

## Preschool for the 2020-21 School Year

Saint Mark Preschool has openings for 3, 4, and young 5 year old students for the upcoming school year. We are not able to conduct in-person tours but you may contact the preschool via email for information on enrollment. Please contact Chris Stodola at [cstodola@saintmarkgr.org](mailto:cstodola@saintmarkgr.org).

At this time, we are planning on our regular fall schedule of beginning classes after Labor Day. If we are allowed to open, our procedures and practices may look different due to new regulations for the health and safety of students and staff. We will be following all guidelines put forth by the state. However, we want to reassure you that if you do enroll and we are not able to open as planned, we will have distance learning options in place.

When school closed unexpectedly this spring, we quickly put together lesson plans, teaching videos, and Zoom meetings. Our plans and activities continued the themes and learning objectives we were scheduled to complete in class. We facilitated our interactions through our private family Facebook page and Zoom. Families were provided with weekly written plans, two teaching videos each day, and as the closure was made permanent, we added weekly Zoom meetings with each individual class.

In the event there is a delay in opening or a closure at some point in the upcoming school year, the staff will draw on our experiences this spring to provide for continued education at home. Some elements of our spring distance teaching will be retained and more will be added. Lesson plans and learning objectives will be specific to each class. Teachers will also use Zoom or a similar application to connect with their class and lead circle times. The ability to connect digitally with each student will be key to a successful program. Our experiences this spring have given us a foundation on which to build a more complete distance learning curriculum.

The year 2020 has certainly presented us with challenges we have not faced before. We pray that in the coming months we are able to resume some semblance of normal life. As our staff prepares for the next school year, we will keep possible scenarios in mind and will develop tentative plans to address them if needed. Any changes to our plans will be shared with you.

Thank you for considering Saint Mark for your child's preschool education. Again, you may contact preschool director, Chris Stodola, at [cstodola@saintmarkgr.org](mailto:cstodola@saintmarkgr.org) for more information and if you have questions.