

Hello! My name is Angela Dichtl and this is my fourth year teaching at Saint Mary School. I taught fourth grade at Saint Mary for two years and Kindergarten for one year. I am super excited to continue teaching Kindergarten and I look forward to teaching your children!

When your child starts kindergarten, it is a very exciting time. I understand that there are often many questions and concerns. I'd like to provide you with some helpful information about our kindergarten curriculum as well as what a typical day looks like.

At the beginning of the school year, there are a few skills that are beneficial for children to already know such as:

- ❖ Identifying upper and lowercase letters
- ❖ Identifying the sounds of each letter
- ❖ Identifying the numbers 0-10 (up to 20 is even better!)
- ❖ Writing their name with the first letter capital and the rest of the letters lowercase

o Example: Jane instead of JANE

- ❖ Counting with one-to-one correspondence. For example, there are 7 blocks on the table and your child can identify that there are 7 blocks by pointing to one block at a time and counting accurately as he points.

The biggest, best thing you can do at home is read to your child every day for at least 20 minutes!



Some of the skills we work on in kindergarten are:

- ❖ Identifying all 26 letters and their sounds
- ❖ Reading sight words in a variety of contexts
- ❖ Using what we know about letter sounds and sight words to begin reading simple books
- ❖ Writing, writing and more writing! We write our names, we write our letters, we write simple words and sentences and we practice doing all of it neatly
- ❖ Identifying numbers up to 20
- ❖ Counting to 100 by ones and tens
- ❖ Addition and subtraction
- ❖ 2-D and 3-D shapes
- ❖ And much, much more!

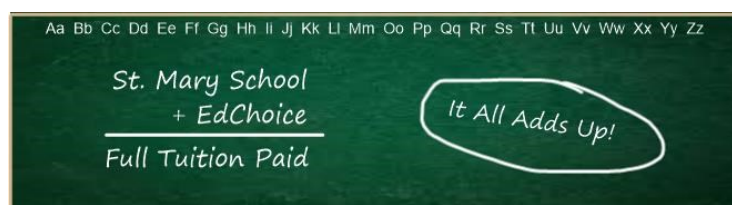
A typical morning in kindergarten includes specials (gym, library, music or computer) followed by a math and language arts block. After lunch and recess, we do small group learning centers as well as religion, science and/or social studies.

### What about Religion?

St. Mary is a Catholic elementary school. We attend Mass weekly with our fifth-grade buddies. We work with a Religion text book that teaches the children many simple concepts about the Catholic faith. The students learn that God loves them and wants them to act as an image of Him. We learn a variety of prayers such as the Our Father, Hail Mary and a blessing before meals. We read stories from the bible and discuss the stories as a class. We take part in service-learning projects such as raising money for St. Vincent de Paul food pantry and donating items to the local Humane Society.



Please feel free to contact the school to set up a visit if you would like to see the classroom in person. You can also email me with any questions you might have about St. Mary School or the kindergarten program. My email address is [adichtl@cdeducation.org](mailto:adichtl@cdeducation.org).



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