

Good Shepherd Junior Kindergarten

2014–2015

Dear Families,

Welcome to Junior Kindergarten! I am very happy to be your teacher. I will treasure the time I spend with your children, and I look forward to getting to know all of the families.

Junior Kindergarten is a happy place where we make friends, learn, play, dance, and sing. The curriculum is designed to prepare children for kindergarten in all developmental areas. We will do our best to make this year a valuable one for your child. As a parent, you can help by showing interest in your child's school day. Be accepting and positive as your child shares stories and projects with you. Working together, we are helping your child develop a sense of self-worth and independence, which are important ingredients to success.

Mrs. Westwood

Welcome to:

Good Shepherd Catholic School

8180 Gold Coast Drive

San Diego, CA 92126

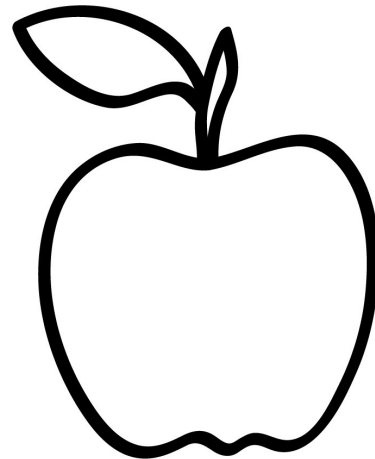
Phone: (858) 693-1522

Fax: (858) 693-3439

Web: www.goodshepherdcatholic.net

Email: gsoffice@san.rr.com

My Email: kwestwood@goodshepherdcatholic.net



This packet will acquaint you with the information that will help you have a good school year. Keep this packet in a safe place so that you can refer to it during the months to come.

ATTENDANCE

School is in session from 7:40 am-2:30 p.m. Regular attendance is very important. When a student is absent or tardy for any reason, he/she must have a written note upon his/her return to class. Please remember to call the office on the first day of an absence. Students needing to leave during school hours must be signed out in the office.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Please print your child's name on everything sent to school (clothing, snacks, lunches, backpack, etc.). When sending money, please put it in a sealed envelope or Ziploc bag with your child's name on it, the amount of money, and its purpose. In the event your child loses something, the Lost and Found Cart is located outside of the school office building.

UNIFORMS

Complete uniforms must be worn at all times. You must bring a note from home if for some reason you are out of compliance with the uniform code.

On Mass days, the children are to be in full school uniform. That means boys must wear trousers with a white polo and girls must wear jumpers with a white blouse. For warmth, they may wear a vest, a pullover, or a button down cardigan. If it is a P.E. Day, the students are allowed to wear their P.E. uniform instead.

Please send a change of shorts, underwear, and socks for any accidents that may occur during the school day. They need to be placed in a large Ziploc bag with labeling.

SNACKS/LUNCHES

Students may bring a daily nutritious snack to be eaten at the mid-morning recess. The school does not provide a snack. Please send your child's snack in a paper bag or baggie with his/her name on it. The entire contents of the snack and bag should be disposed of at the end of the snack time. Leftover snacks can present a storage, spillage, or ant problem within the classroom. Candy/chocolates are not an acceptable snack and will be sent home. Be careful of high sugar content snacks.

Snack ideas:

Graham crackers or pretzels
fresh fruit: orange slices, berries or ½ banana
grapes (please cut in ½)
nuts with raisins or cranberries
string cheese
carrots & celery (with hummus)
rolled lunch meat and veggie slices
granola bars (not with candy in it)



MILK

Milk will be available for lunch for \$0.25. If you wish to send money for milk, please send it in an envelope with their name and indicate its purpose.

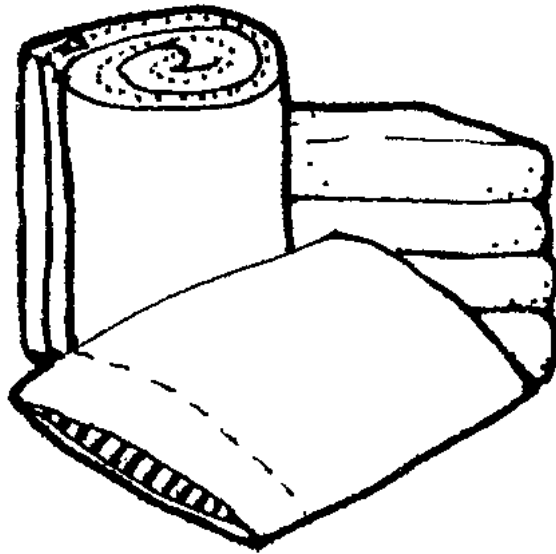
Junior Kindergarten lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. Please make sure lunch containers are clearly marked with name and grade. If you plan to bring a lunch to your child during the morning hours, please leave it in the school office so as not to disturb the class. A daily (pre-ordered) hot lunch will also be available.

