

Parent Handbook



2024-2025

725 Frame Road

Newburgh, IN 47630

812-490-2000

www.sjbschoolnewburgh.org

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This handbook contains important information about St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool. Please read through and become familiar with all policies and procedures. If you have questions, feel free to contact the principal, Mrs. Elizabeth Flatt eflatt@evdio.org any time. We welcome the opportunity to work with you and your child to make his/her experience at St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool a positive one that will create a lifetime of memories.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. John the Baptist Catholic School is a Christ-centered community forming disciples through faith, knowledge, and service.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool is an extension of the teaching ministry of the St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish community. Our early childhood educators encourage curiosity, exploration, and problem solving in an atmosphere of warmth, affection, and respect for each individual child. Our early learning educators plan experiences based on a monthly curriculum guide. Children are involved in activities which include foundations of math, science, social studies, visual art, language arts, music, movement and dramatic play. All interrelated aspects of the child's growth and development are incorporated in a Christian environment.

OBJECTIVES OF OUR CURRICULUM

SPIRITUAL- Helping children know they are a blessing from God – that God loves them.

INTELLECTUAL- Providing “hands-on,” age-appropriate activities that stimulate each child.

EMOTIONAL- Helping children develop a positive self-concept, and also how to deal with various feelings.

SOCIAL- Guiding children in positive ways of interacting with others. Helping children learn the importance of friendship, respect, and working well with others.

INDEPENDENCE- Teaching self-sufficiency such as putting on coats, snapping, zipping, and other independent activities..all the skills necessary as they grow.

PHYSICAL- Providing activities that help children develop fine and gross motor skills.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool implements the Big Day for Pre-K curriculum.

It is a program organized around “Big Experiences” that engage children and integrate social-emotional, academic, and physical development. Weekly and daily lessons build on a social-emotional and knowledge focus that help children learn about themselves and their world as they move toward kindergarten readiness.

PROGRAM EXPLANATIONS

Extended Enrichment: Extended Enrichment enables children to attend St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool for the full day. This is a great option for full-time working families. When your child is not attending their assigned preschool or pre-k class, he or she will be with the Extended Enrichment students and faculty. **Those students who attend an AM class with Extended Enrichment will be required to take an afternoon nap/rest time.**

Preschool/Pre-K Classes: Our preschool and pre-k classes are half day programs. Our preschool options are only in the AM and our pre-k program has both an AM and a PM option.

RELIGION AND PRAYER

At St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool, we start each day in prayer as a class. Extended Enrichment students pray before they eat and there are activities throughout the year that incorporate our religious beliefs and values.

STAFF

The staff at St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool is dedicated to the well-being and education of each child who comes to our school. The staff holds current training in CPR, Universal Precautions & Bloodborne Pathogens. Classroom teachers hold a valid Indiana teaching license. The staff is also trained in recognizing physical or sexual abuse or neglect in young children. If at any time a member of the staff suspects that a child in our care has been physically or sexually abused by anyone or that a child is being neglected, it will be immediately reported to Child Protective Services.

ADMISSION POLICY

Enrollment at St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool is open to any age-appropriate child as long as space is available and the staff is able to meet the physical, developmental, and behavioral needs of the child within a group setting.

Children must be potty-trained and have independent bathroom skills such as pulling up bottoms and washing his or her hands. **Pull ups are not allowed.**

Each child is welcome without discrimination regardless of gender, race, creed, national origin or religious affiliation. Your child's enrollment position is held when his/her registration fee is paid. All forms must be submitted before admission. It is the responsibility of the parent to keep information current. All enrollment paperwork and medical records are confidential and will be kept in the school office.

Registration will be given the following priorities: Current students and siblings of SJB students, then members of SJB Parish, then the general public.

