

# ST. MARK'S PRESCHOOL

## CLASS DESCRIPTIONS for 2018-19

### **M-F 4/5s 9:00–11:30: (4 by 9/1/18)**

Class of up to 18 students with 1 teacher and 1 teacher assistant.

This five day program is designed for the child in their last year of preschool before kindergarten or for the child who may need an extra year of preparation before making the transition to kindergarten. Enrolling your preschooler in this five day program allows them the consistency of coming each day which is an excellent preparation for those going on to full day kindergarten. Curriculum, lessons, and goals align to the benchmarks of the Illinois Early Learning Standards and focus on kindergarten readiness.

The five day 4s will learn letter recognition, develop writing skills, and be introduced to basic sight words. The print rich setting and literature based lessons will provide a strong literacy foundation as children develop a love for stories and reading. Math instruction will include counting, number recognition, reasoning, and problem solving skills. Science, social studies, and foreign language concepts are explored through thematic units. The daily routine will include Bible stories, manners, sign language and fine and gross motor development.

Once a month, the class will participate in chapel chats in the sanctuary with our pastor and story time with the St. Charles Library. Students will also receive twice monthly music enrichment through B-Sharp Music. Two to three field trips are taken during the school year. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in the classroom and accompany the class on field trips.

### **M-Th 4s 8:45 – 11:45: (4 by 9/1/18)**

Class of up to 18 students with 1 teacher and 1 teacher assistant.

This four day program is designed for the child in their last year of preschool before kindergarten or for the child who may need an extra year of preparation before making the transition to kindergarten. Curriculum, lessons, and goals align to the benchmarks of the Illinois Early Learning Standards and focus on kindergarten readiness.

The four day 4s will learn letter recognition, develop writing skills, and be introduced to basic sight words. The print rich setting and literature based lessons will provide a strong literacy foundation as children develop a love for stories and reading. Math instruction will include counting, number recognition, reasoning, and problem solving skills. Science, social studies, and foreign language concepts are explored through thematic units. The daily routine will include Bible stories, manners, sign language and fine and gross motor development.

Once a month, the class will participate in chapel chats in the sanctuary with our pastor and story time with the St. Charles Library. Students will also receive twice monthly music enrichment through B-Sharp Music. Two to three field trips are taken during the school year. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in the classroom and accompany the class on field trips.

**MWF 4s 8:45–11:45: (4 by 9/1/18)**

**Class of 14 students with 1 teacher and 1 teacher assistant.**

This three day a week, three hour class is designed for children in their last year of preschool before kindergarten. It also boasts a small student / teacher ratio which allows for more one-on-one / individualized instruction. Curriculum and lessons align to the Illinois Early Learning Standards. This class focuses on the development of self-help, listening, language, writing, number sense, problem solving, group participation, and creative art skills with a goal of kindergarten readiness.

Your child will learn literacy skills such as upper and lower case letter recognition and the sounds they represent. They will be introduced to basic sight words and use critical thinking skills to help make predictions and re-tell stories. In math, the focus will be helping your child develop an understanding of numbers, measurement, estimation and graphing to help solve problems.

Once a month, the class will participate in chapel chats in our sanctuary with pastor and story time with the St Charles Library. They will also receive twice monthly music enrichment through B-Sharp Music. Two to three field trips are taken during the school year. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in the classroom, accompany the class on field trips, and take part in the reader parent program.

**M/W/F 3s 9:00-11:30 (3 by 9/1/18) and must be potty trained.**

**Class of 15 students with 1 teacher and 1 teacher assistant.**

This three day a week class is ideal for children who have attended our 2 year old class or for those who are ready for three days of school. A balance of structured and free choice activities is offered to encourage independence and curiosity for learning. Circle times encourage listening skills, following directions and speaking in front of others. The children are exposed to beginning Spanish, Bible stories, songs, finger-plays, rhythm instruments and lots of picture books.

The class centers on a thematic approach that introduces children to alphabet letters using developmentally appropriate, multisensory activities and “Animal Island” phonics curriculum. Math activities include classification, sorting, ordering, counting, shape recognition, and numeral recognition. Language arts, math, science, social studies, religion, art, and music make up the curriculum which aligns with Illinois Early Learning Standards. Self-help, communication, and social skills will also be emphasized.

Once a month, the class will attend chapel chats in the sanctuary with our pastor and participate in story time with the St. Charles Library. They will also receive twice monthly music instruction with B-Sharp Music. An end of the year field trip is taken to Wheeler Park in Geneva where the whole family is invited.

**T/TH 3s: 8:45-11:45** (3 by 9/1/18) and must be potty trained.  
Class of 16 students with 1 teacher and 1 teacher assistant.

This two day a week, three hour class is appropriate for those children who have not been in preschool before or for those parents who prefer two days a week for their child. Lesson plans are focused on helping students become problem solvers and develop a love of learning. Children will participate in independent exploration and structured activities with many hands-on learning opportunities.

The class centers on a thematic approach that introduces children to alphabet letters using developmentally appropriate, multisensory activities and “Animal Island” phonics curriculum. Math activities include classification, sorting, ordering, counting, shape recognition, and numeral recognition. Language arts, math, science, social studies, religion, art, and music make up the curriculum which aligns with Illinois Early Learning Standards. Self-help, communication, and social skills will also be emphasized.

