HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

KINDERGARTEN Handbook 2026-2027

Kindergarten Program

This handbook contains information about the Kindergarten program. The purposes, policies, and general procedures of Holy Cross Catholic School are explained. Please save this booklet for future reference through the year as it may answer questions you may have later.

Parents/guardians are number one and a child's first teacher. How well your child succeeds can be influenced by what you do. It will be a pleasure working with your child and you. A working relationship between home and school benefits your child and his/her progress by giving him/her the best education. Your interest and active participation helps bring home and school closer together.

Holy Cross Catholic School will do its part to give your child the best education possible. Working together with you will make your child's Kindergarten year a great experience.

Our main focus is to meet the needs of each child at his/her individual level and develop a positive attitude toward learning and school. Our program establishes a firm foundation of learning skills, concentrating on reading and math.

Following are topics of information arranged in alphabetical order:

ABSENCES

Please keep your child at home if signs of approaching illness are exhibited. According to CDC recommendations, children should stay at home until they are fever free for 24 hours, **WITHOUT** the use of fever reducing medication, and/or have not had diarrhea or vomiting for 24 hours. Parents need to call the school at 419-784-2021 if your child is absent. Please complete missed work.

ACCIDENTS

Immediate first aid treatment is given for minor accidents resulting at school. A note needs to be filed with the school office for dispensing of any medications. **Please notify the office at once if there are any changes in your emergency information.**

ACHIEVEMENT

Holy Cross Catholic School is on a nine week grading period. Each student's progress is evaluated throughout the school year. A parent/teacher conference is held in October to discuss your child's progress. Reports and skill sheets are sent home each quarter.

BIRTHDAYS

You may bring in a birthday treat for your child's birthday. Please no cake or cupcakes. Students with summer birthdays will celebrate on their 1/2 birthdays.

COMMUNICATION

You are always welcome and encouraged to contact the teacher and school whenever the need arises. All notes and money being returned to school should be in an envelope marked with your child's name and class. Email is the quickest and easiest way to communicate with the classroom teacher.

DAILY SCHEDULE

8:30	Arrival, Morning work, Learning rings, AR books
9:00	Announcements, Pledge, Prayer
9:15	Calendar time, Phonics, Calendar Folder
9:30	Restroom
	Reading, Language Arts/Phonics
10:30	Recess
	Restroom
10:45	Specials: Gym Computer Library
	Religion
11:50	Lunch
12:20-12:35	Recess
	Restroom
12:45	Quiet Time (books, learning rings)
1:20	Math
2:00	Snack
	Science.
	Social Studies/Writing
3:00	Pack up, clean up, Free time
3:20	Dismissal

(Schedule for specials is subject change each year)

Specials: Art, Gym, Computer, Spanish, Music, Library
(at least 1 per day) morning or afternoon.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Unscheduled school closings or delays will be broadcast over the Defiance radio stations. We follow Defiance City Schools when it comes to delays and closures. If they delay or close, so do we.
***Please note: on a 2 hour delay day, school doors open at 10:30 a.m., and classes begin at 11:00 a.m.**

PARTIES

Four parties are planned during the school year to celebrate the special holidays. Reward parties are given occasionally by the teacher for showing leadership and good behavior.

Costume Party – Halloween
Christmas Party and Gift Exchange
Valentine Day Card Exchange
Easter Celebration

RECESS

Outdoor play is scheduled as weather permits. Indoor play is scheduled when the temperature is below 25 degrees or weather conditions are unfavorable. Please prepare for the weather by listening to the local weather report. Boots and snow pants must be worn to play on any snow covered areas.

REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration includes a completed registration form, payment of the registration fee at time of registration, a copy of the child's birth certificate, complete immunization form, and emergency card (this is given out the first day of school). Students must be 5 years of age before September 30th to enter the Kindergarten class.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Special services are available to those children who qualify for them. These include speech and language therapy, health care, psychological testing and classes for tutoring and enrichment.

