

# Little Graces Preschool & Kindergarten



We are so pleased that you are considering joining our Little Grace's Family! We are truly blessed with friendship and love and learning at our wonderful school.

Our dedicated and experienced staff believes that children learn best in a creative and nurturing environment that engages the whole child. Through a well-rounded program we integrate a strong academic, social, spiritual and environmental foundation. The Little Graces philosophy is grounded in developmentally appropriate activities and hands-on/minds-on experiences in which each child is offered the opportunity to develop at his own pace and to her fullest potential. Our role is to foster a life-long love of learning by providing the foundation of a solid knowledge base, self-esteem, independence, creativity, problem solving, and responsibility for self, others and the natural world. The Little Graces L.A.M.B. (Language, arts, Music and Beyond) Program emphasizes the interdependence of ideas, often weaving a single theme through social studies, mathematics, science, reading, writing and the arts in order to foster creativity and build a deeper understanding.

## Little Grace's Goals:

**First**, the children of Little Graces Preschool will develop a positive self-image and awareness that allows them to think, problem solve, and make connections in all that they learn; They will create and share ideas, and integrate newly acquired early learning skills in their communication with others.

**Second**, the staff of Little Graces Preschool, using positive, developmentally appropriate, child-centered experiences, will prepare the students with a foundation of basic skills necessary for academic and social success and will foster a life-long love of learning. As no two children develop in the same way, at the same time, or in the same sequence, our teachers will work to understand their students' individual developmental needs and provide challenging and supportive experiences.

**Third**, Little Graces Preschool will provide families the opportunity to participate and understand the purpose and role the preschool experience plays in the life of their youngster and the important role they play in being a key part of that experience.

**Fourth**, Little Graces Preschool will promote and encourage our children's sense of fun, curiosity, humor, creativity, and compassion. Children at Little Graces will explore, question, practice and pretend in order to discover the world around them. Play is the work of childhood.

**Fifth**, Little Graces Preschool will foster independence and self-discipline by creating a warm, loving atmosphere in which children learn through modeling, role-playing, and the ability to make appropriate choices and solve problems appropriately.

**Sixth**, Little Graces Preschool will provide children with the opportunity to develop a relationship with our Lord through daily chapels and prayer.

*Walk as proudly as you can and the world will look up to you; Smile BIG and the world will smile alongside you; Sing out clear and strong and the world will cry tears of joy, Believe in yourself and the world will believe in you too. Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon*

## Common Registration Questions and Answers:

- 1. Is there a registration fee?** Yes, applicants must complete an application form and submit a non-refundable registration/administrative fee of \$75.00 per student each year. However, the registration fee does not guarantee a placement at Little Graces. This fee covers administrative expenses and, if applicable, secures a spot on our waiting list (*waiting list families receive a week of priority registration the following year maintaining their order on the waitlist and only pay a \$25 administrative fee the next year when reapplying.. We work very hard to find a space for every waitlist family who reapplies.*).
- 2. How does the enrollment process work?** Registration for the upcoming school year is held in early February (*for currently enrolled families and Grace Church Parishioners*), mid February (*for wait list families*) and late February (*for new families*) of each calendar year. Children are accepted in the following order: (1) current students and their siblings, (2) parishioners, (3) waiting list, and (4) all others. No applications will be accepted more than one year prior to the school year for which admission to the preschool is sought.
- 3. If I am a new family, do I need to bring in my application the day of open registration?** Although we have not yet been able to begin an online registration process (*this is our goal for the near future*), we have worked hard to find a system that avoids families standing in line all night to be first to turn in their registration. We understand how important it is for families to find the right preschool “fit”, and we would love to accommodate everyone who applies, but if you do not make it into Little Graces your first year, please note that we work very hard to make sure families are able to join us in future years. If you have attended a tour or requested an application prior to registration, we encourage you to complete your registration and send it back to Little Graces prior to the first day of open enrollment. All new families who apply by the first day of open registration are placed in a lottery for the available spaces. If Little Graces is your first choice, we encourage you to have your application fully completed and to us by that first day of new family open registration.
- 4. What are my chances as a new family of getting into Little Graces?** This is a hard question to answer as enrollment varies each year depending on siblings and parishioners and age groups. The one thing we will say, is if Little Graces seems like a great fit for your family and is the kind of program you are hoping for your child to experience, then you should definitely apply. The sooner you begin the process, the better your chances of becoming a part of the Little Graces Family. From past history over the past 6 years, we have a wonderful record of accommodating all pre-k applicants into our program (*if they have applied by Feb.*) and at least half of our 2-day applicants will be brand new families to Little Graces. The hardest class level to get into is the 3 day program, however, as this is a very transient area, we do find that people move quite often and spaces do open up. We work very hard to maintain the great quality and family feel of our program, and strive to find ways of being creative with our classes in order to accommodate new families. Creating and maintaining a top quality program for our Little Graces is our number one priority.