Enrollment Opens:

November: Current SJB Preschool and School Families

December: SJB Parish Families

January: Open Registration

***These dates are subject to change from year to year**

PRESCHOOL/PRE-K AND FULL-DAY ENRICHMENT OPTIONS

PRE-K: Children must be 4 and fully potty trained by August 1

5 DAYS PER WEEK

8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

***FULL DAY ENRICHMENT ALSO OFFERED BASED ON AVAILABILITY**

PRESCHOOL: Children must be 3 and fully potty trained by August 1

3 DAYS PER WEEK (Monday - Wednesday - Friday)

8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

***FULL DAY ENRICHMENT ALSO OFFERED BASED ON AVAILABILITY**

2 DAYS PER WEEK (Tuesday and Thursday)

8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

***FULL DAY ENRICHMENT ALSO OFFERED BASED ON AVAILABILITY**

EXTENDED ENRICHMENT (FULL DAY)

Monday - Friday

7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

EARLY BIRD DROP OFF (only for PS and Pre-K AM classes that are not in Extended Enrichment) Monday –Friday

7:00 am -8:00 a.m.

LATE FEES

PRESCHOOL/PRE-K: A **\$5.00 fee** AND \$1.00 per minute after five minutes will be charged for late pick-up after 10:30 a.m. for morning classes and 2:30 p.m. for afternoon classes.

EXTENDED ENRICHMENT: A **\$5.00 fee will be charged for late pick up after 5:30p.m. AND \$1.00 per minute per child.** This late fee is to be paid directly to the caregivers who have given their precious time to stay past normal business hours. Refusal to pay late fees may result in the dismissal of your child from St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool.

ENROLLMENT FEE

Each child enrolled is required to pay a **\$50.00 non-refundable enrollment fee.**

SUPPLY FEE

Each year at orientation, a supply/activity fee is due. This fee helps to cover costs of daily supplies (paint, paper, etc.) field trips, special events, and Weekly Reader (pre-K)

Preschool only.....\$75

Pre-K only..... \$100

2 or 3 Day Full Day Enrichment.....\$125

5 Day Full Day Enrichment.....\$150

Students are also asked to purchase a school shirt (\$15) and bag (\$15) if they don't already have one. The SJB bags will be used every day instead of a backpack.

TUITION

PRESCHOOL/PRE-K: Each child's tuition payment is due on **the first of the month** through direct withdrawal.

FULL DAY ENRICHMENT: Each child's tuition payment is due on **the first of the month** or on **Monday** (if paying weekly instead of monthly) through direct withdrawal.

Tuition is due and will be the same amount each month/week regardless of the number of days attended.

If your child's tuition becomes a concern, please contact the principal, Mrs. Elizabeth Flatt at eflatt@evdio.org immediately. Failure to pay tuition in a timely manner may result in your child's dismissal from St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool.

Preschool/Pre-K Classes Only (8:00-10:30 or 12:00-2:30):

2-day \$125/month

3-day \$150/month

5-day \$220/month

Early Bird Drop Off (7:00-8:00 a.m.)**(only for PS and Pre-K AM classes that are not in extended enrichment)**

2-day \$20/month

3-day \$25/month

5-day \$35/month

Full Day Program (7:00 a.m. -5:30 p.m.)

2-day \$320/month (\$80/week)

3-day \$480/month (\$120/week)

5-day \$620/month (\$155/week)

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

If you are withdrawing your child from St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool, a 30-day written notice or payment for one month is required. Such a notice will allow St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool to fill your child's position in a timely manner.

HOLIDAYS

St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool follows the St. John the Baptist Catholic School calendar (K-8). This is located on the school website. <https://www.sjbschoolnewburgh.org/> When school is closed, there will be no extended enrichment.

WEATHER

PRESCHOOL/PRE-K: When **Warrick County schools** are closed because of inclement weather, St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool will also be closed. When **Warrick County** has any delay, morning classes will be canceled. If **Warrick County** dismisses early, afternoon classes will be canceled.

**** Make-up snow days are planned on the school calendar. If school is closed due to weather, tuition is non-refundable due to continuing monthly expenses.**

ENRICHMENT: When **Warrick County** schools are closed because of inclement weather, Extended Enrichment will also be closed. When **Warrick County** has a 2 hour delay, extended enrichment will open at 9:00 AM. When **Warrick County** schools have an early dismissal, extended enrichment will close early.