SUPPLIES

1 box of 24 count Crayola Crayons, 1 large towel for quiet time, 1 container of disinfecting wipes, 1 regular sized bookbag, 1 regular sized water bottle, and 4 Elmer glue sticks. Please put student's name on all items, including lunch pails and coats.

TRANSPORTATION

BUS - In cooperation with the Defiance City Schools, our Kindergarten students at Holy Cross Catholic School are eligible to ride the school bus if they live within the school district. **Please send a note if your child is to ride with someone else or not ride the bus**. Children will be sent on the bus unless a note states otherwise. Students living in Tinora district are eligible to ride that bus, however it does leave around 2:25 pm.

If you ever intend for your student to do anything different than what is listed on their Dismissal Instructions form, you will need to provide a handwritten note stating those instructions to Mrs. Donaldson. Students without a note will not be permitted to change their dismissal routine.

PREPARING FOR KINDERGARTEN
SUGGESTIONS FOR READINESS

Many times parents ask how and what they can do to help their child. These readiness activities are just a few of the many ways to provide the foundation blocks for future reading and other skills.

Depending on your child's skills at this time, some of these may not be necessary. These are only suggestions; they are not mandatory. Many of these are the basic skills.

1) Try to visit the school and teacher with your child before the first day.
2) The child should know his/her first and last name, street/number/address, phone number, parents' names and bus number, if applicable.
3) Prepare your child to work with the following items: paper, pencils, crayons, scissors, markers, glue, and paint.
4) Recognize the basic shapes - circle, rectangle, square, and triangle.
5) See that your child can take care of his/her basic personal needs, dressing without help, using the bathroom properly, and keeping track of personal property.
6) Practice writing his/her whole name; first letter capital with the remaining letters lower case. Help your child to stay on the line when he/she writes. Try to have your child learn other family names.
7) Distinguish from right and left. Give directions using right and left. Reading and writing always begins on the left and moves to the right.
8) Learn the days of the week and months of the year.

RECOGNIZE THE ALPHABET

1) Read the alphabet to your child showing both the capital and lower case letters. Let him/her see the written alphabet in a variety of ways such as newspapers, typing, and magazines.
2) Help your child learn the names of the letters that make up his/her name.
3) Help your child to recognize, say, and write the numbers from 0-10, 10-20, 20-30. It helps to mix up the numbers and letters so learning isn't just from memorization of order.
4) Give your child the opportunity to count objects 1-31 and further.
5) Make your child aware of concepts of space - over/under, in/out, top/bottom, near/far, and more/less.
6) Help your child to realize sequence and order. Give responsibilities at home. Ask what was done first, second, and third.
7) Help your child to be aware of sounds. Ask your child to name the sounds heard - soft/loud, far/near, alike/different.
8) Call out two words such as book and boy and ask if the words begin alike or give one word and ask your child to give you another word that begins with the same letter.
9) Help your child write the alphabet - both capital and lower case letters.
10) Please use the suggested guide at the end of this booklet for forming the letters. The consonant sounds should be associated and learned with each letter.
11) Rhyming activities - example; I am thinking of a word that rhymes with book/look.
12) Help your child to learn to tell time on the hour and half-hour.
13) Help your child to learn to count to 100 and to count by 2's, 5's, and 10's.
14) Help your child to learn the names and amounts of coins.

All children learn at different rates, try to be patient. All learning takes time. Make these learning sessions fun and enjoyable for both of you. Limit them to 10-30 minutes. Praise efforts and react to what is done with encouragement. **BE PROUD!**

Please sign and return this page as soon as possible.

Student Handbook Certification

We, _____ and _____,
(Parents/Guardians) (Student)

have received and read this student handbook. We understand the rights and responsibilities pertaining to students and agree to support and abide by the rules, guidelines, procedures, and policies of Holy Cross Catholic School.

_____
(Parent Signature)

_____
(Student Signature)

_____
(Date)