



# The Early Childhood Corner

## From the Teachers' Desk

Dear parents,

We pray that you had a blessed Christmas, celebrating Jesus' birth with family and friends. We also wish you a 2025 filled with joy and blessings from our Lord.

The school year continues with a number of things to look forward to - library days, Valentine's Day, Easter, parent/

teacher conferences, field trips and 4K graduation. School began again on Jan. 2/3 and Lutheran Schools Week will be Jan. 26-Feb. 1.

Now that we are back, the Preschoolers will focus on things like cutting on a line, walking on a balance beam and counting.

Children in the 4K class will work on skipping and bouncing

a ball as well as counting and recognition of teen numbers and the sounds for more letters in the alphabet.

In His service,

Mrs. Leuck  
Ms. Rajer  
Mrs. Stiemke  
Mrs. Zeuner



St. Paul Early Childhood Center

Volume 15 Issue 5

January 2025

### Special points of Interest:

- Tuition changes effective Jan. 1, 2025
- Lutheran Schools Week
- How you will know if school or Child Care is closed due to weather
- Enrollment information for 2025-26 school year

## Child Care Notes

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a happy and blessed Christmas season. The month of December was very busy for our Child Care friends.

We began by learning about Advent—what it means and how we can get ready for Christmas. We used an Advent wreath, calendar and a pink/blue paper chain to count down the days.

The 3-5 year olds participated in the center's Christmas service. All the children did such a great job sharing the good news of Jesus' birth; which they learned is the true meaning of Christmas.

During the rest of the month, we filled our days with many Christmas activities, projects, books, songs and snacks. We also worked with the color blue and the star shape. Other focuses have been putting on coats independently, proper handwashing, cleaning up and using table manners.

Please remember that unless the weather is too cold or wet, we will go outside. If your child doesn't have the proper outside winter clothing yet, please send them as soon as possible.

We look forward to seeing you at the January Family Fun Event coming soon!

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# Snow Days

If school or Child Care will be closed all day, we will notify you through HiMama. The general rule of thumb is— if Falls Elementary closes



or has a 2 hour delay, Preschool and 4K classes will be cancelled for the day.

In most cases Child Care will still be open. If Falls YMCA closes, Child Care will be closed too.

If the school district closes early, Child Care will close 1.5 hours after the closure to give families time to get children at multiple places if necessary.

**Life Skill:** Pass food, pour your own drink. Use "please" and "thank you." Clean up after eating..

## 3 Year Old Preschool in January

Date	Jesus Time Themes	Additional Concepts & Skills
January 1-3	Simeon & Anna See Jesus	Dinosaurs
January 6-10	The Wise Men Find Jesus	Dinosaurs #7
January 13-17	Boy Jesus Studies in the Temple	Winter & Snow white
January 20-24	Jesus' Baptism	Winter & Snow circle
Jan. 27-31	Jesus Calls His Disciples	Community Helpers rectangles

Lutheran Schools Week

Jan. 26— Feb. 1

## Winter Clothes and Boots

If your child is in Child Care, please continue to have all the appropriate clothing for outdoors at school everyday.

Please check to make sure your child's clothing is **marked with his/her name** to help the teacher's keep track of what belongs to each child.

When your child comes to Child Care or school wearing **wet** boots, please help your child change into shoes near whichever door you enter and set the boots on the carpeted area to dry.

Children coming **only** to school **do not** need boots

or snowpants as we will not go outside unless we notify you ahead of time.



## Library

The 4K class went to the library Dec. 11 and Miss Britt visited our Preschool/Child Care on Dec. 12.

We heard the books "Merry Whatsmas?", "The Christmasy Cactus" and "When the Cows Come Home For Christmas."

We also had snowflakes flying around and did the Jack in the Box song.

January Library Days will be Jan 8 for 4K and Jan. 9 for PS/CC. Drivers will be needed for 4K.

## Thank you

- We have earned about \$135 from saving used ink, toner cartridges and cell phones.
- You have earned about \$300 from your SCRIP purchases.

Thank you!



**Family Toolbox:** Go to church as a family. Look at the stained glass windows and symbols, talk about them. Talk about why we do the things e do in church (offering, invocation, benediction, etc.)

## 4K in January

Date	Jesus Time Themes	Additional Concepts & Skills
January 1-3	A Star Announces the Savior	Dinosaurs #7
January 6-10	Jesus as a Young Boy	Dinosaurs Vv -volcano #8
January 13-17	Jesus is Baptized	Winter & Snow Qq—quilt
January 20-24	Jesus Calls the Disciples	Winter & Snow Ww - white
Jan. 27-31	Jesus Blesses the Children	Community Helpers Cc - construction brown

Family Activity Day

Saturday, Feb. 1

10-11:30 am

## Family Events

We have planned 3 events this year when families can meet with others from St. Paul and have fun.

In September, we met at the Shaw Family Playground and had fun playing on the equipment.

To end Lutheran Schools Week, on Sat., Feb. 1, the teachers will be providing 4 fun activities (Animals theme) for parents and children to do together on Family Activity Day.

See the attached sheet for more information. If you would like to participate, please return the form by Fri, Jan. 24 so

we have time to prepare the materials needed.

On Sat, May 10, Magician Glen Gerard will have a magic show for us. We will end the evening with Theo's Pizza.

Watch for the sign-up sheet in April.

730 Cty Rd PPP  
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Phone: 920-467-6733  
Fax: 920-467-4239

E-mail: [preschool@stpaulfalls.com](mailto:preschool@stpaulfalls.com) or  
[childcare@stpaulfalls.com](mailto:childcare@stpaulfalls.com)

## Enrollment

Enrollment forms with the \$75 registration fee will be accepted for the 2025-2026 school year as follows:

- Children currently enrolled in Preschool or Child Care, as well as siblings and church members can enroll beginning Jan. 20. On Thursday, January 30 there will be an Open House from 6-7:00 pm when non-members may enroll. As of this date, spots cannot be guaranteed.

Enrollment forms will be sent home January 16/17 with all children currently in the Preschool and Child Care. If you will not be using the form, please pass it on if you know someone who might be interested. If you get someone else to enroll their child, you will receive \$25 off your next month's tuition bill. Additional enrollment forms, can be found on the wall next to the Child Care bulletin board in the entrance hall.

Remember that if you aren't already using SCRIP, you can begin saving as soon as your child is enrolled. You can also bank earnings over the summer or a year in advance.

### 2025-26 Tuition (as of Jan. 1)

Registration—\$75

Preschool—\$110 per month

4K—\$170 per month

Child Care—(2.5-3yrs)\$5.75 per hour

Child Care (3-5yrs)\$5.50 per hour

Drop- In Rate—\$6.75/\$6.50(2.5 yrs/3-5 yrs)

Full-time—\$225/\$215 (2.5 yrs/3-5 yrs)



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# WEMLS Standards

## Knowledge and Skills

### Diversity in Learning

1. Experiences a variety of routines, practices and languages.
2. Learns within the context of their family and culture.
3. Uses various styles of learning including verbal/linguistic, bodily/kinesthetic, visual/spatial, interpersonal and intrapersonal.

- We begin with a regular routine and then vary it to incorporate visitors, visiting the Gathering Place, 4K field trips, etc.
- Each child is the "Special Child of God" for a week. He/she brings pictures and shares information about his/her family and home life.
- Children share their experiences and we compare them to others' knowledge.
- Show-n-Tell, book time and Bible stories foster verbal learning; playing outside or in the gym develop body, visual and spatial skills, while play time develops intra and interpersonal skills.