****School closures are announced on local TV and radio stations. You will also receive a phone call and email from SchoolMessenger.**

DROP OFF/PICK-UP PROCEDURES

EARLY BIRD/ENRICHMENT: Children may be dropped off any time after 7:00 AM. Please use

the playground entrance. Parents must walk their child in, to the door and ring the buzzer. If dropping students off before 8:00 a.m., please park your vehicle and walk your child to the crosswalk and staff will help them cross if they are part of the AM class that day. Enrichment students should be walked to the back door.

PRESCHOOL/PRE-K: We will use a car line for drop off and pick up. If you are the first car, please pull up to the yellow line in the drive. We will unload **three** cars at a time. Please do not let your child out until all cars have stopped. Doors will not open until 7:55 AM / 11:55 AM. Dismissal will work the same way. **When driving around school please be aware of the cones for the elementary playground. If the cones are up and children are out, please wait for them to go inside before driving around school.** If someone else is picking up your child, please pass this information on to them.

SIGN-IN/SIGN-OUT

EXTENDED ENRICHMENT: For the protection of your child, your child will not be allowed to leave St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool with anyone that is not listed on his/her enrollment form or emergency card without a prior phone call or signed note from a parent. Anyone unfamiliar to the caregivers must present a picture ID. The school office must be notified that your child will be absent or is arriving late. **Please call 812-490-2000 no later than 8:00 a.m.**

DISCIPLINE

Our approach to discipline is positive reinforcement. Redirection will be given, when necessary, to lead children to more acceptable behavior. The child will be relocated to any activity where he/she can be more successful.

No staff member shall be permitted to use corporal or other cruel, harsh, or unusual punishment or any frightening or humiliating method to control the actions of any child or group of children.

If a child's inappropriate behavior is in danger of possibly harming someone else, harming themselves, or destroying property, the child may be removed from the activity. He/she may be placed in an area by themselves or with another group of children until the time comes when he/she can be successfully returned to the activity.

If behavior problems with a child persist, the parents will be notified and possibly asked to set up a conference time with the director and the child's teacher. During this conference, strategies will be discussed by all parties involved to improve the child's behavior.

NOTE: We reserve the right to refuse or limit attendance to any child whose behavior is or becomes detrimental to group experiences.

PARENT VISITATION/ SECURITY PROCEDURES

Visitors should ring the buzzer to enter. Special events are planned throughout the year, which allow you to come and spend time with your child.

In order to attend or volunteer for field trips, special events, or class parties with our children, **all visitors** will need to complete the Youth Protection Training, which includes a background check and Safe Environment Training, through Mary Grady at mgrady@evdio.org

PHONE CALLS

Any parent wanting to speak with a teacher or caregiver in length will need to call the office, 490-2000, to set up a time that is convenient for both you and the teacher.

CLOTHING

WE WILL GET MESSY! At St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool we believe in having fun, and having fun is sometimes messy. Please dress your child in **play clothes** each day. Children should wear tennis shoes – they are best for playground activities. **No sandals or flip flops please.**

Please wear appropriate outerwear. We will play outside every day, weather permitting.

There will be no outside play if temperature (including wind chill) is below 32 degrees.

There will be no outside play if a heat advisory/ozone alert is in effect.

All students should have a weather appropriate change of clothes on hand at all times. This will be a great help when an accident occurs. **Please mark all articles clearly with your child's name.** When the extra clothes are worn home, please remember to bring in a replacement set the next day. St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool will not be responsible for lost or stolen articles.

NAP TIME AT EXTENDED ENRICHMENT

Nap time will be from approximately 12:30-2:00 every day. Each child will need to bring one small blanket and a small nap-size pillow (16" x 16" maximum size). Due to state regulations, no blanket should hang over the sides of the cot to avoid creating a tripping hazard. **NO sleeping bags or comforters, please.** Clearly label all items with your child's name. One small stuffed animal (no sound) may be brought to school if your child sleeps with it regularly.

All blankets, pillows, and stuffies will stay at school for the week and these items will be sent home each Friday to be laundered.

