



**Grades
PreK-6**

Nazareth Elementary School Early Childhood Programs

Lifelong learning starts with a solid foundation. Early childhood programs are critical for lifelong learning and success. Giving your child the gift of a Nazareth education, is a gift that will last a lifetime. At Nazareth, your child will be able to grow at his/her own pace in wisdom, age, and grace in a loving, faith-filled environment.

Preschool and Kindergarten

Nazareth Elementary School offers a 5-day, full day preschool and kindergarten program.

The full day preschool and kindergarten programs provide a greater amount of time for:

- ◆ development of fine and gross motor skills
- ◆ development of language, literacy and communication skills that are fundamental to reading and writing (Children work toward early literacy competencies in listening, speaking, reading and writing.)
- ◆ nurturing the spiritual, emotional, intellectual, physical, and social development of each child
- ◆ learning about God, math, science, social studies, and health through group activities and hands-on experiences
- ◆ daily aesthetic expression through art and music
- ◆ play, exploration, discovery, imagination, and exercise through a variety of experiences.
- ◆ Play is essential at this level for healthy growth and development. It enables children to make sense of their world, develop social and cultural understandings, and grow in language and literacy skills and concepts. It allows children to express their thoughts and feelings, and to use their imaginations. Play fosters flexible and divergent thinking.

Preschool

- ◆ *The Nazareth Preschool Program provides:*
- ◆ an awareness that each one is a child of God who will grow in God's love
- ◆ a comforting environment to lessen separation anxiety
- ◆ an environment conducive to the development of self-awareness
- ◆ an environment which fosters a positive self-image and self-confidence
- ◆ an environment that encourages socialization with peers and adults
- ◆ a joy-filled environment where learning is fun
- ◆ experiences that will enable each child to communicate effectively with others
- ◆ the use of concrete materials and "hands-on" experiences to facilitate learning through discovery
- ◆ an environment conducive to the development of motor skills

Our Preschool Program provides a variety of developmentally appropriate activities for children that will:

- ◆ develop a sense of wonder and awe at God's creation
- ◆ foster a positive self-concept
- ◆ cultivate self-respect and respect for others; respect for cultural diversity
- ◆ teach responsibility and care of materials
- ◆ develop social skills
- ◆ encourage children to think, reason, question, and experiment

- ◆ encourage language and literature development
- ◆ enhance physical development
- ◆ encourage and demonstrate sound health, safety, and nutritional practices
- ◆ encourage creative expression and appreciation of the arts
- ◆ expand a child's knowledge of the world around him/her

Kindergarten

The Nazareth Kindergarten Program provides:

- ◆ a curriculum that is integrated so learning occurs primarily through play, theme lessons, projects, learning centers and activities that reflect the interests of the children.
- ◆ a curriculum that builds on what the children already know and fosters acquisition of new concepts and skills. The development of children's thinking, reasoning, decision-making, and problem-solving abilities are emphasized.
- ◆ a flexible environment to help children develop a sense of awe and wonder, inquisitiveness and openness, genuine respect and love for God, self, family, friends, and world.
- ◆ a curriculum that respects and supports individual, cultural and linguistic diversity.
- ◆ an environment where the uniqueness of each child is recognized and respected. Parent and teachers work together to help each child grow in wisdom, age and grace.

Our Early Childhood program fosters the building of community, while also striving to foster independence. It is important for children to develop self-help skills and competencies along with social skills that will be needed in future grades.

School Hours:

Arrival – 8:00. School officially begins at 8:15 and ends at 2:40.
Extended Care is available.

Admissions:

A child must be 3 years old by December 1 to enter PK3 and 4 years old by December 1 to enter PK4. (A child must be completely toilet trained; no pull-ups or diapers.)
A child must be 5 years old by December 1 in order to enter kindergarten.

Preschool tuition can be covered within your employer's Dependent Care FSA program. Check with your HR office for more information.

The seeds of wonder, discovery and natural curiosity nurtured tenderly during the early childhood years will blossom beautifully into a lifelong love of learning.

For more information or to register, call us at 585-458-3786.

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