

Dear Preschool Parents,

July 2024

We are delighted to welcome you to the **2024-2025** St. Joseph School year! Our Preschool is a place of Light, Learning, and Love where your children will grow academically, physically and spiritually as we partner in their learning journey. This letter provides information about the beginning of school. Please read it carefully. Your child's Preschool teacher will reach out to you in August.

**PRESCHOOL PARENT ORIENTATION** - Thursday, August 29 at 6:00 p.m.

We encourage all parents/guardians to attend our informative meeting. Parents will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive an information packet for their child's program. Please enter through the front main doors. **Parents only please.**

**MEET THE TEACHER/SUPPLY DROP OFF** - Friday, August 30th between 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to meet their teacher before school begins, as well as drop off their school supplies. A pre-school supply list may be found on our website at [www.sjsdanbury.org](http://www.sjsdanbury.org).

**FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)**- First two days of school will be shortened allowing the children to acclimate smoothly.

Tuesday, September 3rd - Early dismissal 8:35-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, September 4th- Early dismissal 8:35-11:30 a.m.

Thursday, September 5th- Full day

Friday, September 6th- Full day

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO AFTERCARE FOR PRE-K ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD AND WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH**

**REGULAR PRESCHOOL HOURS**

Half days 8:35 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. or full days 8:35 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

All early dismissals for both pk3 & pk4 are at 11:30 a.m.

Please note that most school communication is through email. If you have any questions please email the main office at [sjsoffice@sjsdanbury.org](mailto:sjsoffice@sjsdanbury.org). Please visit the MYSJS area of the website at [www.sjsdanbury.org](http://www.sjsdanbury.org) and for supply list, uniforms and other preschool information.

Happy Summer! We look forward to seeing you in August!



# PRESCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

We kindly ask each family to bring in the following items on their first day of school.

Thank you!



2 boxes of tissues

1 box spoons

1 box forks

2 paper towel rolls

2 containers of baby wipes

2 containers of clorox wipes

1 lysol/clorox spray disinfectant

1 large size hand sanitizer

1 LARGE size backpack for home/school use

# A Parent's Guide to preparing your child for preschool

Starting preschool is such an exciting and momentous occasion! When children turn 3-4 years old, they are no longer toddlers. They are “big kids” who may be ready to start preschool. As parents, we can help our children prepare for this next big step by doing these 5 things.

If we were only allowed to give one piece of advice to parents it would be,

- **1 “READ”** to your child.” Read every day. Have books in every room, in your purse, and in the car. Read favorite books so often that you and your child 1 have them memorized. Visit the library often..
- **2 TALK** Turn off the movie in the car and engage your child in a discussion about the world around her. Ask questions. Talk about nature, and colors, and letters, and feelings. Put down your phone and listen when your child talks to you. Encourage your child to make eye contact and greet others with a “Hello” and a “Good Bye.” Developing your child’s oral language skills is a crucial part of preparing her for preschool
- **3 PLAY** Spend time every day on the floor playing with your child. Encourage pretend play and role playing. Get messy! Laugh and have fun together. Offer your child time to play by herself, giving her the opportunity to decide what to do.
- **4 ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE** Children who are able to take care of some of their personal needs do better at the beginning of preschool than children who rely on adults for everything. Make sure your child has shoes that she can put on herself. Allow extra time before you need to leave the house each day so that your child can put on her own shoes. Support your child in taking care of her own bathroom needs. If she asks help with her pants, or with wiping, try talking her through it rather than doing it all for her. Teach her to wash her own hands and flush the toilet. It’s not glamorous, but these are important skills in preschool!
- **5 PRACTICE** Give your child time away from you. Practice separating and giving your child a little bit of space. Invite other children over for playdates and allow your child to go on short play dates as well.