



## September 2019

**Welcome to Pre-Kindergarten!** What a blessing to have 82 children ready to learn enrolled in our classes. We are looking forward to enjoying this school year with you. We ask for your prayers that God will bless us as we learn more about *setting our minds on things above*.

**Please help us** to welcome our many new students to St. Paul's; our newest 4K teacher, Mrs. Laura Walz, and new 3K aide, Ms. Courtney Stack. Both Laura and Courtney are long time members at St. Paul's. Laura has two children enrolled in our school and has been an aide at school for a few years. Courtney is a former St. Paul's student finishing up her last year of college. We are blessed to have both joining our Pre-K family this year.



**Our theme** for this school year in Pre-K is based on the school theme:

**"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."**  
Colossians 3:2. We will be learning more about growing in our faith as God's children as we study passages related to this theme. In Pre-K we will focus on Genesis 9:13, as we learn how God set the rainbow in the sky as His covenant with us. Our prayer is that God's rainbow will help us to remember His promises to us and keep us living for Him.

**Every other Thursday**, Mr. Fitzsimmons will join us in our classrooms for a short devotion time with the children. You will be receiving a written devotion from him to share as a family for bi-weekly home devotions. It is our prayer that we all grow in our spiritual journey together this year, keeping our hearts and minds focused above.

**Mr. Fitzsimmons** will also join with 3K in the Trinity gym with his 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on Mondays or Fridays and will join 4K with his 7<sup>th</sup> grade students on Wednesdays in groups called Faith Families. This will help us to build relationships with our older students founded on the relationship that we all share in Jesus, our Savior.

**New students** to St. Paul's Pre-K will also be receiving a Children's Bible. Our returning students are hopefully making daily use of the Bible they were given last year. Please read with your children and enjoy studying God's Word together.

**There are many Bible classes** offered at St. Paul's and our Kid's Club begins on September 8. Please consider coming for Kid's Club, Bible class or any of the many church services. Let us know if you'd like more information. We'd love to have you join us!

**In our Bible lessons** this month we will begin by learning about the beautiful world God created for us. Each week you will receive a Bible lesson sheet to share with your children at home. Please review the Bible lessons with them. Children are also encouraged to bring mission offerings to school any day of the week. Our first quarter mission is for the **Vulnerable Children's Foundation**.



**All 3K and 4K classes begin at 8:00 AM.**

The morning session ends at 11:00 AM. The school day for our full-day 4K students ends at 3:00 PM. Children and parents may arrive at school between 8:00 and 8:15 AM to spend some time working on cubby projects together. These cutting and coloring activities are designed to improve fine motor skills and hopefully instill letter recognition. Do not be as concerned with the final outcome as with the process. There is a wide range of abilities at this age level. If your child is not able to finish work before carpet time begins at 8:15, they will be allowed to finish later in the day, or take it home to complete. Thank you for helping your child with these projects. Kindly remind your children to work on quiet activities as others finish cubby work. The classrooms are too crowded with parents and siblings for full play at this time. We love to have our parents, grandparents, and siblings in our rooms in the morning, but kindly ask that you keep a watchful eye on younger siblings so that they do not disrupt the classroom. Thank you for helping us keep the classrooms a friendly and safe place for our students and families.

**Remember to sign in, sign out,** and check cubbies and mailboxes for papers to take home. Teachers, Aides, or Extended Care staff will “load” backpacks for children staying for Extended Care or traveling by bus.

**Please call school** and leave a message on your child’s teacher’s extension if your child will be absent or late for any reason. Call Mrs. Drska at extension 144 or Mrs. Martin at extension 290 if you are unable to reach your child’s teacher and need to get a message to her. Thank you!

**Please make use of the Trinity Café** entrance (north side of the building) for drop off and pick up times. Pre-K parents may park in the spaces directly adjacent to the school as indicated on the parking maps. Please follow the directions of the faculty crossing guards and be especially watchful for school children walking through the parking lot at pick up times. Please pick up promptly at 11:00 AM or 3:00 PM. The doors to the hallway automatically unlock at these times. If you arrive early, please wait in the Trinity Café until doors are unlocked. Teachers will open their classroom doors when ready to dismiss the children.

