**Common Questions and Answers about our Kindergarten Program**

**-*What are the dates for the school year?***
School will begin on Tuesday, September 7th, 2021 and run through Friday, June 3, 2022. This is two additional weeks more than our preschool year.

**-*What are the hours for the Kindergarten program?***School will be held from 8:30 am until 2 pm, except on Fridays when it will end at 1 pm.

**-*What will be the class size?***We will cap the class at 12 students.

**-*What is the cost?***The annual cost is $7200. With the extended hours and days, this is comparable to the hourly rate in the PreK class ($7.70)

**-*Will my child be able to move on to first grade after completing this program?***The State of Virginia allows Day Cares and Church Preschools to offer a Kindergarten program as long it covers the Kindergarten Standards of Learning and that assessments are completed, such as the PALS test. Assessments and report cards are required documentation to bring to your school when registering for First Grade. Private schools would want to see this documentation as well. In addition, they will complete their own testing that is done on all applicants, no matter what the grade, in deciding admissions and grade placement.

**-*Is your program accredited?***Accreditation through the VCPE (Virginia Council for Private Education) is lengthy process that is required if your school will have grades beyond Kindergarten. Our intention is to only offer Kindergarten so it is not required. We may explore this option in the future.

**-*What curriculum do you use?***We use Guided Math, Guided Reading, Words Their Way, Writer’s Workshop, and Handwriting without Tears. Our curriculum enables us to differentiate our teaching depending on an individual child’s level. Children are placed into small groups for math and reading. Our program goes beyond covering the current SOL for Kindergarten. Your child will be challenged and more than prepared for first grade.

**-*What about Science and Social Studies?***
These subjects will be covered using a thematic approach. All disciplines will be incorporated into the theme such as with books, art projects, classwork.

**-*What else will my child have during the day/week?***

Each day the children will have recess or PE time in the gym. They will eat lunch daily. Each week they will have art class with Ms. B from Wee Little Arts and music class with Ms. Reynolds.

**-*What will be the religious component in the program?***Instead of weekly Chapel services, our class will work on various community services projects throughout the year. This approach will provide the children the opportunities for hands on learning about loving our neighbors and helping others.

**-*My child has a late spring/summer birthday and I was debating which program is right-PreK or K?***This program is a true kindergarten program that emphasizes reading and math. There is not an emphasis on play based centers such as blocks and housekeeping. If you feel your child needs another year for emotional/social maturity, PreK is most likely the best fit. Please talk with your child’s PreK teacher or Ms. Alex about this!

**-*Why should I send my child to your K program?***Due to the small class size and familiarity to the school, your child will experience a safe and nurturing environment which challenges each child, enabling them to build a strong academic foundation.