***Please remove toys from fast food lunches before delivering them to school.

QUIET ACTIVITY/REST PERIOD

Each day, after lunch, we have a rest period. The children are required to rest quietly, but do not have to sleep. No stuffed animals or toys are permitted, as they get lost, broken, and are distracting. Your cooperation is appreciated. If you are planning on having your child stay for the afternoon, please send one small blanket and one small pillow/pillow case (pillow is optional) in a large Ziploc bag or other bag with labeling. I will send the blanket/pillow case home on Fridays for laundering. Please send them back clean on the following Monday.

***Even if you do not plan to have your child stay for the afternoon, schedules change and an afternoon in Junior Kindergarten may arise for your child. I would suggest sending a blanket/pillow in case it is needed.



DISCIPLINE

The purpose of discipline is to maintain an environment where values can grow. I will be firm, consistent, and fair in dealing with any problems. The support of the parents is greatly appreciated should a discipline problem arise.

***Every day, at the end of the morning schedule, the children will receive a stamp on their hand. The stamp indicates that they had a great day following the classroom and playground rules. Children who receive 3 or more verbal warnings will not earn a daily stamp and will be given a time out for up to four minutes.

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Be kind
2. Use voices soft and sweet
3. Help our friends
4. Keep our hands and feet to ourselves
5. Always do our best

REWARDS

- Verbal praise
- Stamps
- Stickers
- Surprises/treats



CONSEQUENCES

- Verbal warnings x3
- Four minute time-out
- A talk with the teacher regarding appropriate classroom behavior

SCHOOL RULES

Follow these school rules for a safe and happy school year.

1. The yellow-lined area that encircles the school building is the designated safety/quiet zone. Students are required to walk and be quiet in this area during the school day.
2. Students are required to remain on the school grounds during the school day. Students may not go in the parking lot to collect snacks or lunches from parents.
3. Students are required to check into Extended Care if they are on the school grounds before 7:30 a.m. or after 2:40 p.m.

CURRICULUM

The Good Shepherd Catholic School Junior Kindergarten curriculum is a comprehensive, fully integrated curriculum that is developmentally appropriate for younger children. Junior Kindergarten is a bridge between preschool and

Kindergarten.

RELIGION

The religion program is a “Faith-Development Program for Five-Year-Olds” titled Discovering God's Love by William H. Sadlier. The program covers friends, family and God's love for us. We will also be learning about the mass and concluding with a “field trip” to Good Shepherd Catholic Church. Students are also required to learn the Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Angel of God, and Grace before meals.

LANGUAGE ARTS

The Investigator Program

- Writes name/letters
- Recognizes letters
- Associates letters with sounds
- Identifies words that rhyme
- Works left to right
- Speaks in sentences/expresses ideas well

MATH

The Investigator Program

- Identifies numbers 1-20 out of sequence
- Counts 20 objects
- Writes numerals 1-10
- Understands number value 1-10

- Recognizes and extends patterns
- Recognizes basic shapes
- Classifies, sorts

SCIENCE/SOCIAL STUDIES

The Investigator Program

In the Investigator Program for Science and Social Studies, we discuss and explore the following areas.

- Family/Home
- School
- Neighborhood
- City/State
- World/Earth
- Space:Planets/Stars

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education will be taught once a week by Mr. Drummond. And once a week by Mrs. Westwood. Appropriate footwear is required on P.E. days (non-marking sole athletic/tennis shoes only). P. E. days will be on Mondays and Fridays.

- Introduction to Team Sports
- Large Motor Skills: jumping, skipping, galloping, hopping, balancing, ball handling
- Team Work/Sportsmanship
- Listening Skills

-Beginning Development of Fine Motor Skills

-Movement to songs/music/rhythm

MUSIC

Music will be taught once a week by Mr. Banayat.

