



# Welcome to the Preschool Room!

## Welcome! Meet Your Teachers!

In order to aid in a smooth transition to the Preschool Room, we have prepared this information to give you some insight to the changes you will experience now that your child is a Preschooler!

Please read through this booklet before your child transitions as a Preschooler. If you have any questions, please stop by and talk with the Preschool staff or the Director Brittany Anderson. We can also be reached via phone at 763.591.0681 or email: [holynativitycccc@gmail.com](mailto:holynativitycccc@gmail.com).

### Preschool Room Staff

#### **Marhea Harris:**

Marhea is our full time Preschool Teacher and has worked for us since September of 2015. Marhea has a BS in Early Childhood Education and a MN Teaching License. She has worked with children of all ages for over 20 years. She lives in Plymouth with her husband, Jimmy, and their son, Micah.

#### **Katie Samuelson:**

Katie is our part time morning aide and has worked for us since August 2017. Katie has several years of experience

in child care and school settings. Katie lives in Hanover.

#### **Benjamin Dryburgh:**

Benjamin is our part time afternoon aide and has worked for us since September 2017. He hails from North Dakota, but is currently attending his first year at Association Free Lutheran Bible School in Plymouth.

### **Holy Nativity Christian Child Care Center**

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### **Special points of interest:**

- ☺ Who are my teachers?
- ☺ What do I bring to school each day?
- ☺ What is included in the Preschool curriculum?
- ☺ What about my nap schedule?
- ☺ What do I eat every day?

## Changes from the Toddler Room to the Preschool Room

There are many changes that your child will be experiencing as they move to the Preschool Room. These include (but are not limited to):

- Highly structured, thematic approach to learning
- Great emphasis on skills needed for Kindergarten, focusing on all of

the physical, emotional, social, intellectual, and spiritual areas of development

- A 1:10 ratio
- An increase in the time spent outside
- Community field trips are taken bimonthly
- Greater encouragement for individual self-

care and responsibility

- More chances for parent involvement in the classroom

If you have any concerns about these changes, please feel free to discuss them with the preschool staff or Director Brittany.

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# Preschool Curriculum



Your preschooler will experience a lot of learning in the Preschool Room! We will continue to teach the children social interaction skills and how to use their words with other children and adults. The preschoolers will also learn about classroom rules and respect for one another.

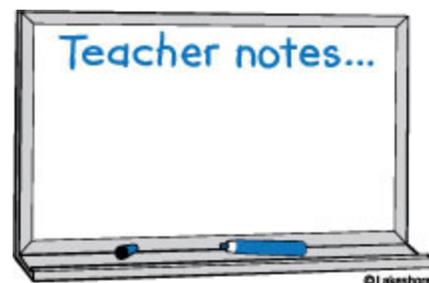
As a preschooler, your child will experience a more structured learning environment including a theme-based weekly curriculum. Your child will experience each of the following every day in their classroom:

- Circle Time: calendar, weather, alphabet, colors, shapes, stories, songs, patterning, sequencing, and a mini "lesson" about the weekly theme

- Jesus Time: Bible story, verses, songs, and lessons
- Science: A science activity related to the theme, available for each child's own exploration
- Art: structured and free art
- Sensory: a different sensory experience relating to the theme weekly
- Outdoor Time: outdoor play twice a day

- Songs/Stories: including both theme-based and general activities

The activities and projects will change daily and weekly, and will correlate with the theme of the week. A weekly lesson plan is posted in the Preschool Room and sent home via email, which gives a more detailed explanation of what your child will learn each week.



# Parent-Teacher Communication

Each morning the parent is responsible for filling out their child's daily note and signing their child in. The sign in sheet and daily notes are located outside of the Preschool Room on the Parent Communication Center. We ask that the parent fill out the top portion of the daily note and place it in your child's mailbox. Throughout the day, Preschool staff will fill out the lower portion to let you know how your child's day was. Please remember to take them home at the end of the day to learn about your child's day at school. In addition, there will

be a board with an open-ended question from the day that you can ask your child, to help aid in learning what your child did that day. We want to maintain open communication at all times with the parents of our enrolled children. We encourage you to give us feedback on our program and planned activities. At all times we hope you will feel free to speak with any of us about a concern or complaint. Please speak to the teachers directly in order to settle a situation or grievance. If you cannot find resolution at this point, please

speaking to the Director. We wish to serve you in the best way possible. Your input and needs are important to us as we try to provide the best possible care of your child. If at any time you wish to visit the Center to see your child, please feel that you are always welcome. Please feel free to call or email at any time to speak with the Director or your child's teacher. We will make every effort to notify you via phone, email, or written communication whenever a situation arises that we feel you should be aware of. Thank you!

# Preschool Nap Schedule

As an alternative to noisy and involved activities, naps are an important part of the daily program.

Nap in the Preschool Room is after lunch, and can last from one to two hours, depending on how long each group sleeps on a particular day. We request that each child sleep on their



cot or just enjoy the quiet. In the nap area, there is faint lighting and soft music playing. Each child will have their back patted as they fall asleep. We have found that most children need the rest and will easily fall asleep within one half-hour. If your child does not fall asleep after half an hour, they will be

allowed to get up and do quiet activities on the other half of the classroom. Please make sure that your child has a blanket for naptime. These blankets are to be brought home to be laundered once a week. While no child likes a break from play, we ask that you help your child understand that naptime is a quiet time. Please help us by referring to it as rest time. This may help your child adjust to the transition from play.

