St. Mary of Gostyn School
Welcome to PreKindergarten!

PreKindergarten (PreK) Information

At St. Mary of Gostyn, our PreKindergarten mission consists of providing a warm and nurturing environment where children feel safe and loved. Our unique classroom offers various activities that are specifically designed to encourage each child's growth. Through cooperative play and creative activities, children reach their social, emotional and physical milestones naturally and with ease.

Children learn through a research-based, nationally recognized play-based curriculum and through developmentally appropriate activities which encourage curiosity, exploration, discovery, and a love of learning for all our early learners.

PreKindergarten Goals

At SMG, we understand that:

1. Development and learning are connected and reflect patterns of growth.
2. Play promotes joyful learning that fosters self-regulation, language, cognitive and social skills.
3. Every child is different and therefore learns differently.
4. When used responsibly and intentionally, technology and interactive media can be valuable tools for supporting children's development and learning.

PreKindergarten Curriculum

Religion

- *Stories of God's Love*
- Recites simple prayers
- Shows respect for people, animals, and objects
- Displays Christian behavior
- Clergy/Church visits
- 4th Grade Faith Buddy activities
- Service Project
- Retreat with 4th Grade Faith Buddies
- Christmas Performance

Language Arts

- *Learning without Tears*
- Listens to and comprehends stories
- Understands and follows directions
- Downers Grove Library monthly visits
- Royal Reader program
- Star of the Week Reader program
- Sign language
- Phonological awareness
- Letter recognition/formation
- Library class
- Spanish class

Mathematics

- Number recognition
- Counting
- Patterns
- Geometric shapes
- Measurement
- Classification of objects

Science

- *Scholastic My Big World*
- Hands-on exploration
- Hypothesis formation skills
- Super Scientist program
- STEAM class

Social Studies

- *Scholastic My Big World*
- Communities
- History
- Community Helper visits

Creative Arts

- Daily Art
- Music Class
- Dramatic Play

Physical Education

- Gross Motor/PE Class
- Health and hygiene
- Brain Breaks/yoga/recess daily

Social Emotional

- Relationship formation/cooperation
- Independence/self-confidence
- Communication/emotional regulation