-Introduction to Music Concepts

-Rhythmic Activities

-Liturgical Songs

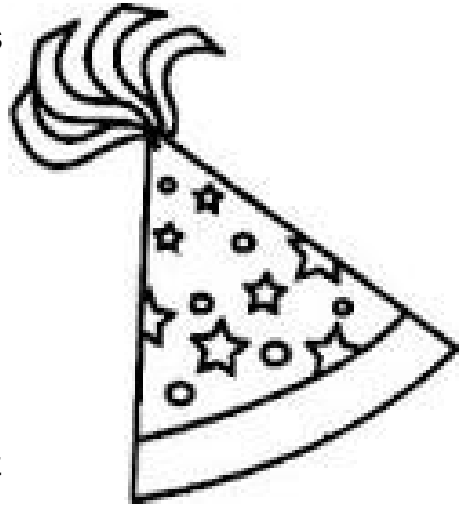
-Holiday/Seasonal Songs

-Group Singing



BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays are special days. We celebrate birthdays at school through song and recognition of the special day on the calendar. If you would like to send a “birthday snack” feel free to do so. Muffins and low sugar cookies make a nice treat. Napkins are appreciated. Cakes and cartons of ice cream are difficult to distribute and are discouraged. Classroom facilities are limited. Please check with me a few days in advance so I can plan accordingly.



Please do not send party invitations to the school. Children not being invited feel very sad when their classmates receive invitations and they do not. Please be considerate in regard to this matter.

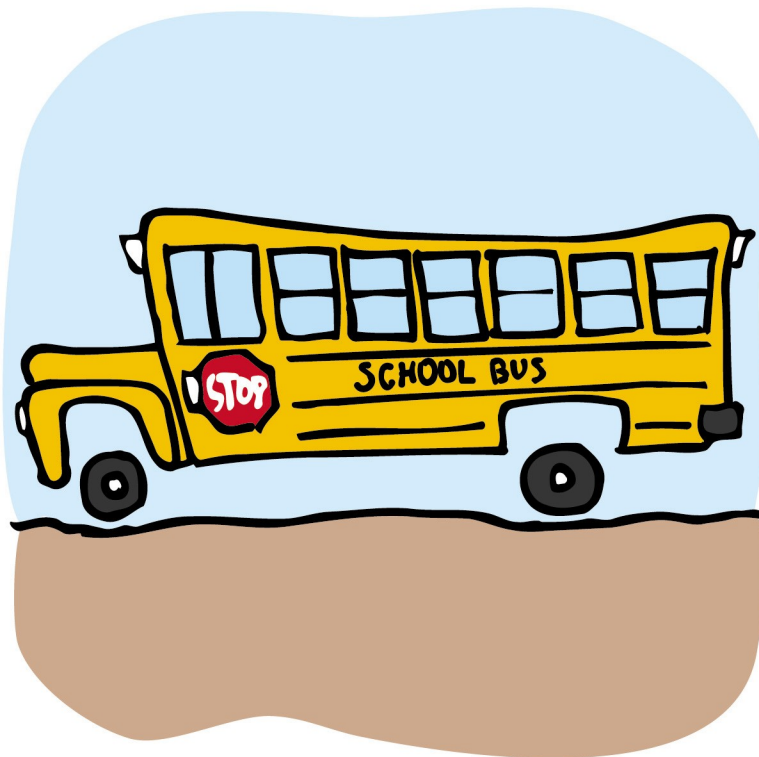
REPORT CARDS AND GRADING

Report cards and progress reports are prepared four times a year. We will have parent-teacher conferences in the fall. We will use this time to review the curriculum/grading, and answer any questions you have about Junior Kindergarten or any concerns regarding your child.

I am available to talk with you anytime during the school year. Please send a note, an email, or call the office. I will contact you to arrange a convenient time to meet. My email is kwestwood@goodshepherdatholic.net

JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN RESPONSIBILITIES

Junior Kindergarten is a great time to start encouraging your child to complete little chores and responsibilities. In this way, your child is maturing and realizing the importance of work. Guiding your child in this direction helps the child to become confident and independent. Tying their own shoes, dressing themselves, buttoning/unbuttoning, managing their own food and drinks, setting the table, taking out the trash, helping to recycle, helping to pack their snack/lunch, cleaning out their backpack, cleaning up toys, and bringing in the mail are some of the many things you may want to consider.



SUPPLY LIST--Junior Kindergarten

2014-2015

4 rolls of paper towels

2 box of baby wipes

5 containers of disinfecting wipes

1 bottle of disinfecting hand soap

3 boxes of kleenex

crayola crayons--pack of 16

crayola markers--pack of 10

4 jumbo pencils with erasers

backpack without wheels

1 bottle of Elmer's glue

18 glue sticks

change of clothes (large Ziploc bag/labeled and

to include shorts/socks/underwear)

small blanket for nap time (large Ziplock bag/labeled)

small pillow (optional/labeled)

