



ST. JOSEPH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

A PART OF OUR EXCEPTIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

AT ST. JOSEPH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WE BELIEVE EDUCATION IS THE MEANS THROUGH WHICH CHILDREN ARE GUIDED IN THEIR LIFE-LONG QUEST TO REALIZE THEIR GREATEST POTENTIAL.



Every day our Pre-K students exercise their creativity and imagination, develop an enjoyment of books and reading, and acquire self confidence and the ability to do things independently.



The Pre-school program provides a loving, caring atmosphere where children are nurtured to achieve their potential during their critical early years in school. From Suzuki Violin lessons to Computer classes, from Gym to Art, the Pre-K program at St. Joseph School is designed to provide a well-rounded, nurturing and fun education for your child.

Each child experiences the joy of learning at his or her own pace through a variety of individually challenging activities that build on each child's interests and strengths. Our curriculum strives to nurture and encourage each child's development in several essential areas.



RELIGION

CHILDREN WILL

- Identify and appreciate the gifts they receive from God.
- Be introduced to the celebration of Mass, and the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter.
- Practice Christian behavior toward others.
- Learn Lifelong Guidelines and Life Skills

EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL GROWTH

CHILDREN WILL

- Have a positive, successful first experience with school
- Learn class routines and limits
- Participate cooperatively in a group
- Develop self-confidence, and the ability to do things independently

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

CHILDREN WILL

- Use language to share ideas and experiences with others, and to solve problems
- Actively listen to teacher and classmates
- Remember and repeat songs, rhymes and stories that they have participated in learning
- Use information they have heard to further their own learning

EARLY LITERACY

CHILDREN WILL

- Develop an interest and enjoyment of books and reading
- Recognize letters and sounds related to them
- Recognize and write their names
- Practice printing the alphabet

MATH

CHILDREN WILL

- Recognize and name shapes
- Develop counting skills
- Sort and classify objects and pictures
- Recognize and extend patterns
- Identify numbers
- Understand calendar concepts

SCIENCE

CHILDREN WILL

- Enjoy investigating and making observations
- Understand concepts of seasons and weather
- Learn about plants and animals and their basic needs
- Learn about the human body, healthy habits and hygiene

SOCIAL STUDIES

CHILDREN WILL

- Learn about their family, culture and traditions
- Learn about places and people in their neighborhood
- Learn how transportation and communication connect our world
- Learn about and celebrate national holidays and events

ART, MUSIC AND DRAMA

CHILDREN WILL

- Exercise their creativity and imagination
- Experiment with a variety of art materials and techniques
- Express themselves through the use of art materials, music and movement, and dramatization

PHYSICAL AND MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

CHILDREN WILL

- Develop fine motor coordination (ie, hold scissors, pencil properly)
- Manipulate small objects
- Participate in physical games and activities



2 PRE-Ks + 1 KINDERGARTEN + 1 FIRST GRADE = 1 EXCEPTIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER!

At SJS, we believe that children learn best from one another. That's one of the reasons why we dedicated a whole wing of the school to our Early Childhood learners! The Early Childhood Center at St. Joseph School is made up of 2 Pre-K classrooms, 1 Kindergarten classroom, and 1 First grade classroom. Our New York State certified Early Childhood teachers collaborate with one other to develop an exceptional educational experience for our young learners.

Studies have shown that 4 year olds in a high quality Pre-school program are more likely to graduate from high school, are more likely to become responsible citizens, are less likely to need special education classes and are less likely to drop out of school in their later years.*

*http://www.essortment.com/all/universalpre_rtjy.htm

UNIVERSAL PRE-K AT SJS: AFFORDABLE & FLEXIBLE FUNDING YOUR PRE-SCHOOLER'S EDUCATION HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER!

St. Joseph School (SJS) is proud to be a registered participant in New York State's Universal Pre-K program. The Universal Pre-K program allows SJS to offer discounted tuition for the program to students who live within specific school district boundaries. We also work with families to help make the school an affordable choice through tuition discounts for pre-paid tuition, sibling discounts, a half day program and we also offer monthly payment plans.

We would love to welcome you and your child into our caring and loving school community!



NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED TEACHERS

All of the teachers in our Early Childhood Center are New York State certified.

CLASSROOM AIDES AND GRANDPARENTS

It takes a village to raise a child, even in a school! Our Pre-K classrooms are supported by an aide and a grandparent who not only provide more individualized attention for each student, but also bring energetic and creative perspectives to the learning process.

SUZUKI VIOLIN PROGRAM

Through the Suzuki method, students learn to play the violin by ear; as they advance they learn to read music. Students take lessons weekly. A small fee applies.