**Make sure** your child’s teacher is aware of your child’s transportation needs. (Parent transport, bus, or Extended Care). Let us know if this changes daily or at any time during the school year. Students will be escorted by Pre-K staff to and from the bus, Extended Care and/or classrooms each day.



**Please keep transportation forms** up-to-date and inform Mrs. Bourdo and teachers of any changes to your extended care schedule. Also, kindly remember to notify staff 24 hours in advance of your non-scheduled EC needs whenever possible.

**Please remember to turn in all forms** as soon as possible. Correct emergency contact information is vital to have on file, and immunization records are required by the state of Wisconsin. Kindly check your information in TADS to be sure everything is correct by September 14. Thank you!

**The 3K and 4K children** will be receiving their new St. Paul's Pre-Kindergarten T-shirts the first or second week of school. Teachers will try to get a class picture before sending T-shirts home. Please wear T-shirts at will, for special occasions at school, (Pre-K T-shirt Days) and especially for field trips. Children will also need them for the closing program on the last day of school.

**Snack reminders:**



Milk is provided at school. 3K parents will be asked to provide a **healthy** snack for a week at a time for the entire class. Please check with the teachers to determine the number of students in your child's class. 4K students need to bring a snack from home for themselves each day. **Also, please remind teachers of any allergies your child may have and remember the allergy alerts in each classroom.**

**Allergies are becoming more of a problem for children in school. Several students have peanut, nut, egg and/or milk allergies. Please, avoid sending snacks with these ingredients if an allergy is noted in your child's classroom. Check with your child's teacher if you have questions.**



**We begin our study of the alphabet** with the letter "A" week two of school. As a reminder, the 4K children may bring an item for the letter bucket on days designated by their teacher. Your child may need some assistance in choosing items from home that begin with the correct letter for that week. Feel free to guide them with this. 😊

**4K parents** will notice the additional projects and worksheets that come home on Wednesdays or Thursdays in "Homework Folders". Please help your child use the letter they have cut out at

school to make the project. The "homework" is **not mandatory**. Perhaps choose one item a week to complete and save others for "summer work". It simply provides parents the opportunity to reinforce at home what is being taught at school. It gives your children the opportunity to improve skills and to demonstrate what they have learned at school. Simply return folders to school by the following Tuesday or Wednesday with or without completed work. The children will be rewarded with a sticker for their folder. Please check folders each week for homework, Bible lesson sheets, and possible teacher notes.

**Our 3K students** will enjoy some fun alphabet learning with special cooking projects each week. 3K parents should watch for needs lists posted by teachers to help provide ingredients needed for these special recipes. Thank you for your help!

**Watch for the Secret Sack** to come home. Each child will get several turns with the Secret Sack during the school year. Help them choose something they would like to show their classmates and write three clues describing the item. The children have fun trying to guess what is in the sack and love when it's their turn to stump their friends!



**We will begin our star weeks** by featuring the teachers. Each child will have the opportunity to be featured for a week. Take a look at the displays to become better acquainted with our stars, and in order to get some ideas for your own child's starring week. In doing this we wish to celebrate our uniqueness and individuality, and at the same time learn common interests we all share. The overriding application will be how wonderfully and specially we are made by God!

You will receive a sheet to fill out with your child telling us about some of his/her favorite things. Then, please choose some photos of your child and people or things special to him/her. You may bring the photos to Pre-K for display and remove them again at the end of the week. Thank you for your help with this. We look forward to learning a lot about our stars and their families.

**Some of you have asked what supplies** your child needs or what can be donated for the classroom. School supplies for Pre-K students are provided by school. Teachers do appreciate the donation of soft Kleenex or other tissues, especially during cold and flu season, as well as containers of child friendly disinfecting wipes, or sprays. Packages of napkins are also appreciated and extra band-aides. The 4K students are asked to provide headphones to keep at school for use with the iPads. These should be clearly marked with your child's name and placed in a ziplock bag. Check with your child's teacher to see what else she might need. Thank you!

