



The Early Childhood Corner

From the Teachers' Desk

Dear parents,

The school year has begun! This is a time of firsts and new experiences for your child - new people, new surroundings: exciting and maybe scary too. We understand this and are doing everything possible to foster a warm, caring environment where a comfortable transition from home to school can occur.



The teaching responsibilities will be shared as follows: **Preschool & 4K** - Mrs. Zeuner & Ms. Rajer, **Child Care**—Mrs. Leuck, Mrs. Stiemke and Ms. Rajer. We will share Jesus' love through Bible stories, songs and finger plays. Readiness skills, as well as fine motor control, will be developed through activities and projects. Large motor control and sociali-

zation skills will develop through structured and unstructured play.

Our role as teachers is to work with you and build on what you have already developed in your child. To foster communication, we will post information and notes on the hall bulletin boards. If something pertains only to your child's class, it will be color coded to match your child's cubby and coat hook nametags.

- * **3AM** - yellow
- * **3PM** - green
- * **4K** - red/hot pink
- * **Child Care**- blue

We will also send home the following to PS & 4K families:

- * an outline of each day as well as information you need through Lillio
- * a weekly copy of the Bible story—save this

in the folder we give you in November

- * a snack list for each month
- * this newsletter containing monthly information

Please take the time to read this information when it arrives, mark important dates on your calendar and whenever you have a question or problem, contact one of us.

Much of this newsletter repeats the information in the Meet the Teacher presentation you received.

We are looking forward to a great year!

In His service,
Mrs. Leuck
Ms. Rajer
Mrs. Stiemke
Mrs. Zeuner



St. Paul Lutheran
Early Childhood
Center

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Special Points of Interest:

- Review procedures that will make the year go smoothly for you.
- Check out the monthly themes, concepts and skills for each age level.
- Find snack ideas
- Learn about the educational standards we use (WEMLS)

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SCRIP (now called RaiseRight)

Preschool, 4K & Child Care

Earn money toward your tuition. Each participating store gives you a percentage of your purchase as credit 50% of the credit will go toward your tuition and 50% will go to the ECC. Orders will be filled on

Wednesday or Thursday. At all times, you must order through the ECC to receive credit. Keep the store list at home. Fill out the Scrip Order Form (quarter sheet) and put it with your money in the basket by the coatroom. You will re-

ceive your gift cards by the end of the day/class if they are in stock.

Anything else will be ordered, but may take up to 2 weeks to receive.



Drop-off & Pick-up

Preschool/4K

The Preschool/4K entrance is Entrance 3. You may ignore the No Parking signs and park in the half-circle drive. If you arrive at school and the doors to the classroom are closed, please wait in the hall. The teachers are using this time to finish preparations for the day. The doors will be opened at 8:55 am or 12:25 p.m. for Preschool and 8:25 for 4K.



When you come into the classroom, help your child find his/her name in the coatroom. Outerwear and 4K backpacks are hung up here. Show-n-Tell stays in the backpack.

Tuition is put in the wall drop box and other papers go in the black basket on the table found to your

left before turning into the coatroom.

We are asking Preschool parents to help your child find his/her cubby. If there are papers in it, help your child put them into the backpack before storing it all in the cubby. (Show-n-Tell stays in there.) As your child becomes used to this routine, have him/her do more of it independently. This will help us develop things we would like your child to do on his/her own by the end of the year.

All children (and parents when staying for computer time, a party, etc.) must wash their hands before getting busy for the day.

If you are picking your child up after school, wait in the hall outside the ECC doors and we will bring your child to you.

Child Care

On days when your child will **only** attend Child Care, please use the Child Care entrance. Ring the doorbell to be let in.

Also use this door if your child will be in Child Care before or after a Preschool/4K session.

In either case, help your child hang backpack and coat in the correct spot, put a blanket/sleeping bag in the classroom cubby and lunch on the shelf.

Pick your child up from Child Care using the same door.

The state requires that you write the arrival and departure time every day and include your signature on the sign-in sheet each week.

3 Year Old Preschool in September

Date	Jesus Time Themes	Additional Concepts & Skills
Sept. 1-5	Who is Jesus?	Welcome to School
Sept. 8-12	God Made the World	Welcome to School
Sept. 15-19	God Made People	Pets brown
Sept. 22-26	Noah & the Flood	Pets #1

Preschool -
first day of
school is
Tuesday,
September 2.

Show-n-Tell

Preschool & 4K—The day your child brings the snack or drink, he/she may also choose to bring something for Show-and-Tell. We do this to give each child a chance to talk to others in the class and to feel good about sharing something important to him/her.