RECESS

Our Pre-K students participate in a 20-minute recess each day. During recess, our students play freely with their classmates on our onsite playground.

ONSITE PLAYGROUND

What's better than being able to relax and play in your own safe backyard? At SJS, we encourage our students to exercise their minds and their bodies by being active!

BUDDY PROGRAM

At SJS, each Pre-K children is partnered with a buddy from Grade 5 to share in fun activities throughout the year. Pre-Schoolers and their buddies read together, play together and learn together.

BEFORE & AFTER-SCHOOL EXTENSION PROGRAMS

Our Before-School program runs from 7:30am to 8:00am, and our After-School program runs from 2:30pm to 5:30pm. A SMALL FEE APPLIES.

FOR A PERSONALIZED TOUR,
AN APPLICATION OR MORE
INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL
716-835-7395 OR VISIT
WWW.SJSBUFFALO.COM.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR PRE-K PROGRAM

Will my child need to have a uniform?

No. We ask all Pre-K children to wear appropriate play clothes and sneakers to class.

What options does my child have for lunch?

Your child can bring his/her lunch, or for a small fee, can order one of our hot lunches from our cafeteria.

Is my child expected to know certain things before entering Pre-K?

The St. Joseph School Pre-K program will work with each child to find out what he/she has learned and what he/she has yet to learn. We will help each child achieve kindergarten readiness.

How old does my child have to be to enter the Pre-K program?

In order to enter the Pre-K program, your child must be 4 years old on or before the December 1st that immediately follows the beginning of the school year. In other words, your 3 year old child can only enter the Pre-K program in September if he/she will turn 4 on or before the following December 1st.

What immunizations do I need?

New York State requires all children entering Pre-K to have the same immunizations. These requirements can be found at <http://www.health.state.ny.us/publications/2370.pdf> or by asking your health care provider. We will need a copy of your child's proof of immunization as part of his/her application to St. Joseph School.

What do I need to apply?

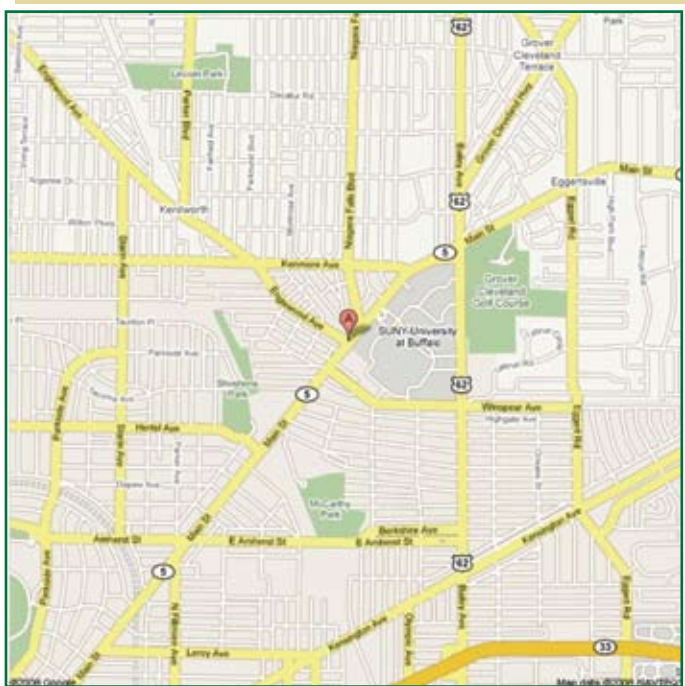
To apply for the Pre-K program at St. Joseph School, you will need to complete our Application for Admission form. In addition, we will need a copy of your child's birth certificate, his/her immunization records, and, for City of Buffalo residents, proof of residency such as your mortgage statement, rental agreement or a utility bill.

Where do I go to register?

Come to the St. Joseph School Office (3275 Main Street) on school days between 9am and 2pm, or call 716-835-7395 to make arrangements.

Other Questions?

Just call 716-835-7395 or visit us online at www.sjsbuffalo.com



St. Joseph Elementary School is located at 3275 Main Street in Buffalo, in the heart of the University Heights district of North Buffalo.

The school is adjacent to the University at Buffalo (South Campus) & the University Metro Rail station. **This central location is just minutes from Kenmore, Tonawanda, Amherst, Cheektowaga and Williamsville.**

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St. Joseph Elementary School (SJS) is the oldest, continually operational Catholic elementary school in the City of Buffalo. SJS cultivates a caring, diverse, faith based school community from Pre-school through eighth grade.



www.sjsbuffalo.com

3275 MAIN STREET | BUFFALO, NY 14214 | PH: 716-835-7395