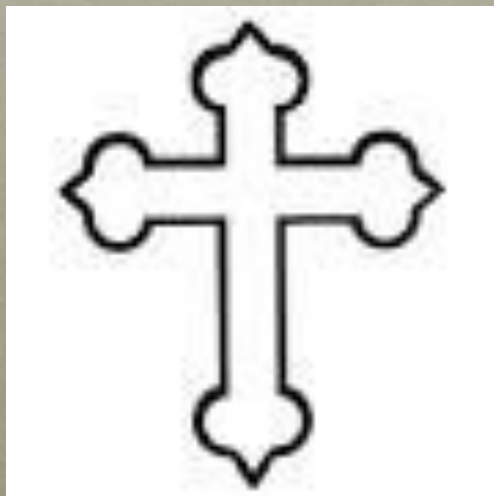


St. Joseph Transitional Kindergarten & Kindergarten



Our Mission

- Battle Creek Area Catholic Schools, in partnership with parents, community, and the Catholic Church, provide students with an excellent education and a solid faith formation. Students will know the Faith, share the Faith, and live the Faith.

What is T.K.?

- T.K. is our Transitional Kindergarten Program. We like to think of it as a Kindergarten Prep Program. The Kindergarten Program can be quite rigorous and we want to make sure that your child is up for the challenge. Kindergarten is NOT what it used to be.
- Children need to be prepared, not only academically, but also socially and emotionally.
- T.K. meets children where they are developmentally and prepares them for our kindergarten program.

Faith

- Our faith is the foundation for our school. We know the faith, share the faith, and live the faith daily.
- T.K. and Kindergarten programs participate in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. We have an Atrium in our school where hands-on learning about our faith occurs.
- We have a Theology Curriculum: Image of God Series that enhances what we are learning in our Atrium.
- We participate in Service Learning Projects with our students.
- Our Kindergarten program attends Mass weekly.
- We begin and end our day with prayer.

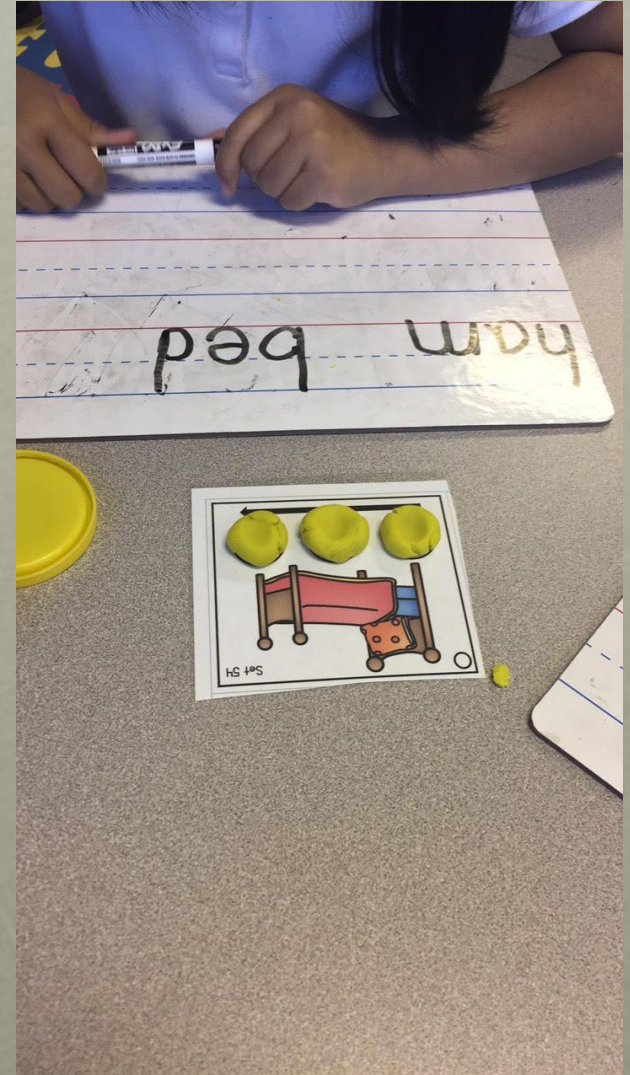
Atrium



Literacy

- Our T.K. program uses the Zoo Phonics Curriculum.
- Zoo Phonics incorporates an animal, sound, and movement and helps all learning styles.
- Our Kindergarten uses the Journey's Language Arts Curriculum. We also have implemented the Orton Gillingham approach to teaching literacy, using direct, explicit, and multi-sensory instruction.
- Our Kindergarten program also incorporates the Daily 5, which focuses on independent literacy and writing. This allows teachers to work in small groups with children.

