



**KINDERGARTEN  
ST. PETER MARTYR SCHOOL  
PITTSBURG, CALIFORNIA**



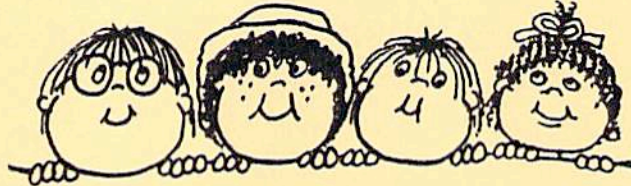
Our kindergarten program provides variety, flexibility and structure. Play, fantasy, creativity, and individual choices are encouraged. Learning activities and formal lessons are woven into the child's day. Formal lessons in pre-reading and math are presented to all of the children with an understanding that each child will absorb as much as she/he can. Children's literature plays an important role in the pre-reading program.

There is a constant awareness of the importance of the child's self-esteem. Praise is given and appreciation is shown for the child's efforts. It is important that each child feels good about the effort that he/she puts in his/her work. The children are taught to appreciate the uniqueness and individuality of their peers and to treat each other with kindness and respect.

Kindergarten is held Monday - Friday, 8:10-11:30. There is before and after school child care.

There is a little bit of homework usually related to the letter or the Math chapter we are working on. The work should take no longer than about fifteen minutes and would require some parental supervision. The most important homework a child can have is the opportunity of being read to. No homework that I give could be better than this.

## St. Peter Martyr School Kindergarten Schedule



Following is an example of a typical day in our kindergarten.

### **Arrival**

The children come into the classroom 8:00 - 8:10, put away their belongings, put their folders and messages into the big blue tub, and choose an activity. When the morning announcements come on (they are broadcast to the whole school through the intercom), the kindergarten children "freeze" and listen to the news. Then they resume free-choice activities and planned activities. Among the activities are: computers, art, blocks, a variety of manipulatives, books, puzzles...

### **Whole Group**

During this time we all meet together on the carpet and I introduce or review concepts --- numbers, letters, science, social studies, colors, shapes, etc. After we meet together on the carpet the children will work together at their table on specific activities/lessons for the day.

### **Storytime/Sharing**

The children once again gather on the carpet for a story. We also use this time for the sharing for our "star of the week", and also anything else that the children or teacher may like to discuss.

### **Snack and Outdoor Play**

The children sit at their tables to eat their snack. Milk will be served as part of the snack unless a child is allergic to milk. We say the traditional Catholic grace before meals and add "Thank you, God, for all of the good things that I have. Please help those who don't have as much as I do." The children take turns helping set up the snack. After snack we try to spend at least 15 minutes at outdoor play, depending upon the weather and what is going on that day.

### End-of-the-Day

At the end of the morning we review what has happened during the day and what we have learned. We discuss what we will work on the next day and if they have homework we go over the directions for the work. Before they go home we say a prayer and sing a song or two. At times I also read a Bible story.

### Library/Music

On Wednesday and Thursday the children have music from 9:30 - 10:00. The children go to the school library on Wednesday in split groups for 1/2 hour each. They get to check out a library book to bring home and will need to bring the book back before their next library day (Wednesday).

### Dismissal

Dismissal time is 11:30. The children will be dismissed from the door on the playground side of the classroom. The children remain in the room until I see you or the person who will be picking them up. If your child is going to our extended care then they will be picked up in the classroom by the extended care director. If for some reason a parent/carpool driver is late your child will be sent to extended care until you/carpool driver arrive.

This is generally how we spend our days in kindergarten.