## Preschool Meals

Breakfast is served at 8:45 A.M. and is provided by HNCCCC. Breakfast consists of cold cereal, hormone-free 2% milk and 100% apple juice.

Lunch is served around 11:45 A.M. and is either provided by the parents or purchased from our catering company, Pint Size Catering, LLC. According to nutritional guidelines, your child's lunch must have the following: two fruits/vegetables, meat or meat alternate, a grain, and milk (provided by HNCCCC). We do not re-heat any food for the children, so parents may bring hot food in a thermos to be kept outside of the refrigerator for their child's lunch. We ask that parents label their child's lunch box and thermos in permanent marker with their child's full name.

Parents may instead choose to purchase a hot lunch for \$2.00 per lunch. Menus and order forms are provided a couple weeks in advance of the month, and parents are to return their orders before the month begins. Hot lunches are nutritionally sound and include all the necessary meal components.

HNCCCC provides cups, bowls, plates, and spoons for the children to use at mealtimes.

As requested, a list of lunch time suggestions will be provided for parents,



but one aspect to note: **HNCCCC is a peanut and tree nut free center, including items that are processed on equipment that processes nuts.**

Snack is served around 3:15 P.M. and is provided by HNCCCC. It includes milk and a nutritional snack that varies daily.

If you have any concerns about mealtimes or if your child has a food allergy, please let us know.

## Cubbies

Your Preschooler will have two labeled cubbies: one in the Preschool Room and one in the Muscle Room. Items needed in the classroom (blankets, extra clothes, etc.) are to be stored in their classroom cubby. Items needed for outdoor play (snowpants, jackets, boots, mittens, hats, etc.) are to be kept in the Muscle Room cubby. We ask that ALL of your child's items be labeled with your child's first and last names to prevent items from being lost here at HNCCCC. We ask that

parents clean out their child's cubbies as necessary to prevent an overflow of unnecessary items. Also, please be sure to keep the cubby stocked with extra clothes that are of the appropriate size and season. Preschoolers still have accidents from time to time and can get very messy with food, art and outdoor play, so there needs to be adequate extra clothing.

We like to display your child's artwork in the classroom, so their mailbox will

store your child's artwork after it has been prominently displayed in the Preschool Room and they are ready to take home. These can be found outside the Preschool Room in the Parent Communication Center.

**Please be sure ALL of your child's belongings are labeled with their first and last name!**

## Enrichment Classes

The Preschoolers partake in a special enrichment activities every day of the week: Spanish Lessons, Chapel, Dancercise, Growing with Music, and volunteer readers.

Spanish is offered on Mondays and is taught by Sra. Melinda Neuenfeldt. Melinda teaches part time at Mt. Olive Preschool, but leads our Spanish lessons as a special treat!

Chapel with either Pastor Jason or Pastor Ashley is on Tuesdays. Pastor

leads us in kid-friendly worship and Bible lessons, with the goal of promoting a healthy spiritual life.

On Wednesdays in the summer we walk to the YMCA for swimming lessons and splash pad fun!

Our Growing with Music teacher is Michelle and it is on Thursdays. Growing with Music's primary objective is to "encourage and develop the young child's natural creativity and interest in music, while respecting

their individual needs." (taken from the Growing with Music philosophy statement).

We have Dancercise on Fridays during the school year. Miss Kristen teaches 30 minute classes on how to be healthy using games, stories, and music. Also, every other Friday we have our volunteer readers from Choice, Inc. come in to read stories to us.

## Holy Nativity Christian Child Care Center

3900 Winnetka Avenue North  
New Hope, MN 55427  
Director: Brittany Anderson

Phone: 763.591.0681  
Fax: 763.545.8339  
E-mail: [holynativitycccc@gmail.com](mailto:holynativitycccc@gmail.com)

A Christian Learning Center



## Mission Statement

This center is the ministry of the church, a way of meeting the needs of children and their families, including sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the center, the church commits itself to the social, physical, emotional, spiritual, and intellectual well-being of children. All the work of the center is rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, whose name is proclaimed with love. The center commits itself to an inclusive ministry serving people regardless of their race, language, ethnicity, gender, social, or economic background. The center commits itself to fair and equitable employment practices, including non-discriminatory hiring, just compensation, and affirmative action. The center commits itself to strive toward the highest standards of excellence in this ministry.



MATTHEW 19:14

### What do I need to bring each day?

- At least THREE complete changes of season and size appropriate clothing (pants, shirts, socks, underwear, one pair shoes)
- A blanket and/or stuffed animal for naptime (no nukes)
- A lunch box containing a nutritional lunch, or having a lunch purchased in advance
- Winter gear, as seasonally appropriate (snowpants, winter jacket, boots, mittens, hat, etc.)
- Sunscreen from April to September
- A family picture for our board
- Any items as requested by the teachers to aid in the weekly theme!

### Program Objectives

- To provide a warm, nurturing environment that encourages the development of the whole child
- To provide an environment that is based on successful experiences, which encourage all children to develop a healthy self-concept and positive self-esteem
- To offer an environment that encourages children to develop their capabilities and interests at their own pace and according to their individual needs
- To offer a program that recognizes the uniqueness of each and every child and provides positive encouragement for the child's continued growth
- To create an environment that provides the child with the opportunity to learn by doing and moving from hands-on experiences to more abstract concept development
- To provide opportunities for a lifetime of creative living and learning