

The preschool years are amazing years of development! They are a time for fostering the love of learning, nurturing curiosity, making new friends, growing socially and emotionally, understanding classroom rules and processes, and learning how to take care of oneself.

The PK4 school year is a great time of growth and development as we prepare our students for Kindergarten. Our curriculum includes: Learning without Tears, Jolly Phonics, Religion, Math, Science Exploration and Social Studies.

Our PK4 class meets Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM.
Below is a general idea of our typical day and procedures.

PK-4 DAILY SCHEDULE
Mrs. Strzyzynski
Room 106

| Time | Activity |
|---------------|--|
| 8:00 - 8:30 | Arrival: Table Time, Writing/Art Center, Sand/Water Play, Books, Thematic Projects |
| 8:30 - 8:45 | Morning Circle Time: Prayer, Pledge, Question of the Day, Calendar, Saints |
| 8:45 - 9:00 | Music/Movement: Jolly Phonics/Handwriting without Tears, Thematic Songs |
| 9:00-9:30 | Choice Time (Literacy): Handwriting without Tears, Jolly Phonics, Interest Centers |
| 9:30 - 9:45 | Outdoor Play |
| 9:45 - 10:00 | Story Time: Bible Stories, Interactive Read Aloud and Writing, Phonemic Awareness, Stretch |
| 10:00 - 10:15 | Snack & D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) Time |
| 10:15 - 10:45 | Choice Time: Interest Centers and Free Play |
| 10:45 - 10:55 | Closing Circle Time: Faith Sharing |
| 10:55 - 11:00 | Music/Pack-Up |
| 11:00 | Dismissal |

CONTACTS

Mrs. Jane Strzyzynski, Teacher
Email: jstrzyzynski@olwschool.org
Phone: 847-255-0050 x305

**Mrs. Jennifer Cummings,
T/Th Teacher's Aide**

**Mrs. Sharon Hendricks,
W/F Teacher's Aide**

Principal: Mr. David Wood
School Secretary: Mrs. Chris Tiltz
School Office: 847-255-0050

Please call the school office to report your child's absence or share any change for pick-up during the day.

BIRTHDAYS

At least one week prior, please make arrangements to celebrate your child's birthday at school. For summer birthdays, please select your preferred date or a half birthday.

For your child's school birthday celebration, we invite you to come to school to read a book to the class, play a favorite board game with small groups, or both! This celebration often works best right after drop off or before pick up.

Birthday treats are not permitted. If you are sending birthday invitations through backpack mail, they may be sent only if invitations to the entire class are given in order to be considerate of the feelings of others.

DRESS CODE

Please dress your child in comfortable clothes and shoes for play! We will be busy moving around and doing many art projects throughout the year.

Our classroom temperature changes often throughout the day. Even if your child is usually warm, **we highly recommend sending a lightweight sweater or sweatshirt to school each day.**

Please keep a back-up outfit in a ziploc bag in your child's backpack. This may be needed in the event of any spills, brushes with mud or paint, or accidents.

The children frequently misplace clothing items throughout the school year. Please make sure every article of clothing your child may remove at school is clearly labeled with his/her name. This includes jackets, sweatshirts, sweaters, and ALL winter gear.

LITERACY

LEARNING WITHOUT TEARS:

Get Set for School and Handwriting Without Tears Program

includes activities to develop fine motor skills, pre-writing skills, and letter formation in a variety of developmentally appropriate and multi sensory ways.

JOLLY PHONICS

provides exposure to letter recognition and letter sounds.

JOURNALS

contribute to important early writing development. Journal entries will be sent home monthly with selected entries saved in each child's PK-4 portfolio throughout the year.

HOME AND SCHOOL JOURNAL

incorporates pre-writing opportunities to connect home and school.

READ ALOUD/SHARED READING

promotes emerging literacy development, early literacy skills, vocabulary development, and develops a lifelong love of books and reading.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

SCHOOL MASSES

Our Lady of the Wayside students attend Mass throughout the year. Masses are usually at 8:30 a.m. Reminders will be sent in our weekly newsletter. Our PK-4 students will attend mass with the school. If your child arrives late that day, you can drop your child off at church with us.

SAINT of the WEEK

Each week, we will learn about a new Saint that matches our Letter of the Week.

RELIGION

Opportunities to partake in daily prayer, explore our Catholic faith traditions, learn about the mass, and hear read alouds about biblical stories and figures are interwoven throughout the day.

DOMAINS OF DEVELOPMENT

During the year, we will focus on:

- Approaches to Learning
- Creative Arts: Dance/Movement, Drama, Music and Visual Arts
- Language & Literacy Development
- Mathematical Knowledge & Skills
- Physical Development & Health
- Scientific Knowledge & Skills
- Self-Help Skills
- Social & Emotional Development
- Spiritual Growth