

Parish Religious Education Report
March 19, 2013

Christian Beginnings Pre-School

Christian Beginnings Pre-School received approval from the Maryland State Department of Education in 1997. The children attending receive age appropriate instruction in reading readiness, science, math, social studies and religion.

All the teachers have Bachelor of Arts degrees in Education with training in Early Childhood Education. The teachers have background checks by the Maryland State Police.

Staff

Director: Mrs. Marie Chrzanowski

Teachers:

Three year olds: Mrs Cathy Bodenhorn

Four year olds: Mrs. Dot Stein

Associate Teacher (both classes): Mrs. Rose Thompson

Budget

Due to the decrease in the number of students the budget has declined and was described as dismal. This year the morning and afternoon Four year old classes each have 14 students. The Three year old class however has only 12 students in the morning class and no students in the afternoon class.

Issues/ Future Actions

The teachers are very grateful to have the new storage shed. They would love to extend the wall in the classroom which would allow for the bathroom to be enclosed in the classroom. They would also love to have a sink within the classroom.

There needs to be more advertisement for the Pre-School. Mrs. Stein and Mrs. Bodenhorn have gone to the Mom's clubs in the county to give presentations. As a result they have gained two students.

Thought should be given as to how the Pre School playground can be safe guarded from outsiders. Often playground equipment is damaged by children who are too old, too big and unsupervised. This is especially true during soccer season.

Last year's fundraiser at Green Turtle was very successful and should be considered again in the future.

CCD (Continuing Christian Development)

The St. John Vianney CCD program provides a spiritual formation and instruction in the Catholic Faith. Children who do not attend Catholic schools are encouraged to enroll in CCD. A two-year minimum of CCD instruction is necessary for public school children to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation, Penance, and Holy Eucharist. Kindergarten through 5th Grades attend classes on Sunday from 9:30 to 10:45 AM or Monday from 6:15 to 7:30 PM. Sixth through 9th Grades attend classes on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:00 PM.

Staff

Director: Mrs. Jan Pedone

Approximately 60 volunteer s (teachers/aides/admin)

Budget

Tuition fully covers the K-8 budget. Cost of confirmation class is shared between the families and the parish funds.

Students Trained

There are over 400 students enrolled this school year.

Issues/Future Actions

Mrs. Pedone sees not having personal interaction with the sixth through eighth graders and their parents as her biggest challenge. She would like to be able to meet and have more of a connection with these groups.

There is a need to get rid of all the VHS tapes and replace them with new DVDs. Possibly purchase a machine to transfer the VHS to DVD. This could be a summer project for students entering ninth grade.

Youth Groups- about 30 students will go to Catholic Heart Work Camp in Greensboro, NC this July. We however will not be hosting a Work Camp here this year. There is a Diocesan Work Camp which we may be able to bring to SJV. This would be something for next year. Planning would need to start in September of 2013.

We could explore doing a camp on our own. Mrs. Pedone has several local agencies contacting her to ask about Work Camp help. Possible cost of doing our own camp would be \$15,000. She feels we would be able to get 100 students to participate in this camp. The notional cost to each student would be \$200. The students would gather each morning for their assignments. There could be a couple of evening activities planned such as a cook out or concert given by the students themselves.

National Catholic Youth Conference was well worth going. It was really nice to have four people attend. They were able to split up and cover more seminars. Mrs. Pedone would like to attend again and bring the additional three people as well.

There is a need for more substitutes for the CCD classes in general.