



PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January 12, 2024

Dear Preschool Families,

We hope all of you had a blessed and wonderful winter break with your families.

Thank you for your generous Christmas gifts. They were very much appreciated.

A warm welcome to Mrs. McDowell who is back full time in the Sunflower 1 class. We want to thank Ms. Littlefield for teaching the Sunflower 1 class during Mrs. McDowell's absence.

Ms. Littlefield will now be the long-term teacher for Buzzy Bee 1, in Mrs. Mendoza's class.

We started our week celebrating the day of the "Epiphany" (Dia de Los Reyes). I brought a "Rosca de Reyes" (a delicious ring-shaped loaf of bread with dried fruit on top and a representation of baby Jesus can be found in the bread, which symbolizes the biblical story of Gaspar, Melchior & Balthazar) and we shared how this special day is also celebrated in different countries. This represents the day the Three Wise Men (Los Tres Reyes Magos) gave gifts to baby Jesus. Each child was given a slice of Rosca. Maggie Way, Margot Hobbs, Darian Beyk & Benicio Soares found a baby Jesus figure in their slice.

On Wednesday, we went to visit the seniors at Nazareth House. The children prayed and sang songs. We changed our visit day. The preschool will now visit the seniors on the second Wednesday of the month.

This week the Sunflower teachers introduced the letter Gg and the season of Winter. The children got to tear pieces of construction paper and glued the pieces to outline the letter, a great fine motor skill. They also Q-tip painted a snowflake and introduced the Rectangle shape.

The Buzzy Bee teachers introduced the letter Gg, number 8 and Arctic animals. The children practiced tracing & writing the letter and number. They made a letter and Arctic animal collage. This was a great way to practice their cutting skills. The children colored and cut the pictures.

On Wednesday, the teachers introduced the country of France for their geography lesson. Each child colored the France flag.

On Thursday, for Grotto Day we met in the music room due to the rain. I introduced the rosary to the children. The teachers and children brought their rosary that was given to them by the Missionary Childhood Association. We watched a short video about praying the rosary and then we prayed the Hail Mary and The Our Father. We also introduced the Core Value of Justice for this month. Before we were excused to go back to class, we went on a Polar Bear Hunt through the Arctic, sang winter songs and also sang a Martin Luther King song.

BUZZY BEE PARENTS – GESELL ASSESSMENT

The Gesell Assessments will start next week. The letter explaining the assessment was sent home today. There is a \$55.00 fee. The fee and permission slip are due back on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Please let us know if your child will not be returning to Nazareth, however, if your child will be attending Kindergarten here at Nazareth, they must be assessed. I will administer the assessment in the morning during the school day. The only preparation your child needs is to get plenty of rest and eat a well-balanced breakfast.

NAZARETH NIGHT

As the Nazareth Night Committee is preparing for our Annual Auction Dinner Dance, we need parent volunteers to help with the class projects. Two parents for the Sunflower class and two parents for the Buzzy Bee class. Please let me know if you are interested ASAP!

Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week will be the week of January 29 – February 2. **REMINDER:** Grandparents Day is on Friday, February 2. On this day, grandparents will be able to visit the classroom and do a special project with their grandchild. The preschool special activities for the week:

Monday, January 29- Spirit Day (wear Turkey Trot or Spirit shirt)

Tuesday, January 30- Pajama & Movie Day (No slippers)

Wednesday, January 31- Teddy Bear Picnic Day (bring a teddy bear)

Thursday, February 1- Special Craft Day

Friday, February 2- Grandparents Day

MORNING SNACKS

I want to thank the families who brought the muffins (Gravino, Real, Santiago, Duckworth & Giordano-Darling) veggies (Real, Santiago & Soares) and fresh fruit (Borowiec, Appel & Koppi). We greatly appreciate all your help. Remember to keep track of your service hours and save your receipts. Snacks **MUST** be store bought/prepackaged. **Just a reminder, that if you bring grapes, please cut them in half.**

MORNING DROP-OFF

Parents, if you have a preschooler and an upper grade school student, you may enter through the preschool building. If you DO NOT have a preschooler, you must drive or walk around the preschool building to drop-off your child.

SIGN-IN & OUT

It is very important that you sign your child in and out every day on your assigned space! Full signature **NO** initials! Some signatures are overlapping into other assigned spaces and parents are not able to sign their child in or out. Signing your child in and out is a State Licensing Regulation. During a licensing visit, we can be cited up to \$250 per missing signature.

