



## Pre-Kindergarten Program

Our Pre-Kindergarten, or three-year-old program, runs for two afternoons a week, on Monday and Wednesday, from 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.

The main purpose of the program is to give young children a fun and meaningful introduction to a structured preschool environment, where they can learn to interact well with other children and adults. Planning of activities focuses on "whole-child" development so that social, emotional, creative, physical and cognitive needs and skills are all considered. In this program, children learn to follow simple directions with activities that focus on, and develop manipulative and creative skills. As the year progresses, activities will concentrate more on pre-reading, pre-writing, and pre-math skills, in preparation for the Junior Kindergarten program. Children will also partake in a gym program in the community gymnasium every two weeks. In all activities, individual abilities and talents are central in the nurturing and development of self-esteem, and children are guided at their own pace.

Activities are presented in monthly themes, which help to enhance children's knowledge of themselves, the community and the world around them.

### *A Typical Day*

Children begin by "signing in". They identify their picture and learn to recognize their name.

**Manipulative playtime** (30 minutes). Children choose from a variety of activities that are set out in the classroom. Examples of manipulative play are puzzles, lego, blocks, trucks, dramatic play or computer games.

**Circle time** (10-15 minutes) is a group gathering time where ideas, plans and observations are shared. Circle activities are designed to stimulate thinking, enrich social skills and to expand attention spans. Children are introduced to calendar activities.

**Movement/music time** (20 minutes) gives children an opportunity to exercise and move to music, rhyme and rhythm. Children learn new songs and explore simple elements of music and sound.

**Creative activity play** (30 minutes). Children create a simple craft, and can then choose from a variety of creative activities, sand and water play, and other creative

media. Children are encouraged and guided to complete as many 'tasks' as are set out, but can plan the order in which they complete tasks.

**Snack** (10/15 minutes) Children bring a nutritious and healthy snack from home. We encourage good table manners and healthy eating habits.

**Outdoor play** (20 minutes). Weather permitting; the children will play outdoors in the playground.

**Story time** (15 minutes). Stories are read, told, and shared to help children develop an appreciation and enjoyment of literature. Story time also helps to expand attention spans, enhance vocabulary and comprehension skills, and extends knowledge.

**Show and Tell.** Once a month (indicated on calendar), children bring a toy, book or object from home, which they share with the class.

### ***General Information***

This year, Ms. Sandy will run the class on a Monday with Ms. Bonnie Cross as her assistant. On Wednesday, Ms. Bonnie will run the class with an assistant (to be announced). All teachers/assistants will be in the classroom in September until the children are settled and familiar with routines.

Formal assessment is not conducted at this age, but parents are encouraged to contact the teacher with any concerns. Children will receive a portfolio of work at the end of the year.

Each child must bring his or her own snack and drink everyday. PLEASE NO PEANUT PRODUCTS. A water cooler is available for drinking water.

Each child needs running shoes (non-marking sole) that will remain in school. A change of clothes should also be kept in their backpacks. Parents are asked to label clothes, shoes and boots.

A professional photographer will take pictures at the beginning of the year. The date will be announced in September.