LEADER FOR THE DAY

When it is your child's turn to be the leader, they may bring in **one** item for Show-&-Tell which **must fit in his/her school bag (no living animals)**. Class calendars will specify which days your child is the leader. Please refrain from bringing small toys with lots of little pieces. The teachers will do their best to keep all toys together, but cannot assume responsibility for missing pieces. Other than Show-&-Tell days, toys of any kind are not to be brought to school or Extended Enrichment. For the well-being of each child, we do not allow toy weapons of any kind to be brought to St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool.

BIRTHDAY AND HOLIDAY PARTIES

Special days and holidays are observed throughout the year. We ask that you help with at least one party each year. Party parents are responsible for treat bags, craft, and two or more games. **The party will be held at preschool during the last half of class time.**

We ask two or more parents to sign up for each party. The expense and time should be shared equally. Parents are encouraged to contact each other in advance of the party so they can work together to plan an enjoyable party for the children. Each child will celebrate his/her birthday or "half-birthday" at preschool. The St John the Baptist Catholic School's Wellness policy does not allow edible treats to be brought in. However, if you would like to send a treat bag with non-food items that is ok. Another suggestion would be to donate a book to your child's classroom. They may also bring in a Show & Tell item on that day. Watch the calendar for the day your child will be celebrating his/her birthday.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips will be taken throughout the school year. **All students will ride a school bus to and from the field trip.** The trip fees for the student are paid at orientation. If there are additional trips scheduled, parents will be notified in advance of the date and cost. Parents interested in attending should email their child's teacher in advance. **Any parent accompanying their child on the trip will have to have their own transportation to meet the class at the destination.**

LUNCH

ENRICHMENT: Nutritionally balanced meals and snacks will be served to all children in attendance. Lunch will be served each day at 10:45 a.m. **If your child will be arriving late to school, please notify the school office 812-490-2000 by 8:00 AM (so they can be included in the lunch count).** If your child is away from the building at that time, please arrange to feed them before returning. An afternoon snack will also be offered. **In fairness to the other children, we will not allow a child to bring any outside food in the building.**

****If your child has a food allergy, please contact your child's teacher to discuss how we can best meet his or her needs.**

IMMUNIZATION/PHYSICAL EXAM REQUIREMENTS

When considering the health and safety of each child, our goal is to ensure the healthiest environment for everyone. State regulations require that we maintain a medical record on each child and that each child has a physical examination. If your child has had a physical examination within two months prior to his/her enrollment, a copy of this exam will suffice for your child's records. It is necessary for us to keep a current record of your child's immunizations.

ILLNESS POLICY

Your child is not to be brought to St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool or Extended Enrichment or allowed to remain if he/she is suffering from any of the following symptoms:

*Fever of 100 degrees or higher, or while taking medication to control a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, a rash that is deemed contagious, or any other contagious illness.

If your child is absent or sent home due to illness, he/she may not return to St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool until free of fever or any of these symptoms **without medication for 24 hours.** Once you have been contacted stating your child is ill, you will need to come and pick up your child immediately. A doctor's statement may be requested, following a contagious illness. We appreciate your assistance regarding your child's health. It is always our goal to keep everyone healthy.

MEDICATIONS

PRESCHOOL/PRE-K: Medications are not administered to children attending class only.

EXTENDED ENRICHMENT: Prescription medications may be administered to your child while in Extended Enrichment. The medication needs to be sent in the original container with the child's name on the label. The prescription label also needs to have the prescription number, date, doctor's name, dosage, and the drug clearly listed. We will ask you to fill out a form giving us permission to dispense the medication. Any over-the-counter medication authorized by a parent to be given to their child will **ONLY** be given if there is a medication order signed by your child's physician on file. A physician's orders are only valid for a period of one year. Parents must provide any over-the-counter medication and should be unopened.

SPECIAL NEEDS POLICY

Whenever possible, students with special needs will be included in school programs if reasonable accommodations can be made to meet the individual needs of students with disabilities.

If a student is identified as potentially in need of specialized services, a referral is made to the Warrick County School System in partnership with members of the St. John the Baptist Catholic School's resource team so that the child may be evaluated.

