Grove City Christian School Pre-Kindergarten

At Grove City Christian School, it is our mission to partner with Bible-believing parents, and strive to provide an excellent spiritual and academic setting for each student. Students in our Pre-Kindergarten class are valued as important members of our cooperative learning community. Utilizing positive reinforcement, high expectations and hands-on learning and technology, we establish a place where all students can learn and develop. By creating a positive atmosphere, we create a classroom which is conducive for students to learn new skills and concepts, become problem solvers, overcome obstacles, learn to work with others and learn about God and His world. It is essential that all students, regardless of ability, are given the tools and confidence they need to develop a lifelong love for learning, and a willingness to love and serve the God who created and loves each of them.

Curriculum Overview

This class is a transition between preschool and kindergarten. We utilize a hands-on and engaging approach to teach concepts and skills. Throughout the day, students participate in both small and large group teacher directed learning activities, classroom centers and structured play time.

Pre-Kindergarten is an exciting beginning for young children who will be age appropriate for Kindergarten the following school year. It is the start of our little ones’ educational journey. In this year, your child’s learning will blossom and become the foundation by which he or she continues to grow and learn.

Students at this level will come to school for full days Monday through Friday. The available hours are 6:30am until 6:00pm, giving teachers ample time to work with children and guide them in developing their skill sets.

Your involvement in your child’s education is essential for a successful school experience. Please work with your child at home on the skills listed in this curriculum. We hope the ideas listed here will help you understand the milestones your child will be pursuing throughout the year and the ways you can help your child achieve much success.

Pre-Kindergarten will follow the mission and standards of Grove City Christian School. Ohio Standards for Early Education for 4 and 5 year-olds not in Kindergarten is a guide for our benchmarks. These are designed to guide instruction for children in this age group. A Biblical worldview is integrated in each of our subject areas.

There are five domains outlined within the standards including:

- Health and Physical Development
- Social and Emotional Development
- Language Development and Communication
- Approaches to Learning
- General Knowledge and Cognition

Within these domains are sub-domains that give developmental expectations and key examples of evidence of growth in each area.
Daily Skill Development

- Using scissors with correct grip and glue with control
- Using proper pencil grip
- Coloring within the lines and creating own original artwork
- Listening to stories
- Participating in classroom activities
- Using manners

Large Motor Skill Development

- Use of the Play Place and school playground for large motor activity
- Physical Education
- Brain Gym activities

Working and Living In The Classroom

- Sharing, getting along and respecting others
- Learning to converse with peers and adults
- Listening attentively
- Following oral directions
- Following school rules
- Expressing needs
- Dressing self independently

Reading

- Identifying front, back, title page, author and illustrator of a book
- Following words from left to right and top to bottom
- Naming all upper and lower case letters and knowing all letter sounds
- Recognizing capital letters
- Recognizing lower case letters
- Listening to stories
- Introduction to sight words
- Introduction to early learning leveled books
- Sequencing events in the correct order
- Going to library class weekly - checking out library books

You can increase your child’s understanding of reading concepts by:

- Reading with your child daily
- Discussing parts of the book
- Asking your child key questions about the setting and characters in a book
- Showing your child a word or a letter within a story
- Finding letters within the text of a story
- Using flash cards to review letters in isolation
Language Arts-Writing

- Writing name using the correct letter formation
- Writing numbers
- Writing alphabet letters

You can increase your child’s understanding of writing concepts by:
- Coloring in one direction and staying in the lines
- Writing the letters in the alphabet
- Writing their first and last name using upper and lowercase letters
- Writing using manuscript print

Math

- Patterning, sorting, classifying
- Understanding positional concepts (under, over, beside, etc.)
- Differentiating between same and different
- Opposites
- Counting up to 30 by ones
- Sorting like objects
- Understanding 1:1 correspondence
- Counting sets of 1-20
- Recognizing shapes: circle, star, triangle, square, rectangle, oval, heart and diamond
- Sequencing
- Adding and subtracting with objects up to 10
- Recognizing numerals 1-10 in and out of sequence
- Working puzzles
- Experiencing using technology