Once a month, the class will attend chapel chats in the sanctuary with our pastor and participate in story time with the St. Charles Library. They will also receive music instruction twice monthly with B-Sharp Music. An end of the year field trip is taken to Wheeler Park in Geneva where the whole family is invited.

**M/W 2s 9:00-11:30:** (2 by 9/1/18) or **TTH 2s 9:00 – 11:30** (3 by 1/31/19) Need not be potty trained.  
Class of 10 students with 1 teacher and 1 teacher assistant.

Two year olds are busy, active, energetic, and naturally curious about their surroundings. Participating in the 2s program gives children a chance to grow in confidence and security while being away from their parents. This beginning program will also offer young children the opportunity to enjoy social play with friends, develop curiosity for learning through hands-on discovery experiences, and begin to understand how to function as part of a group in a classroom setting. Through thematic units, students will be exposed to books, new vocabulary words, fine and gross motor activities, counting, colors, songs, Bible stories, and many opportunities for cooperative play.

The 2s teacher shares daily verbal feedback to parents and provides a weekly newsletter with pictures to detail the children’s day to day activities. If you think your child is ready for a first school experience in a warm, nurturing Christian environment, then this is the class for you!

The class will attend monthly chapel chats in the sanctuary with our pastor and receive twice monthly music instruction with B-Sharp Music.

**T/TH/F 3s 8:45-11:45: (3 by 9/1/18)**

**Class of 15 students with 1 teacher and 1 teacher assistant.**

This two day a week, three hour class is appropriate for those children who are ready for a three day option.

Lessons plans are focused on helping students become problem solvers and develop a love of learning. Children will participate in independent exploration and structured activities with many hands-on learning opportunities.

The class centers on a thematic approach that introduces children to alphabet letters using developmentally appropriate, multisensory activities and “Animal Island” phonics curriculum. Math activities include classification, sorting, ordering, counting, shape recognition, and numeral recognition. Language arts, math, science, social studies, religion, art, and music make up the curriculum which aligns with Illinois Early Learning Standards. Self-help, communication, and social skills will also be emphasized.

Once a month, the class will attend chapel chats in the sanctuary with our pastor and participate in story time with the St. Charles Library. They will also receive music instruction twice monthly with B-Sharp Music. An end of the year field trip is taken to Wheeler Park in Geneva where the whole family is invited.

**Extended Day - Lunch Bunch Wednesdays 11:45-1:45 (Ages 3 - 5)**

**Class may go up to 20 students with 1 teacher and 1 teacher assistant.**

**What is “Extended Day”?** Our extended day program adds extra learning time to your child’s preschool day. This program gives children the opportunity to share a mealtime with their friends, learn important social skills, and participate in fun theme based activities. During the class, children will engage in stories, songs, free play, gym / playground time, games, art, math, language arts and science. A longer preschool day provides parents more free time to run errands, schedule appointments, etc.

**How it works:** When you bring your child in the morning, we ask you to sign-in with a name and phone number and write “ED” for the authorized pick-up. At 11:45 am the children will be escorted to the “ED” classroom by one of their regular classroom teachers who will transfer and sign-in the children with the number provided earlier. Children will bring their own lunch, drink, and any utensils they may need. Lunches will be stored in the refrigerator. Please remember we are a nut free environment, so no peanut butter or peanut products. Extended Day is not an official DCFS regulated program, but the standards/policies will be maintained.

**Who is it for?** This program is for children ages 3 through 5 who are potty trained. If your child does not attend preschool that day, they are still welcome to join us. It is a way to add an extra day of fun! It is also open to children who are not enrolled in our preschool. If you know anyone who may be interested, please spread the word.

**When is it?** This class meets on Wednesdays from 11:45-1:45, September through May. Children may join at any time if space is available.

## **Enrichment Classes + Lunch Bunch 11:45-1:45 (Ages 3 - 5)**

Class may go up to 20 students with 1 teacher and 1 teacher assistant.

**What are “Enrichment Classes”?** Enrichment classes are 5-6 week themed classes where students will have the opportunity to “dig deeper” into some high interest learning topics. These classes are usually held on Mondays. Examples of previous enrichment class topics are *Budding Engineers, Hooked on Books, Manners Everywhere, Cooking, Coding and Robots* just to name a few. Students will also have the opportunity to eat lunch with friends at school and enjoy an extra gym / playground time in addition to exploring the enrichment topic through fun hands on activities and learning centers.

**Who is it for?** This program is for children ages 3 through 5 who are potty trained. It allows an opportunity to try a longer day without committing to our year long extended day program. If your child does not attend preschool on Enrichment Day, they are still welcome to join us. It is a way to add an extra day of fun! It is also open to children who are not enrolled in our preschool. If you know anyone who may be interested, please spread the word.

**When is it?** This class usually meets on Mondays from 11:45-1:45 for 5-6 weeks. Information about upcoming enrichment classes will be emailed and posted around our preschool in advance of the start of each new session so that families can register for specific programs they are interested in.