

ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN KINDERGARTEN GEELONG

St John's Lutheran Kindergarten is owned and operated by St John's Lutheran Church, Yarra Street, Geelong. The St John's Lutheran Kindergarten Committee, elected by the Church, oversees the day to day running of the Kindergarten.

In the Bible, *Proverbs 22:6* says:

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

It is this Christian directive that is the central motivation for all that happens at our Kindergarten.

AIMS

- To aid parents in the development of their children, through a close home/kindergarten relationship
- To promote learning through play in a Christian environment.
- To provide an opportunity for early Christian training and to help the child to cope with life situations at his/her level of maturity and in the light of God's Word.
- To assist in the gradual adjustment from home to school life
- To develop creative abilities through materials and experience
- To broaden the child's interests
- To encourage good attitudes:
 - * *caring for others and for equipment;*
 - * *sharing equipment;*
 - * *taking turns;*
 - * *listening while others speak;*
 - * *good toilet habits;*
 - * *packing up toys etc*
- To encourage an awareness of God's love through:
 - * *simple telling of Bible stories;*
 - * *songs and finger plays;*
 - * *prayers and table grace*

ENROLMENT PROCEDURES

Applications for enrolment can be collected from the School Office. *Application must be made by 31st July of the year prior to the year of intended enrolment.* Completed enrolment forms should be sent to the School Office.

ENROLMENT PRIORITIES

Enrolments are accepted using the following priorities:

- *children of Lutheran families*
- *children of families with past or present association with the Kindergarten or St John's Lutheran School*
- *according to date of application*

SESSIONS

The Kindergarten operates two 4/5 year old groups and one 3/4 year old group. Each group involves morning and afternoon sessions as follows:

Red Group (4/5 year old)	<i>Monday & Friday mornings 9-11.30am</i>
	<i>Tuesday & Wed. afternoons 1-3.30pm</i>
Yellow Group (4/5 year old)	<i>Wed. & Thursday mornings 9-11.30am</i>
	<i>Monday & Friday afternoons 1-3.30pm</i>
Blue Group (3/4 year old)	<i>Tuesday mornings 9-11.30am</i>
	<i>Thursday afternoons 1-3.30pm</i>

PREPARATION FOR LIFE

Kindergarten is the first stage in a continuing education process. The program is planned to help the child adjust to a less sheltered life than that provided in the family. In most cases, Kinder is the child's first experience of being away from the family for a length of time. We aim to promote activities which are important in the development of a stable and happy child.

CREATIVE PLAY

Creative play is vital to the normal development of a young child. The child learns more through play than through any other means, because he/she is personally involved. Play is a means of self expression. A child learns to be creative, constructive and independent. Through play, the child explores, experiments and tests ideas. The child finds out things from others and learns to live with others. It is very satisfying to the staff, too, to see the satisfaction a child gains from having achieved something. Creative play involves experimenting with substances like clay mud, play dough, sand, water, paint and crayons.

EDUCATIONAL PLAY

Some of a young child's play in kindergarten is designed specifically to prepare them for skills they will need throughout their schooling years. Some of the things they learn are:

sorting, matching and cutting; number games, songs and finger plays; physical skills such as hopping, skipping, balancing, throwing and climbing

DRAMATIC & IMAGINATIVE PLAY

Children thoroughly enjoy drama activities and make believe games and these help to develop a child's expression, vocabulary, imagination, creative ability and confidence. Much of children's imaginative play is concerned with every day situations in the community, ie parents at work, parents in the home or others (doctors, nurses, firemen, shopkeepers etc). Dressing for the roles they play helps the child to really feel the roles.

DISCIPLINE

One of the teacher's goals is that children will develop self discipline and responsibility for their actions. This is a slow process, requiring many years before it is mastered. The kindergarten will provide a learning atmosphere in which your child will be able to practise self-control rather than just be obedient to the teacher. The teacher will be very much in control, but your child will be able to make choices and learn about the responsibility and consequences of doing so. A few simple group rules will help your child learn to respect property and rights of others.

EXCURSIONS

Visits to various places of interest such as a farm, etc, help make the child aware of people in the community and the work they do.

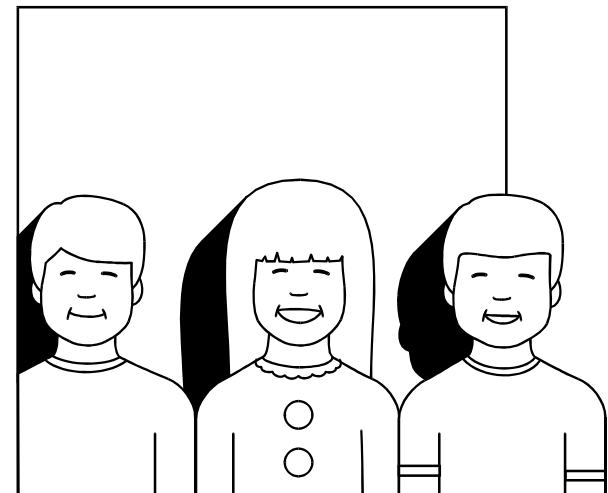
KINDERGARTEN PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The Parents' Association plays a vital role in the life of our kindergarten. Its aims are as follows:

- *to assist in promoting fellowship between the parents;*
- *to help in providing the kindergarten with equipment and amenities.*

ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN KINDERGARTEN

A Christian kindergarten serving
the community



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