

Dear Parent,

My name is Angela Wizimirski. I am the Kindergarten teacher at St. Mary Catholic School. I would like to tell you more about the great learning environment our school can provide for your child. Upon entering the doors of St. Mary, your child will encounter a world of learning that emphasizes development in the Catholic faith, academic excellence, and diverse co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Kindergarten is a very special year at St. Mary School, and we pride ourselves on being able to meet the individual needs of each child.

First, faith is not only taught at St. Mary School, it is caught. That's right. Your child's faith will spread and expand throughout the total experience of each and every day:

- Students begin learning about prayer, the Rosary, sacraments, the Bible, Trinity, Saints, Holy Family, Liturgical year, and other key aspects of our faith.
- Each Kindergarten student is given an 8th grade prayer partner, whom they meet throughout the school year to share faith, fellowship, and special activities.
- Each month one student from each class is recognized for demonstrating Christian attributes throughout the school day through our Student of the Month Award Program.
- As of January, the Kindergarten class attends Mass every other Friday to enhance their Religious beliefs and values within the Church.
- During Lent, the Kindergarten students walk through the Stations of the Cross in church, make a stations booklet, and partake in the Living Stations performed by our 7th grade students.
- Father Bellopede comes to visit our Kindergarten class frequently and speaks to the children about the lessons we are learning in class.

Secondly, at St. Mary School, academic excellence is more than just words in our marketing material-we are serious about guaranteeing your superior academic instruction that touches the mind, body, and spirit:

- Our Math curriculum reflects the standards established by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Problem solving is embedded in the teaching of all Math concepts and skills. We also allow them to participate in the school wide Mathletics computer program.
- Our ELA (English Language Arts) program helps students to develop skills that allow them to unlock the sound and meaning of words, increase vocabulary, comprehend ideas, read, and write. We have themed units that go along with our ELA program.
- Social Studies, Science, Creative Arts, and Physical Education are integrated into our curriculum to further stimulate curiosity and learning about the world around us.

Kindergarten provides a firm academic foundation for later learning. Our students are well prepared for academic pursuits in the years that follow as evidenced by their performance on standardized tests. We have had several our students who have received the Neuman Scholarships, and other awards for High school.

Of course, learning that is confined to the traditional classroom can stifle creativity. At St. Mary School, your child will never be bored. Diverse co-curricular activities support and enrich formal instruction:

- Special activities such as a trip to the Pumpkin patch, Thanksgiving Feast, Breakfast with Santa, Theatrical play at DeSalles University, Grandparents Day and others are scheduled to help students make real world connections with the curriculum content.
- Technology is used daily in our classroom, and our students attend a dedicated Technology class weekly. Smart boards are used every day for Math lessons, sight word games, etc. with real-time interaction between the students and the world around us.
- Music is enjoyed by our Kindergarten students once a week. The students brim with pride as they learn seasonal and religious songs for Mass.

Finally, at St. Mary School, we want your child to create the kind of atmosphere that spurs your child to not only like school, but to LOVE it! Fun-filled extra-curricular activities include:

- Zumba fitness taught by myself during the fall and winter months, Lego club, Art club, CYO track, and other activities.
- A Fun-filled Friday Night Lights CYO basketball program that promotes teacher, student, and family involvement. The gymnasium brims with excitement!
- Regular Home and School Association events to encourage family involvement and promote long-lasting friendships, such as: Bingo, Father-Daughter dance, etc.

I believe that the community of close-knit teachers and families, the dedication of the faculty and staff, and the curriculum coupled with the commitment to excellence, and the pledge of faith will help to ensure the success of our children as they prepare for high school.

As you can see, St. Mary School can offer your child many opportunities for growth. We would be more than happy to discuss all the wonderful experiences that await your child here at St. Marys! Please contact us at (610) 287-7757 to learn more. Registration is now being accepted for the upcoming school year. I would love to have your child be in my Kindergarten Kingdom!

Sincerely,

Angela Wizimirski

Kindergarten Teacher