If you need ideas, use the weekly themes, concepts or readiness skills for a guideline (i.e. - something red during red week). Favorite toys, photos of places you have gone, something you have done or nature objects work well too.

Instructions for a color/shape box, a number bag and an alphabet box (4K only) are attached to the September snack list. The explanation for these special Show-n-Tell days give you some guidance as to what to do for these days.

Life Skills

Many of the things your child needs to learn this year are considered life skills, such as putting toys away when done playing, managing a coat, washing hands independently, etc.

Each month we will let you know

what the skill is that we are focusing on and if you work on it at home, it will be that much easier for your child to master.

We will post the skill on the bulletin board and list it in the lesson plan and newsletter.



September Life Skill:

Handwashing & self-sufficiency in the bathroom.

Faith Development Idea:

***Pray at meals. The monthly snack prayer will be sent home on a card (4K) and included in the bi-monthly song sheet (PS).**

Family Tool Box

Your most important job as a parent is to help your child develop his/her faith and have a life-long relationship with Jesus.



Our job is to help you do this. Every month we will share an idea of something age appropriate you can do at home. You will find this in the Family Tool Box in the lesson plan, newsletter and on the bulletin board.

4K in September

Date	Jesus Time Themes	Additional Concepts & Skills		
Sept. 1-5	Who is Jesus?	Welcome to School	circle	
Sept. 8-12	God Made the World & People	Welcome to School	#0	
Sept. 15-19	The First Sin	Pets	#1	gray
Sept. 22-26	The Tower of Babel	Pets		
		Dd—dog		brown

No School on Labor Day - September 1

4K - First day of school is Wednesday, September 3.

Snacks

Preschool & 4K—You will receive a snack list each month (color-coded). If your child's name is in bold print, send a **nutritious snack**. If there is an asterisk (*), provide the drink - juice or milk. If you send juice, it must be 100% fruit juice. A 36 or 48 oz bottle works best. The current number of children in the class is printed at the bottom of the list as well as any food allergies.

Each week will be labeled with the theme and concepts. This might help you get ideas for Show-n-Tell and/or snacks.

Once a month we will "cook" our snack at school. If your child's name falls on this day, you will receive a list of ingredients to send for the snack that day.

Child Care

Snacks and juice/water are provided in the morning and afternoon. We also provide milk for lunch. You may send a special snack for a birthday.



Snack Ideas for Preschool/4K

For each snack we must provide at least 2 (the drink counts as one of these) of the following: a fruit or vegetable, a meat, a grain or dairy. Snack ideas are listed below. We will supplement the snack if it doesn't meet the required guidelines. If you have questions, ask one of us. **A special diet based on a food allergy may be served upon the written request of the parent.** Another food or drink is provided by the ECC when the snack is inappropriate for these children. Food allergies will be posted on the snack lists and the bulletin boards.



vanilla yogurt kiwi	Ritz crackers orange sections	cucumber slices yogurt dip	graham crackers apple slices	bagels applesauce
peanut butter English muffin	strawberries vanilla yogurt	gingerbread green grapes	cantaloupe graham crackers	saltines peanut butter
ham slices wheat bread	cottage cheese peaches	pears corn muffins	biscuits cinnamon applesauce	wheat thin crackers yogurt
cheese cubes pineapple chunks	cheese curds grapes	sliced turkey apples	Swiss cheese carrots	soft tortillas cheese or meat
banana vanilla wafers	string cheese whole wheat crackers	carrots & celery dip	banana bread applesauce	bagel apples
granola yogurt	soft bread sticks pizza sauce	chicken noodle soup crackers	peaches graham crackers	fruit cocktail graham crackers
pretzels cheese sauce	bagel peanut butter	crackers sausage	granola bars fruit	animal crackers yogurt
banana muffins watermelon	rice cakes raisins	zucchini bread Teddy grahams	blueberry muffins pumpkin bread	peaches graham crackers
mini pizzas	fruit kabobs vanilla wafers	crescent rolls hotdogs	cereal mix with dried fruit	vanilla wafers pudding

Birthdays

Preschool & 4K—Since many children's birthdays fall in the summer or not on a class day, we choose a date as close to it as possible and mark it as such on the snack calendar.

We will celebrate August birthdays in September while June and July birthdays will be celebrated in May.

Feel free to send a "special snack" on this day. **If you send something sweet, the state requires you to also send something from one of the 4 food groups.** Healthy but fun alternative ideas are bulleted to your right.

Child Care celebrates as close to the date as possible.