You can build your child’s math skills at home by:
- Making counting part of your daily life (count cars at the stoplight or steps when you are walking)
- Helping your child notice and name simple patterns in clothing
- Using the words more and less, above and under, in and out, between and beside
- Finding and identifying various shapes in your home (circles, squares, rectangles, triangles, ovals)

Science

- Classifying living & nonliving things
- Identifying parts of a plant and what plants need to survive
- Identifying the five senses and how people use their senses
- Identifying the body part/organ associated with each sense
- Identifying the day and night sky: i.e. earth, moon and sun
- Identifying colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, pink, white, black, gray and brown
- Identifying colors in their environment
- Beginning to explore with scientific tools (magnifying glasses, magnets)
Social Studies

- Identifying the country and state in which we live
- Identifying some holidays
- Learning about people from other countries and cultures
- Knowing that work has value
- Knowing that money pays for services and needs
- Identifying the difference between needs and wants
- Learning to develop self-control and identify and manage feelings
- Learning to defer to the needs of others
- Identifying community helpers and the tools they use

Technology

- Using SMARTboards, iPads and tablets for stories, educational games and research
- Using equipment independently and caring for it respectfully

Bible

Bible concepts and verses will be integrated in all subject areas.

Pre-Kindergarten students will be:

- Reciting Bible verses that correspond to letters A-Z and the ten commandments
- Knowing that they are created by God, and they are loved and valued by Him
- Learning about favorite heroes and events from the Old and New Testament
- Learning, applying and demonstrating the Biblical values of kindness, love, obedience, respect and truthfulness
- Learning and singing Biblical songs and hymn stories
- Participating in story-telling and dramatization of Bible stories
- Attending chapel each week

Enrichment Opportunities

Physical Education, Chapel, Art, and Music specials classes will be coordinated throughout the year in collaboration with Grove City Christian School.
Pre-Kindergarten Themes

The alphabet is introduced with a Bible verse which begins with the initial letter presented. When possible, that concept for our Bible lessons and stories are drawn from that verse. It is taught as it applies to our Science or Social Studies theme for the week as well.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Letter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School is Cool Rules-Mind Your Manners</td>
<td>Aa</td>
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<tr>
<td>All About Me and My Family</td>
<td>Bb</td>
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<td>Body Awareness</td>
<td>Cc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>Dd</td>
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<td>Plane Shapes</td>
<td>Ee</td>
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<td>Friends</td>
<td>Ff</td>
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<td>Fall/Owls</td>
<td>Gg</td>
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<td>Safety</td>
<td>Hh</td>
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<td>Western Week</td>
<td>Ii</td>
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<td>Pumpkins</td>
<td>Jj</td>
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<td>Opposites</td>
<td>Kk</td>
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<td>Five Senses</td>
<td>Ll</td>
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<td>Native Americans/Popcorn</td>
<td>Mm</td>
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<td>Pilgrims/Turkeys</td>
<td>Nn</td>
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<td>Traditions</td>
<td>Oo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>Pp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>Qq</td>
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<td>Bears-Fantasy and Fact</td>
<td>Rr</td>
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<td>Fun in the Snow</td>
<td>Ss</td>
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<td>Freedom and Friendship</td>
<td>Tt</td>
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<td>Community Helpers</td>
<td>Uu</td>
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<td>Topic</td>
<td>Initials</td>
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<td>Arctic-Animals in Winter</td>
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<td>Valentines</td>
<td>The Letter Review</td>
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<td>Presidents of America/Symbols of America</td>
<td>Vv</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Health</td>
<td>Ww</td>
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<td>Dr. Seuss and Reading</td>
<td>Xx</td>
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<td>Dinosaurs</td>
<td>Yy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animals</td>
<td>Zz</td>
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<td>Weather</td>
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<td>Easter</td>
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<td>Chef Combo</td>
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<td>Ponds and Streams-Turtles and Frogs</td>
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<td>Oceans-Rivers-Lakes</td>
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<td>Mothers</td>
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<td>Farm</td>
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<td>Bugs</td>
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<td>In the Garden</td>
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- Begin to review the alphabet with more emphasis on the phonetic dynamic
- Put three letter words together and work with reading simple texts
- Continue to work with developing writing and reading skills