

Enrichment Classes:

Each day the children attend a special class enhancing their growth and development such as:

- Gym
- Art
- Music
- Spanish
- Library
- Computers

Afterschool Activities

- A soccer program is offered once a week through BSM soccer league
- A science program is offered once a week through Mad Science

Special Events

Children have the opportunity to participate in special events throughout school year.

- Pumpkin Fest
- Korean Thanksgiving Assembly
- Fire Fighters and Engine Visit
- Halloween Parade
- American Thanksgiving Feast
- 100th Day of School celebration
- Dr. Seuss Event
- Easter Bonnet Parade
- Baby Chicks Hatching
- Walking Trip to Local Library
- Caterpillar Metamorphosis
- Reptile Discovery Show
- End of Year Celebration

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Notre Dame Academy is pleased to provide you with a pamphlet that outlines the Pre-Kindergarten curriculum.

It is our desire to provide you with information that will strengthen the partnership among parents, students, teachers, administrators, and all stakeholders in the learning community.

Notre Dame is a private, Interparochial Catholic Academy.

Our School was established in September 1991

from the merging of the Parish Schools of St. Matthew in Ridgefield, St. Michael & St. Nicholas in Palisades Park.

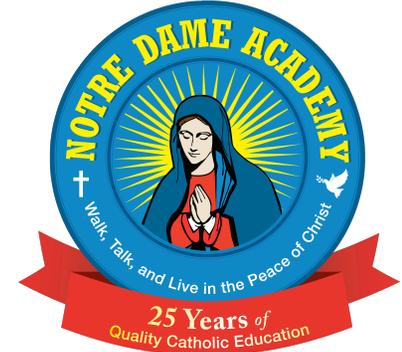
Notre Dame has an excellent reputation in our area.

We serve a multi-cultural, Catholic and non-Catholic population.

Our students come from Bergen and Hudson counties.

Notre Dame has been accredited by the Middle States Association for Colleges and Schools.

Pre-Kindergarten 4 year olds



The Curriculum for Early Childhood

**NOTRE DAME ACADEMY
Pre-K3 to Grade 8**

312 First Street - Palisades Park, NJ 07650

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notredameint.org

Principal: Mr. Mark Valvano Ed.S.

The curriculum for Pre-kindergarten promotes creativity based on five fundamental principles. They help us understand the reason for intentionally setting up and operating Prekindergarten programs in particular ways. These are the principles developmental domains:

Social/Emotional Development

- Sense of Self
- Responsibility for Self and Others
- Pro-social Behavior

Physical Development

- Gross Motor
- Fine Motor

Cognitive Development

- Gross Motor
- Fine Motor

Language Development

- Listening Development
- Reading and Writing

In the Prekindergarten classrooms, the learning environment meets children's development needs through ten distinct centers.

- Blocks
- Dramatic Play
- Toys and Games
- Art
- Library
- Science
- Sand and Water
- Music and Movement
- Outdoors
- Computers

The following academic subjects are integrated into our curriculum:

- **Religion:** The religion program is designed to help children discover their special qualities and their importance as God's creation. In addition Peace Education is taught to enhance peacemaking skills for everyday life. Students are introduced to the Virtues with daily at circle time with "Virtue of the Day". Weekly the Pre-K students meet with their prayer partners for special projects.
- **Language and Literacy:** These skills are developed through speaking, listening, retelling, comprehension, and pre-emergence of reading:
 - Children will develop phonemic awareness (alphabetic principle (identifying letters and sounds).
 - Children will demonstrate word recognition skills.
 - Children will demonstrate phonological/ phonemic awareness (listens to and identifies language sounds).
- **Writing:** Children will demonstrate their ability to express their ideas using a variety of media:
 - Children will demonstrate the behaviors of a beginning writer.
 - Children will write some uppercase manuscript letters, especially those that appear in his/her own name.
 - Children will begin to recognize print-sound connection
- **Math:** Children will learn mathematics skills, such as:

- Show sequencing to 20
- Demonstrate 1 to 1 correspondence to 20 by pointing to each object as it is counted
- Sort and classify objects using one or more attributes such as position, shape, size, color, etc.
- Compare groups of objects (e.g., using the terms "more," "less," "same").
- Children will understand patterns, relationships, and classification

- **The Arts:** Children explore the arts through dance, music and arts and crafts.
- **Technology:** Children develop awareness of technology by being introduced to basic operations and concepts to support computer related skills. Each Pre-K class is equipped with a smartboard, and iPads.
- **Science:** Children develop science knowledge and skills by observing, predicting, experimenting and discovering. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) lessons are introduced to encourage building, exploring, and creating. The children will have a solid base for understanding science concepts.
- **Social Studies:** Children learn basic categories such as: geography, people and how they live, people and the environment and people and the past.