abilities to give and take in interactions.
- Begin to work or play cooperatively with other children with some direction.
- Respond appropriately during teacher-guided and child-initiated activities.
- Begin to use conflict resolution strategies.
- Develop appropriate listening skills.

Pro-Social Behavior: Develop self-control and understand that actions have consequences.

- Begin to express feelings, needs and opinions in difficult situations and conflicts without harming themselves, others, or property.
- Begin to develop a growing understanding of how their actions affect others and begin to accept consequences of their actions.
- Begin to demonstrate increasing capacity to follow rules and routines and use materials purposefully, safely and respectfully.

Family: Develop a knowledge and understanding of family.

- Demonstrate knowledge of personal information.
- Identify family composition and describes roles of family members.
- Begin to discuss family traditions, practices and cultural roots of family members.

Diversity: Develop a respect for differences in people.

- Recognize themselves as unique individuals and be aware of the uniqueness of others.
- Demonstrate emerging awareness and respect for differences.
- Begin to demonstrate an understanding of social justice and social action issues.

Language and Literacy

Listening: Develop and expand listening skills.

- Begin to listen with understanding to conversation and directions.
- Begin to follow directions that involve two- or three-step sequence of actions.
- Begin to hear and discriminate the sounds of language in the environment to develop beginning phonological awareness.
- Begin to demonstrate an understanding or new vocabulary introduced in conversations, activities, stories, or books.
- Engage in activities that offer the opportunity to develop skills associated with technology by viewing, comprehending, and using non-textual information.

Speaking: Communicate experiences, ideas, and feelings through speaking.

- Develop and expand expressive language skills.
- Begin to use new vocabulary in spontaneous speech.
- Begin to ask and answer relevant questions and share experiences individually and in small groups.

Reading: Engage in activities that promote the acquisition of emergent reading skills.

- Begin to actively engage in reading experiences.
- Begin to retell information from a story.
- Demonstrate an understanding of print concepts and beginning alphabet knowledge.
- Use emerging reading skills to make meaning from print.

Writing: Engage in activities that promote the acquisition of emergent writing skills.

- Begin to experiment with a variety of writing tools, materials, and surfaces.
- Use early stages of writing to form shapes and letter-like symbols to convey ideas.
- Begin to participate in a variety of writing activities focused on meaningful words and print in the environment.
- Begin to have an interest in using writing for a purpose.

Math

Number Concepts: Understands numbers, ways of representing numbers and relationships between numbers and numerals.

- Compare numbers of objects.
- Count objects and count by rote
- Begin to recognize numerals.

Measurement: Use non-standard units to measure and make comparisons.

- Begin to experience and understand language relating to time.
- Begin to anticipate, remember, and describe sequences of events.
- Begin to use mathematical language to describe experiences involving measurement.
- Begin to measure objects in the physical world using non-standard units of measurement.

Geometry and Spatial Sense: Develop an understanding of geometrical and spatial concepts.

- Begin to match and recognize basic shapes (square, circle, triangle).
- Begin to identify shapes to describe physical world.
- Begin to understand spatial sense: positions and directions.

Data Collection, Organization, and Interpretation: Investigates, organizes, responds to, and creates representations.

- Begin to sort and classify materials by one or more characteristic.
- Begin to collect and organize data themselves, their surroundings, and meaningful experiences.
- Begin to interpret simple representations in data.

Patterns and Relationships: Identify and create patterns

- Begin to recognize simple patterns in the physical world
- Begin to copy a simple pattern.

Science

Science as Inquiry: Begin to engage in partial and full inquiries.

- Use prior knowledge and experiences to hypothesize, predict, generate questions, and draw conclusions about organisms and events in the environment.
- Begin to participate in simple scientific investigations.
- Begin to make observations using senses.
- Begin to explore equipment and tools to gather and extend sensory observations.
- Begin to collect, interpret, communicate data findings from observations and experiments in oral and written formats.
- Begin to use appropriate scientific vocabulary related to topics.

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Physical Science: Begin to acquire scientific knowledge related to physical science.

- Investigate states of matter: solids and liquids.
- Begin to describe objects by their physical properties.
- Explore the physical world using six senses.
- Explore simple machines, magnets, and sources of energy.

Life Science: Begin to acquire scientific knowledge related to life science

- Begin to explore, observe, and describe a variety of living things.
- Begin to explore, observe, and describe a variety of non-living things.
- Begin to develop an awareness that plants and animals have life cycles.

Earth and Space Science: Begin to acquire scientific knowledge related to earth science.

- Begin to recognize and compare seasonal changes in their immediate environment.
- Use vocabulary to describe major features of the earth and sky.

Social Studies

Civics: Develop community and career awareness.

- Begin to recognize community workers and increase awareness of their jobs.
- Identify his/her role as a member of family/group.

Economics: Develop an understanding of how basic economic concepts relate to their everyday lives.

- Begin to demonstrate an awareness of money being used to purchase things.

History: Develop an understanding of the concept of time.

- Begin to use words to describe time (such as later, after a while, in a little while, today).

Geography: Develop an understanding of location, place, relationships within places, movement, and region.

- Begin to include representations of roads, bodies of water, and buildings in their play.
- Begin to use words to indicate directionality, position, and size.
- Begin to develop an awareness of the world around them.

Creativity

Music Appreciation: Develop an appreciation for music.

- Listen to a variety of musical genres – jazz, classical, lullaby, patriotic, instrumental, vocal, etc.
- Begin to respond to variations in music – pitch, volume, tempo, beat, rhythm, and pattern.

Music Expression: Become involved in musical expression

- Begin to use music as an avenue to express thoughts, feelings and energy.
- Participate in group singing, finger plays, rhymes, poetry, and rhythm.

Music and Movement – Creative Movement: Develop and appreciation for creative movement through observation, communication and participation.

- Observe various forms of movement.
- Begin to communicate words or concepts through movement.
- Show creativity using their bodies (dance, march, hop, jump, sway, clap, snap, stomp, twist, turn).

Visual Arts – Visual Arts Appreciation: Develop an appreciation for visual arts

- Explore various forms of art (paintings, watercolors, clay, collage, etc.) found in their environment.

Visual Arts – Creative Expression: Develop confidence in their own creative expression through process-oriented experiences.

- Participate in individual and group art activities.

Dramatic Arts – Dramatic Expression: Explore roles and experiences through dramatic play.

- Begin to role play or use puppets to express feelings, dramatize stories, try out social behaviors observed in adults, re-enact real-life roles and experiences.
- Begin to participate in activities using symbolic materials and gestures to represent real objects and situations.

Health and Physical Development

Health and Hygiene: Develop appropriate health and hygiene skills.

- Begin to show awareness of healthy lifestyle practices.
- Begin to show awareness of good hygiene and personal care habits.

Nutrition: Become aware of good nutritional practices.

- Exhibit knowledge that some foods are better for your body than others.

Safety: Demonstrate safe behaviors in all situations.

- Begin to identify potentially harmful objects, substances, or behaviors
- Begin to be aware of and follow universal safety rules.

Gross Motor: Develop coordination, balance, spatial awareness, and strength through gross motor activities.

- Exhibit body coordination and strength.
- Exhibit balance and spatial awareness.