Birthday Treat Ideas

- * Parfait with low-fat yogurt, fruit and granola (serve it in a cone)
- * Trail mix (low sugar cereals, raisins (plain or yogurt covered), dried fruit, pretzels, etc.)
- * Seasonal beverages (warm cider in fall, a fruit smoothie in summer)
- * Bananas dipped in yogurt, rolled in crushed cereal and frozen
- * 100% fruit juice freezer pops
- * Fruit pizzas using whole grain tortillas topped with low-fat whipped topping and fruit
- * Fruit salad or apples with caramel dip



Our Educational Standards

WMELS are standards that were created and adopted in Wisconsin to help families, teachers and policy makers use the same language when planning for the well-being of children from birth to first grade. This helps everyone know what appropriate developmental expectations are for young children in all areas of development so that the best experiences can be provided for them.

St. Paul Early Childhood Center has a curriculum that incorporates these standards. To help you see how we do this, we have posted pictures in the rooms showing the children doing something and the standard it follows. To help you become more familiar with this, we will introduce some of the standards each month and explain what we do to meet them. If you want to know more or have questions, please ask. We are always happy to answer questions you may have.

The 4K class goes to Memorial Library in Sheboygan Falls once a month for story time. We will leave school about 10:50 am to get there. You will pick your child up at the library at 11:30 am. We will need drivers to get us there. If you can help, indicate this on the permission slip as well as how many children you can take. (We can provide booster seats.)

The exception to this will be in September and May, if the weather is good. We will meet outside the library at 8:30 am, walk to the falls, play at River Park and walk back to the library. Look for more information on the permission slip.

The first date for 4K will be Wednesday, September 10. Miss Britt, the librarian will visit the Preschool and Child Care at school on Thursday, September 11.



WMELS Standards ...

Positive Social Relationships

Emotional Development:

- 1. Expresses a wide range of emotions*
- 2. Understands and responds to others' emotions.*

*We help the children verbalize their own feelings as they interact during the day.

*Activities allow the children to express the various emotions they feel.

*The children learn empathy for others as we pray for friends and their families who are sick, upset or need Jesus' help.

Self-Concept:

- 1. Develops positive self esteem.*
- 2. Demonstrates self awareness.*

*Children are encouraged to try new things and are positively supported in their attempts.

*Each child gets to share pictures and information about him/herself with the class as a "Special Child of God".

*Children receive positive feedback and praise from the teachers.

St. Paul Lutheran Early Childhood Center

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State Law Reminders

- * We must call you within the first half hour of school or of your scheduled arrival time in Child Care if we aren't notified of your child's absence.
- * The name of anyone picking up your child must be on the emergency card. We may ask for photo ID.
- * The health history and emergency card must be turned in by the first day of school. Doctor and immunization forms are due no later than Friday., October 3.

Child Care



Child Care is available Monday—Friday from 7 am—5:30 pm for children aged 2.5-5 years old.

The cost is \$5.50 per hour or any part of an hour when scheduling the week before. The drop-in rate is \$6.50 per hour.

This program can be used before and/or after attending Preschool or 4K, on days when your child's class is not in session or occasionally when you have an appointment and need care.

We provide a safe, loving environment with educational programming that coordinates with the themes and concepts used in Preschool and 4K. You send a lunch and we provide milk as well as morning and afternoon snacks.

If you are already scheduled to use Child Care, please confirm your start date and times with Mrs. Leuck. During the year, if you will need other days or times, please ask about availability as soon as possible, since we have very limited space right now.

Ways to Help

Things to Save

We will take any of the following:



- Cell phones (working or not) & tablets
- Used or expired ink cartridges
- HP toner cartridges (places that generate a lot of paper-work like a doctor's office, car dealership, realtor's office, etc. will have these and have to recycle them.)

We receive anywhere from \$.02—\$3.00 for any of the things listed above. Put them in the box outside classroom hall doors that looks like a black and green ink cartridge or the black tray by the PS/4K coat room. Thank you!



Things to Collect

We need:



- * Crystal Light tubes
- * Large washers and bolts
- * Metal basket golf balls come in
- * Plastic Christmas ornaments (round only)
- * Colored plastic lids milk jugs or other containers



4K Field Trips

Besides a trip to the library once a month, a few additional field trips have been planned. All of these trips are dependent on parents' availability to drive.



Each month the permission slips for all trips will be sent home with the newsletter. Please return the right hand side of the sheet indicating whether you give permission or not for the trip. Keep the left hand side of the sheet to help you remember which days we have trips.

If you are willing to drive, a background check and proof of insurance need to be filled out. Thanks in advance to anyone who can help us.