**It is helpful for children** to have a backpack to transport papers to and from home. We encourage you to check backpacks daily for any important information. We send home a monthly newsletter (also found on-line at [www.stpmuskego.org](http://www.stpmuskego.org)) with a monthly calendar. Wednesday notes keep you informed of St. Paul's events and Pre-K teachers send weekly e-mail reminders.

**Your child's teachers** more than likely talked to you about Scholastic book orders. We encourage you to check this out online at [www.scholastic.com/readingclub](http://www.scholastic.com/readingclub).

Scholastic has been around for a long time. They offer some terrific deals and some wonderful books. We do caution you to be selective in your choice of books as some may be questionable from our Biblical perspective. You should have received a classroom code for ordering. Your purchases earn the teacher bonus points that can be used to purchase books and other items for the classroom. Each month new books are featured and orders are due by the 15th of each month. Happy Reading!

**You will also be receiving information** about Highlights, a terrific children's magazine. Please sign the sheet and return it to school even if you don't want to order the magazine. Teachers can order free classroom supplies just by returning the signed slips. Thank you for assisting us with this!

**Have you explored "My St. Paul's" yet?** Please do so soon and complete your profile. Teachers will use this tool for weekly communication with parents. Go to [www.stpaulmuskego.org](http://www.stpaulmuskego.org) and click on "My St. Paul's". You should have already received a few e-mails in this format. If you have not, please let your child's teacher know and/or check your profile to make sure you have allowed e-mails to be sent to you. Thank you!

**The Pre-K children** are encouraged to participate in the school's monthly theme days each month. The theme day for September is "Wisconsin Sports Team Day" on September 6. Children not in attendance on Fridays may certainly participate the Thursday before.

**UNITY Fall Festival** and the Scholastic book fair are scheduled for Friday, September 20. Check the Wednesday note for more details.



**Our first field trip** this school year is one that we have done each year for the last 28 years! We will be traveling by bus to the Elegant Farmer in Mukwonago on Thursday, Sept. 26. Children arrive at school at regular morning times. The bus will be leaving from school about 8:15 and morning students will be dismissed when we return by **11:15 AM**. This is a little later than usual morning dismissal time. Full day students may leave with family members after the field trip **or** stay for the afternoon session in their classrooms. Family members are welcome to join us and will be charged \$10.00. This is a popular field trip for us. Consider coming along. Please complete and return the attached field trip forms by September 12.



## Smile

**School pictures** will be taken on Tuesday, October 8. Parents of children not scheduled for class on Tuesdays are encouraged to bring their children to school at 9:00 AM that day, **if possible**, to have pictures taken. They will have another opportunity to have their picture taken on retake day, Wednesday, November 13. A school yearbook will be given to each student at the end of the school year and parents are offered a choice of picture packages to purchase.

**Thank you** for sharing your precious children with us this school year. Please feel free to talk to your child's teacher or Mrs. Drska, about any of your concerns for your child at any time during the school year.

St. Paul's website <a href="http://www.stpmuskego.org">www.stpmuskego.org</a>	
<b>School Phone 414-422-0320</b>	Ext.
Mrs. Drska – Pre-K Office	144
Mrs. Martin – Trinity Office	290
Mrs. Hintze – 4K Classroom Aides: Mrs. Klein/Mrs. Klopff	113
Mrs. Schneider – 4K Classroom Aides: Mrs. Schwartz/Mrs. Meyer	138
Mrs. Meyer – 3K Classroom Aide: Mrs. Schacht	143
Mrs. Klopff – 3K Classroom Aide: Ms. Stack	291
Extended Care Mrs. Bourdo /Mrs. Schwartz	146
Mr. Fitzsimmons - Principal	118
Mrs. Meitner – Main Office	110
Mrs. Wetzel - Accountant	112

**Set your minds**  
on things **above,**  
not on earthly things.  
Colossians 3:2