

## **Rising Kindergarten Information**



## **Our Curriculum:**

**Developmental** - All learning is deliberately sequential and based on the physical, emotional, spiritual, and intellectual abilities of the individual child. Body, mind, and soul are integrally connected in this process called learning. Our goal is to strengthen every area of young children and to help them progress to the next stage of development at their own speed.

**Experiential** - We believe that children learn best through doing, so we "do" a lot! Play is the work of childhood, and much of the learning in kindergarten is intentionally designed play.

*Integrated* - Our "sound of the week" serves as a springboard for language, number sense, social studies, handwriting, and science activities. Our phonics instruction comes from the *Wilson Fundations* curriculum with multi-sensory methods in the context of our developmental program. This systematic curriculum provides a solid foundation for reading.

*Literature-Based* - We use the best children's literature we can find: Charlotte Mason/Ambleside books, Caldecott Award winners, timeless classics - stories rich in meaning and full of wonderful adventures and lessons. Each week, we focus on one book, reading the same book every day to discover something different each day about the author, illustrator, storyline, character qualities, and biblical lessons. Math, science, geography, and social studies topics studied are also drawn from the "book of the week."

**Well-Researched** - We use curricula that have evidence-based research on efficacy in the classroom.

## **Our Methods:**

- "Sound of the Week"
- "Book of the Week"
- Hands-on INTO Math
- Wilson Phonics
- Handwriting Without Tears
- Free Centers
- Best Children's Literature (Living Books)
- Habit Training
- Joy in Classical Composers
- Art Reproductions and Free Art Expression
- Annual Poetry Recitals
- Daily Outdoor Recess

## **Our Developmental Philosophy:**

Each child is unique and uniquely gifted; each is at his/her own place developmentally. Wherever each child is academically and developmentally, they will all have fun, they will all learn and grow at their own speed, and they will all know they are loved and safe at school.

"All children are different: there is no 'normal' age when the child is 'ready.' And the speed of mastery will vary enormously. [Learning] should be carried out in a friendly, quiet, regular, and structured way. Being allowed to learn at their own speed, the children taught by Charlotte Mason were happy with their mastery of skills."

- Susan Schaeffer Macaulay

"Bring me a child ... who loves to learn ... and I can teach him anything."

- Douglas Wilson

"... and Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and men."

- Luke 2:52 (a rare glimpse into the childhood of Jesus)

Our PEARL of Wisdom
Politeness·Example·Attitude·Respect·Listen