

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year! Miss. Sarah Wegener and Mrs. Stephanie Blackfeather will be your teachers and we are looking forward to working with you and your kindergartener this year!

We feel blessed to have such a wonderful Kindergarten Program- where all children whether in full or half day will receive instruction from both teachers! Kindergarten instruction is thematic and integrative by nature, but the teachers will focus on particular disciplines throughout the school day. Miss. Wegener's focus is on Language Arts (letter recognition, phonics, and reading) and Mrs. Blackfeather's focus is on Math Discovery.

NEW this year- Miss. Wegener and Mrs. Blackfeather will be TEAM teaching in the morning for half day then Miss. Wegener will teach Full day friends in the afternoon and Mrs. Blackfeather will oversee the SPECK program in the afternoon and after school.

☺ MEET THE TEACHERS ☺

Stephanie Blackfeather: I am looking forward to beginning my 20th year of teaching (12th here at Saint Paul). Before teaching at Saint Paul- I taught and directed a pre-school and kindergarten in Florida and taught and directed a pre-school day care in Highland Park, IL. I received my BA in Early Childhood Education at Concordia University, River Forest, IL. I feel honored and blessed to have received the Northern Illinois District Early Childhood Teacher of the Year for 2011. In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my husband, Shannon and my son Christian who will attend 5th Grade this year at St. Paul. I am looking forward to working with you and your kindergartener this year!

Sarah Wegener: I am so excited to begin my 3rd year teaching at Saint Paul. I am an alumna of Saint Paul and I am overjoyed to be a Comet once again. I received my BA in Early Childhood Education at Concordia University Chicago, in River Forest IL. Before coming to Saint Paul I was a Pre-K teacher at Early Days Preschool and Childcare. Some of my favorite things are singing, dancing, and Disney! I am looking forward to seeing God's awesome power at work this year at Saint Paul!

KINDERGARTEN SUPPLY LIST

1 QTY. 1" 3 RING BINDER (for portfolio)

2 ROLLS OF PAPER TOWELS

**2 pkg. CRAYOLA Markers (BOLD-classic colors)
regular NOT washable-NO substitutes please ☺!**

2PKG CLOROX DISINFECTING WIPES (78 ct. or larger)

1 BOX KLEENEX

(NO BACKPACKS PLEASE!!)

WE WILL PROVIDE a CANVAS TOTE BAG- this will be given at Registration/ Open Classroom Visit on August 15th. This TOTE will be used DAILY by your kindergartener to hold daily communication folder and projects.

**** The Books and Materials Fee paid to enroll your child will go toward the class community supply of crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue sticks, keepsake projects and photo processing.**

FULL DAY FRIENDS- PLEASE BRING...

EXTRA SET OF CLOTHING (LABELED PLEASE): In a large Ziploc bag to be stored in rest time cubby at school.

REST TIME BLANKET AND PILLOW:

STORAGE SPACE IS LIMITED. Please keep size of blanket and pillow to "TRAVEL SIZE". Rest time items will be returned home weekly for cleaning. Your child may bring ONE stuffed animal to use during rest time and will stay in the rest time cubby (stuffed animal must fit in cubby bin).

PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MOTOR PARENT PROGRAM: Through a systematic program of physical activity, we can do many important things for the boys and girls in our Kindergarten program. We give the children the chance to get some exercise and to improve the physical skills of balance and coordination (large muscle, small muscle and eye/hand). This is done through planned exercise and games involving hopping, skipping, jumping and running and through the use of equipment such as balance beam and balls.

When the motor program gets underway (November)- you will be asked to be at school by 8:30am on the designated day(s). This program will run in the school gym from 8:35am-9:05am. During that half hour, you will have a small group of children assigned to you and you will have the responsibility of planning the activities for this time. Motor Parents will be given lesson plans to follow. We are concerned that boys and girls improve in the program and feel good about themselves. We want them (and you) to enjoy the time in Motor.

WE HOPE FOR ENOUGH PARENT VOLUNTEERS FOR 1 PARENT PER 4 CHILDREN.

ART PARENTS: Day/time TBD. Looking for parents interested in helping with art activities one day per week.

ROOM PARENT(S): MORE INFO REGARDING ROOM PARENT "DUTIES" ETC. WILL BE HANDED OUT AT THE KINDERGARTEN PARENT ORIENTATION NIGHT... BASIC NEEDS: HELPING PLAN, ORGANIZE AND IMPLIMENT CLASS PARTIES AND PLAN, ORGANIZE AND IMPLIMENT THE END OF THE YEAR PICNIC.

PLEASE NOTE: The above is a tentative schedule based on previous years. This schedule is subject to change should "specials" classes need to be rearranged. An updated class schedule will be sent home with your information received at Registration/Class Visitation.

