

WELCOME TO OUR LADY'S KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM!!!

This year will be a very special journey for your child. This handbook has been put together in order to familiarize you with various procedures and other items of interest in our classroom. Please keep it handy so that you may refer to it when necessary.

Mrs. Velcheck and I are dedicated to making your child's year in kindergarten a successful as well as enjoyable experience. Our goal is to have them leave kindergarten with good feelings of themselves as learners. Should you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at school 610-868-6570 or at home at 610-866-3312. Sometimes a simple phone call can keep a smile on your child's face and chase the tears away! You can also e-mail me: OLPHK@ptd.net.

Each child needs a regular size backpack. (No wheels) Children also need to bring a snack and a drink each day in a lunch box. Healthy snacks are encouraged. (No soda.)

We have assembled a supply box for each kindergartner. This will contain crayons, scissors, pencils, and glue sticks. Cost of the supplies should be sent to school in an envelope with your child's name on it.

Supply fee for the 2010-2011 school year is \$17.50. This includes a "Let's Find Out" Scholastic News subscription. (Checks are payable to OLPH.)

All supplies need to be labeled with your child's name on them!!!!

Each child will also need the following:

- * an oversized **T-shirt** to be kept in the backpack for Art.
- * two **bottom pocket** folders: one will be used in school as a work folder and the other will be used as a take home folder. (All correspondence such as money, notes, etc. needs to be put in an envelope and placed in the folder. Items will not be found if just placed in the backpack. Please check the folder each day for school news and info. All work found in the folder may be kept home unless otherwise stated.)
- * one roll of paper towels, one box of tissues, one box of quart and gallon zip-lock bags and one container of anti-bacterial wipes.

All items brought to school must be clearly marked with your child's name. Toys should not be brought to school unless specified for a special day.

For the months of August & beginning of September, we will meet the children on the front porch of the school. To avoid confusion in the classroom area, we ask that parents not bring the children directly to the classroom.

The morning session begins at 8:25 (**CHILDREN SHOULD NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 8:10**) and ends at 11:15. The afternoon session begins at 12:15 (**CHILDREN SHOULD NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 12:10**) and ends at 3:00. We will bring children up to the buses and carpool line. AM carpool can be picked up on the school steps and PM will be taken out to the Church entrance. Please be sure that your child knows his/her bus number or other method of transportation. Children should be wearing their name tags with bus # on it!

IF YOUR CHILD WILL BE LEAVING SCHOOL IN A DIFFERENT WAY THAN USUAL, YOU MUST SEND IN A NOTE SPECIFYING HOW AND WITH WHOM YOUR CHILD WILL BE LEAVING. WE WILL NOT ALLOW A CHILD TO LEAVE IN A DIFFERENT WAY WITHOUT NOTIFICATION!!! THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

DAILY SCHEDULE: Monday-Thursday

We start the day with free choice activities upon arrival. (puzzles, blocks, Legos, etc.)

Circle Time follows with prayer, pledge, calendar, and songs.

Reading Readiness- We use the Scott Foresman Reading program (beginning sounds, recognizing and writing letters and other readiness activities).

Next the children visit our Learning Centers. We will have a wide variety of activities to develop fine motor, language, auditory, visual, reading response and writing skills.

Snack Time is a chance to socialize with friends and enjoy a snack.

Math is next. We will use Math learning centers for a hands on approach and the Scott Foresman program.

Our Religion book is God Loves Us. We usually end our day with a story and a review of our day.

FRIDAY:

We do some different activities on Fridays. (Alphabet Snack, Outdoor play (weather permitting), Science and **Let's Find Out.**)

Gym, Computer, Art, Spanish and Library days will be announced. On gym day dress comfortably and wear **sneakers**. Children should not bring library books back to school until they are due on the following library day. If your child misses library day, the books should come back when your child returns.

Homework varies from week to week. "Real homework" won't start until October. The first month we are busy working on the routine of Kindergarten. The children may come home very tired. You will always be given a written assignment sheet for the homework. The Kindergarten calendar will tell you special events and themes we are working on. Daily reading to your child should always be a part of homework.

KINDERGARTEN RULES:

1. Be kind to others.
2. Use walking feet.
3. Quiet voices, especially upstairs.
4. Do my best work.
5. Follow directions the first time.

Each child will have a coloring sheet divided into school days for a two week period. Children who follow rules for the time period will receive a prize when his/her picture is colored in. Pictures will be kept in the home folder for a daily review by parents. Please don't remove until instructed to do so. If a child breaks a rule the following will occur:

1st warning: Child is given a #1

2nd warning: Child is given a #2

3rd warning: Child is given a #3 and must X his/her picture that day. Children will not receive a prize on prize day if their entire picture is not colored.

** Physical contact is NEVER tolerated!! Any incident will be immediately referred to Mr. Reese and parents will be notified.

Please take time to discuss the rules with your child. I do not anticipate any problems but children need to be aware of what is expected of them. If we work together, I know your child will adjust to our routine nicely.

Birthdays are a special day in the life of your child! To help celebrate that special day in Kindergarten you may send in a special snack for the class from the **school approved list**. I would also like to invite you to spend some time with us that day. You may come during snack time and help us celebrate. I would also ask that you bring to school your child's favorite book and share it with the class. Children love to show you off! On your child's Birthday he/she may have a special show and tell day. He/she can bring in a bag with some favorite items. Summer birthdays are invited to choose another day to celebrate. Invitations to your child's party may be handed out in school provided all girls and/or all boys of that session are invited.

Our classroom is a busy place so we need lots of materials. Sometimes we may ask you to send in common household items for art projects or cooking activities and alphabet snack. Thanks in advance!

I look forward to a wonderful year with your child. If there is anything I can do to help make your child's Kindergarten experience a more positive one, please don't hesitate to talk to me. Communication is the tool to successful relationships!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Maureen Kohler