PARENT VOLUNTEER IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Parents, please be sure to turn in all your volunteer requirements. You MUST also complete the CMG training. **As of right now, the only parents that are cleared are: Mrs. Jimenez, Mrs. Duckworth, Mrs. Byrne and Mrs. Borowiec.**

Reminder: State licensing requires that all volunteers have the following immunization requirements on file: a copy of a current TB test, MMR, Tdap, current Flu shot (You may decline the flu shot, write a note and sign) and Covid vaccination card. If you do not have a Covid vaccination card, you must test before you come into volunteer. If you are not cleared before the scheduled events, you will **NOT** be able to volunteer.

NAZARETH SCHOOL FAMILY HANDBOOK (Preschool – Grade Eight)

Please see the attached link to our new Nazareth School Family Handbook. To view and read the Family Handbook digitally please go on the school website and click on the following link:

[Nazareth School Family Handbook](#)

After reviewing the handbook, we ask you to please digitally sign the Parent/Guardian and student acknowledgments via the link below:

[Family Handbook Acknowledgment Form](#)

PRESCHOOL OPERATING HOURS

The preschool operating hours are 7:00am to 4:00pm. The main entrance door will be open from 7:00am to 8:15am for drop off. If you arrive after 8:15am, please ring the doorbell and a preschool staff member will come to the door. In the afternoon for pick-up, the door will be open from 2:30pm to 4:00pm. Please use the middle door to enter and exit the building, **DO NOT** exit through the side doors.

AFTERCARE

We provide aftercare from 4:00pm to 6:00pm (\$4.50 per hour). Aftercare pick-up is on the NE side of the preschool building (Sunflower Playground or Preschool Aftercare room).

DROP OFF & PICK-UP ROUTE

Thank you for your patience and understanding with our drop off and pick up route. We want to remind you that our drop off and pick up route is **ONE WAY ONLY!** You **MUST** drive up Nazareth Drive off of San Diego Mission Rd.. You may park in the parking lot to your right or pull up front to the main entrance roundabout in front of the St. Joseph's building. **Please be sure to sign your child in and walk them to class.**

After drop off or pick up, you **MUST** merge and continue along the school road and drive out onto Rancho Mission Rd. You may **NOT** exit back down Nazareth Drive!

During pick-up, if you do not have an upper grade school student, you may merge into the exit lane to your left and drive towards the parking lot and between the cones to exit. You do not have to wait in line.

If you have a preschooler and an upper grade school student, please drop off preschooler first and then upper grade student. If you exit through the door next to the Sunflower classroom, you may **NOT** come back in through that door. You **MUST** go around the building.

Our preschool main entrance and exit door is located on the SW side of the St. Joseph building.

STAY HOME IF YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS:

- Fever with or without chills
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Nasal Congestion
- Sore Throat
- Headache
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Fatigue
- New loss of taste or smell
- Muscle or body aches
- Poor feeding or poor appetite
- Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have Covid-19

If your child presents any of the symptoms stated above during school time, we will have to send your child home. Please keep in mind that we continue to follow the school protocols to keep children and staff safe.

If your child has allergies, please be sure to bring in a doctor's note, otherwise we will send your child home. Your child MUST be tested if their allergy follows with a fever or any other listed symptom other than allergy stated on doctor's note. You will need to bring the completed Attestation Form.

Please contact Nazareth Preschool at 619-641-7954 or Nazareth School office at 619-641-7987. You may also email us at preschooldir@nazarethschool.org or office@nazarethschool.org

Parents, if your child stays home due to being sick, please be sure that you test them twice and complete the Attestation Form. Please report your child's absence and state the reason.

We must continue to follow the Childcare Guide for Covid-19 (August 28, 2023).

It is very important that you call and report your child's absence. If you are using a home test kit, you must complete the Attestation Form that you are able to obtain from our school website or we can provide you with a copy. You MUST test your child twice before they are able to return.

Please remember to check your child's file folder and return your family envelope by Thursday each week.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 619-641-7954 or email: preschooldir@nazarethschool.org

Important Dates to Remember:

Jan. 15- No School / MLK Jr. Holiday

Jan. 26- No School / Professional Learning Day

Jan. 29- Feb. 2- Catholic Schools Week

Feb. 2 – Grandparents Day / Half Day / Close at Noon / No Aftercare

Have a blessed three-day weekend!

God Bless,

Georgina Barragan
Nazareth Preschool Director