

WE HAVE VERY EXCITING NEWS TO SHARE WITH YOU!



After years of prayer, consideration, and preparation St. John will offer new programming for the 2010/2011 school year. **Kindergarten** will now be offered for any child who turns five by December 1st. The half-day program will be offered Monday through Friday. The curriculum will offer a firm academic foundation to ensure that children enter first grade with the skills and knowledge expected of them in the school that they will attend.

We are also happy to announce that the successful **Early Fives** program will be offered again next year. The four half-day a week Early Fives program allows children who will turn five from June to December to take the extra time they need to prepare for Kindergarten. The Early Five curriculum is more advanced than 3 and 4 year old learning. Separating Early Fives from their young preschool peers is needed to provide a challenging academic learning environment that meets state standards and guidelines. Our main concern is that the Early Five children become developmentally mature enough to handle the expectations for Kindergarten with esteem and joy in learning.

Both the Kindergarten and Early Fives Programs will offer:

- Catholic Christian values which will encourage maturity in Christian character and moral wisdom.
- Small class size of 16 students or less which allows the teacher and one assistant to work with children individually and in small groups to build a strong foundation for future school success.
- All curriculum meet content standards and expectations set by the Michigan Department of Education.
- Curriculum will include: religious education, language arts, math, science, social studies, handwriting, music, art, physical education and computer instruction.
- Hands on project work in an unhurried setting that will accommodate the varying range in learning development that exist in young children.
- The focus will be a child-centered developmentally appropriate curriculum that encompasses the whole child - mentally, physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually.
- Small class size allows the teacher to incorporate hands on learning activities such as science experiments, cooking activities and classroom guest speakers that cannot be accomplished in a classroom with mixed age younger students.
- Life long learners who are caring and confident.

Students will be offered separate classes, or integrated into the existing afternoon Early Five class depending on the number of students interested for the 2010/2011 school year.

I will be delighted discuss details with you. Please call the preschool office (810) 652-0304 ext. 278 or my home (810) 653-1901.

Sincerely,
Lori Peppin
Director/Teacher