Literacy

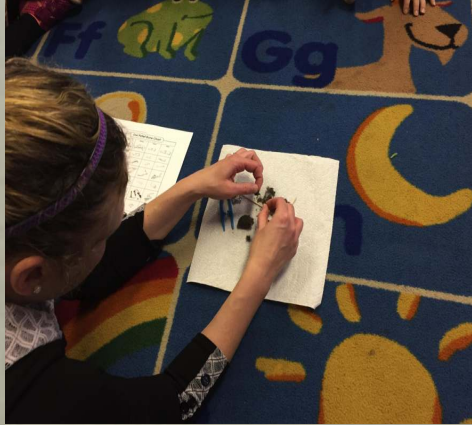


Mathematics



- T.K. uses Zoo Phonics for math activities as well. It incorporates hands-on activities and math games for students that focus on number and operations, patterns, geometry, measurement, and data collection.
- Our Kindergarten program utilizes the Big Ideas Learning curriculum. It follows all of the Michigan Standards for Common Core. We work in whole groups, as well as small groups on our math concepts.

Science



- T.K. has different science themes throughout the year. We work on 5 Senses, Living and Non-Living things, Scientific Experiments, as well as other themes that go along with our Zoo Phonics Curriculum.
- Our Kindergarten program partners with the Battle Creek Math and Science Center. It utilizes the Next Generation Science Standards. We have 3 kits: Earth Science, Physical Science, and Life Science.

Social Studies

- T.K. focuses on different concepts throughout the year. We talk about culture and community, history, geography, as well as economics.
- Our Kindergarten program utilizes the myWorld Interactive by Pearson for our curriculum. Students will learn about problem solving, wants and needs, maps, the U.S. flag, and timelines.
- We also participate in the Junior Achievement Program.
- We also incorporate calendar events, such as holidays.

Specials

- Art (K)
- Music (T.K. & K)
- Spanish (K)
- P.E. (T.K.& K)
- Computers (T.K. & K)
- Library (K)

Our Kindergarten Day

Morning

Prayer

Calendar

Morning Work

Math or Literacy

Snack/Recess

Literacy

Afternoon

Lunch

Atrium/Theology

Science

Math or Literacy

Social Studies

T.K. Schedule

AM

- 8:00- 11:00- Enrichment (Enhances what we learn in the afternoon- includes centers and child-initiated play)
- 11:00-12:00- Lunch and Rest

PM

- 12:00-Afternoon Session
 - Prayer/Calendar/Work Binders
 - Literacy
 - Rotating Centers (Math 2x and Literacy 2x)
 - Theology (Atrium)
 - Science or Social Studies

Gesell Testing

- We do a Gesell Developmental Test on all Kindergarten children new to our school system.
- Understanding stages of child growth and development and using this knowledge to interpret behaviors, plan appropriate curricula, and manage the classroom are essential to quality teaching practices. Such understanding is also integral to quality parenting, and in implementing best practices in all professions working with children. (Gesell Institute of Child Development)

Paperwork/questions

- ◆ There are a few things to submit after you have completed enrollment. Your child will need an updated health appraisal before school begins or we will need the date of your child's appointment.
- ◆ Questions can be directed to bschmitz@bcacs.org (kindergarten teacher) or adowney@bcacs.org (T.K. teacher)
- ◆ Kinder Camp takes place on June 1, 2, 3 from 8:30-11:00 on Tuesday/Wednesday and 8:30- 12:00 on Thursday. Please call the BCACS office for details.