



ABOUT OUR DAY

QUIET WORK STATIONS: As children are arriving, they become engaged in manipulative, cognitive, and language skill activities in the classroom with the teacher aide. We also sometimes use some of the large motor equipment at this time. This gives the teacher the opportunity to greet each child and caretaker, parent's time to visit for a bit, and provides each child a fun relaxed entry into the day.

CIRCLE TIME: The children come together on the carpet in the classroom. We will engage in activities such as: selecting the helper of the day, singing songs, creative movement, finger plays, flannel board, science experiments and bible lessons. As the group dynamic evolves, more content is included and the children typically want to participate more. Some of the outcomes from group times include listening, taking turns, literacy, verbal sharing, following direction, self control and body awareness.

SMALL GROUP TIMES: We divide the class into two small groups during the year; one goes with the teacher assistant and the other with the head teacher. The smaller group allows the children a chance to speak out in a smaller setting. It is also helpful to have a small group when working with skill building activities such as sorting or scissor use.

CENTER TIME: The bulk of our day is for self-chosen tasks during "centers". Stations are arranged around the classroom to promote pre-reading/writing skills (literacy centers: library, listening, writing, dramatic play), pre-math (manipulative/game table, sensory, outdoors and blocks), creative art, science (outdoors, sensory, science table observations, and cooking) and social skills (all centers!).

WORSHIP TIME: Hope Lutheran School is a mission of Hope Lutheran Church. Hope school welcomes all people regardless of church affiliation. Throughout the year the children will hear Bible stories presented through various activities. We would like the children to know that God loves them and cares deeply for them. We want to cultivate growth in knowing God as loving creator and Jesus as our savior. We will provide opportunities to pray and share the importance of God's love for others through mission projects in our community.

OUTDOOR TIME: Young children need to run, jump, climb and MOVE! We go outside every day. There is a climber behind the main school as well as a blacktop area for running, riding trikes and playing with balls. We are also fortunate to have the option of indoor recess on the worst weather days in our commons area of the church. We also have an outdoor classroom/garden area attached to our space, in which the children will have the opportunity to climb, pretend, plant, watch nature, dig, build and create!

BIRTHDAYS and SHINING STAR: If your child has a summer birthday, we will assign a "Un-Birthday" date to him/her. When it is your child's birth date, you may send in a treat for the entire class.

When it is your child's birthday celebration day or "Un-Birthday", they become the shining star for that day. They will take home a container in which they can put up to 10 items of their choosing for show and tell. There is also a little questionnaire to fill out about their favorite things. They become the center of attention as they share about themselves with the class. The shining star is also the special helper for their day.

SHOW and TELL: Other opportunities for "show and tell" in the classroom will be sharing by the child of what he/she has done during class time. The children may bring something from home to show also; but it needs to "CONNECT" or be related to the current theme. Interesting things for the science table are always welcome!

SNACK: Please provide a morning snack for your child. If your child attends "full day" they will also need a lunch. Afternoon snack is provided. **Our school is NUT FREE.**

WHAT TO WEAR:

- *Pants with elastic waists are easier to get up & down at bathroom time.
- *Sturdy rubber soled shoes are important for running, climbing and walking on vinyl floors.
- *Hoods on jackets do not get lost as hats sometimes do
- *Rubber boots are helpful when there are mud puddles!
- *Big zippers, Velcro and snaps are easier than buttons.
- *A change of clothes at school (in a backpack or bag) are good in case of accidents (we have some extras to borrow too)
- *We use markers, glue, paint, and play in water, sand, mud etc. etc...
Simple washable clothes are easy for everyone.

FIELDTRIPS:

**In the 3's class we don't take field trips, but we do take "walk-about" around the neighborhood.

ALL SCHOOL READING: I will be sending home monthly reading charts. As you read to your child mark off a box. When the chart is full return it to school. This is a chance to practice having "homework." Encourage your child to fill in their reading chart with stickers, or color it in. Make it fun!

ILLNESS: These are the generally accepted guidelines for schools and daycares concerning when to keep your child home from school:

- *Covid symptoms
- *Fever
- *Vomiting
- *Diarrhea, which child cannot control to get to the bathroom in time or if the child is too young to adequately wipe and wash hands afterwards
- *Lower respiratory infections like bronchiolitis

- *Head lice that has not been treated
- *Chicken Pox that are not scabbed over.
- *Untreated pink eye

Please call the office (935-8500) if your child will be absent.

AUCTION/FUNDRAISERS/BOOK ORDERS:

We send home Scholastic Firefly book club order forms most months. This book club offers a variety of book choices that are appropriate for your child's age. If you choose to order (optional), fill out the back of the form and return it to school by the assigned date with a check made out to "Scholastic Books". From book orders, points are earned for the classroom that may be used for our classroom library. A couple times this year, the Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the hallways of our school for you to purchase books as well.

Box tops for Education: Please save these from many products you may be purchasing! The preschool program is the recipient of the funds earned from sending those in. We have used the proceeds for things such as a digital camera, our materials for the outdoor stage and other equipment. You will see other optional fundraising opportunities coming home throughout the year to support various programs.