Daily Communication: Each child will receive a yellow Saint Paul folder which will be used as our School-Home Communication Folder. This yellow folder **MUST BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL DAILY**. Communication between school and home is important to us. If you have any questions or concerns- please make sure to let us know.

What to Wear to School...

- Washable school clothing which your child can handle independently.
- **GYM SHOES** are to be worn **EVERY DAY** for safety on playground equipment as well as a requirement of weekly gym participation. Open toed sandals and "fashion shoes" are pretty but not practical.

Kindergarten develops children's spiritual, cognitive, social and emotional growth-all with Christ at the center. Thank you for entrusting your child to us this year. Communication between home and school is important, so as we work together we pray that Jesus will guide and protect all of us. May God bless you and your family.

Saint Paul Kindergarten

PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET

Important information you need
to know to start the school
year😊!

****PLEASE NOTE: NEW this year... Kindergarten Parent
orientation night: Wednesday, August 20 @ 6:30pm.**

This is for PARENTS ONLY! If you will NOT be able to
attend- please let us know and we will make a time to meet
with you re: procedures etc...

SNACKS:

- Kindergarten is NOT a peanut free environment, as children in the school bring peanut butter and other nut-based food for lunch. All snacks in KINDERGARTEN SHOULD BE HEALTHY!
- PLEASE MAKE SURE TO LET THE TEACHERS KNOW OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

***MORNING SNACK:** will be provided by the students on a rotating basis for their classmates to share. The teacher will send home a snack schedule at the REGISTRATION/ CLASSROOM visit on: Wednesday, August 13, 2014. This should be plenty of time to prepare for your child's turn.

****SNACKS (nutritious please):** Each child will be given 1-2 days per month (August-December) to bring in snacks AND drinks to share with their friends. We will provide cups and napkins for snack- if your snack requires the use of utensils-please provide.

****Please make sure to bring enough snacks and drink for 25 people.** See the last page of the parent handbook for a list of nutritious snacks. If you choose to bake something- please make sure to list all the ingredients. Juice should be 100% fruit juice.

****THIS SNACK TIME SHOULD INCLUDE A FOOD AND BEVERAGE.****

PLEASE NOTE: We will only be having a scheduled morning snack time until Christmas Break. When we return to school in January, we will only have snack time to celebrate birthdays and select holidays. A reminder will be sent home with your child closer to Christmas.

FULL DAY FRIENDS:

***AFTERNOON SNACK:** will be provided by YOU for your own child.

Please make sure to send this extra snack and drink in your child's lunch will be saved for afternoon snack time. YOU DO HAVE THE OPTION TO ORDER MILK FOR YOUR CHILD FOR AFTERNOON SNACK. ASK FOR DETAILS ☺!

***LUNCH:** All Full Day students must bring a lunch to school each day. You may provide your own drink, or you may order milk for your child. Please use the milk order form to order for the year. The lunches WILL NOT be refrigerated or heated in school.

IMPORTANT KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION:

HALF DAY Kindergarten Friends: Drop Off and Dismissal

Class begins at 8:30am, doors will be open at 8:15am. If you come before 8:15am- Please wait at entrance #2 (Busse St. side of the school) until the bell rings at 8:15am. We have Free Choice from 8:15-8:45am daily except for large motor/gym days. We encourage children to arrive by 8:15am in order to enjoy their full Free Choice time. This is a great opportunity for socialization.

- After the first two weeks of school- we encourage children to enter the classroom on their own, this fosters independence.

Class will be dismissed at 11:45am.** Children will wait in the classroom for parents to pick them up. Please enter through the main entrance and check in with the office before coming to the classroom. *If someone other than a parent or regular pick up person will be picking up your child, please make sure to write the teacher a note and put it in the daily communication folder.**

FULL DAY Kindergarten Friends: Drop Off and Dismissal

Class begins at 8:30am, doors will be open at 8:15am. If you come before 8:15am- Please wait at entrance #2 (Busse St. side of the school) until the bell rings at 8:15am. We have Free Choice from 8:15-8:45am daily except for large motor/gym days. We encourage children to arrive by 8:15am in order to enjoy their full Free Choice time. This is a great opportunity for socialization.

- After the first two weeks of school- we encourage children to enter the classroom on their own, this fosters independence.

Class will be dismissed at 3:10pm.** PICK UP will be outside of the Kindergarten Rooms at their cubby. *If someone other than a parent or regular pick up person will be picking up your child, please make sure to write the teacher a note and put it in the daily communication folder.**

* If you know for sure that your child will attend SPECK following kindergarten (and your child does NOT usually stay for SPECK) please let the teacher know in the morning or call the office as soon as possible. This makes for an easier transition for the child.