Once an evaluation is complete, parents would meet with teachers and Warrick County representatives to discuss the next steps.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

The staff at St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool will take all precautions to make sure that your child remains safe. However, in the event of a medical emergency or accident, we will attempt to contact the parents of the child first. If a parent cannot be contacted, the emergency contacts will be called. Every child must have at least one emergency contact listed. If the situation should require immediate medical attention, emergency medical personnel will be called. Your authorization to take any emergency medical measures necessary is part of the parental release.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool faculty members are trained in First Aid, CPR, and Universal Precautions.

INSURANCE STATEMENT

It is to be understood and acknowledged by the parents and guardians that neither the school, principal, teachers nor the Catholic Diocese of Evansville will be the insurer of a student's health and safety while the student is at school or engaged in school-supervised activities. It is the parent's obligation to provide such insurance as they deem necessary to protect themselves and their students against the costs or other effects of sickness or injury.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

St. John the Baptist Catholic Preschool has regular fire and safety drills. The children practice fast and safe evacuation from the building. In case of inclement weather, the teachers have been notified as to the safest place to take their classes. Local weather stations are monitored for the latest weather updates. **Please try to refrain from checking on your child during weather emergencies. This delays the staff in moving everyone to a safe location.**

In the event of an emergency situation (earthquakes, severe weather, fire, loss of water, electricity or gas supply, etc.) you will be contacted by School Messenger with any information about pick up instructions or early closing.

PICTURES & VIDEOS

Your child may have his/her picture taken during various events or as part of a class project. Some pictures may be placed in the newspaper, school website, Facebook page or other publications. Parental consent is included in registration forms.

COMMUNICATION POLICY

If you have a concern about your child's program, teacher or classroom, please address it first with your child's teacher. Good communication can often help solve many of the problems we encounter. If your concern is not satisfactorily addressed after speaking with your child's teacher, you may address your concerns with the principal, Elizabeth Flatt at eflatt@evdio.org.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Sydney Wright, Preschool/Pre-K Teacher**
smwright@evdio.org
- **Lisa Kunce, Pre-K Teacher**
lkunce@evdio.org
- **Julie Swihart, Enrichment Director**
jswhart@evdio.org

HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Please sign below signifying that you have read and understand the regulations in the Parent Handbook. Please return this page to the office within one week of your child's start date.

Child's Name

Date of Birth

Parent's Signature

Date

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

625 FRAME RD
NEWBURGH, IN 47630-1604
(812)490-1000

AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT FOR PRESCHOOL/PRE-K TUITION**Preschool/Pre-K Tuition Authorization Form August '24 – May '25**

Family Name(s) _____ Phone Number _____

I (we) hereby authorize **St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**, hereinafter called **Church**, to initiate Direct Debit for Preschool Tuition from August 2024 to May 2025 to my (our) _____CHECKING_____SAVINGS ACCOUNT (select one) indicated below at the depository name below, hereinafter called **DEPOSITORY**.

Depository Name _____

Transit/ABA# _____ Acct # _____
(Bank Account Number - first 9 digits on bottom of check)

Total amount \$ _____

Monthly on the 1st _____ Weekly on Monday (Extended Enrichment only) _____

Please check the class that your child will be attending and write TOTAL in the line above.

Preschool/Pre-K Only

2-day \$125/month _____ 3-day \$150/month _____ 5-day Pre-K \$220/month _____

Early Bird Drop Off (7:00-8:00 a.m)

2-day - \$20/month _____ 3-day - \$25/month _____ 5-day - \$35/month _____

Preschool/Pre-K with Extended Enrichment

2-day Preschool with 2-day Extended Enrichment	\$ 320 - monthly _____	\$80 - weekly _____
3-day Preschool with 3-day Extended Enrichment	\$ 480 - monthly _____	\$120 - weekly _____
Preschool/Pre-K with 5-day Extended Enrichment	\$ 620 - monthly _____	\$155 - weekly _____

Weekly deductions will be taken every Monday from August 12, 2024 and end May 19, 2025.
(except the week of Dec 23 –December 27)

Student(s) Name _____

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until CHURCH has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford CHURCH and DEPOSITORY a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

NAME(S) _____
(Please print)

DATE _____ SIGNED _____

DATE _____ SIGNED _____

Please attach voided check for checking account or voided deposit ticket for savings account.

****Note: if this is a joint account, all authorized individuals must sign.***

