

# Preschool Unit

## What We Believe

### **Our preschool is a magical place.**

Joyful connections with others. A safe space to try new things. Opportunities to become aware of God's love. A child's first experience with school can be transformative and we strive every day to ensure our students feel happy, accepted, confident and eager to learn.

### **Play is powerful.**

Whether climbing the outdoor equipment, playing make believe through dress up, sharing classroom toys or singing and dancing together, our students learn about themselves, others and the world around them through directed play. Our teachers exhibit patience and model kindness to guide students as they discover both independence and connectedness. Hands on, constructive activities let children create and imagine, build and pretend. These opportunities to play are rich with chances for discovery about oneself and each other.

### **Curiosity must be cultivated.**

Preschoolers are curious learners who love discovering something new and sharing it with others. Our teachers encourage questions and value each child's ideas and wonderment. Children's innate desire to learn more must be met with opportunities to take risks and test things out. At St. Giles, we foster curiosity and let our students explore the possibilities.



**Guided physical activity, directed social time, music, and art**

---

**Learning Centers for Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies**

## What We Teach

- Social and emotional skills: sharing, making friends, listening and following directions
- Letters, numbers, shapes and colors
- Pre-reading skills: name recognition, prediction and storytelling
- Fine motor skills, including printing, and gross motor skills, including indoor and outdoor play
- Explore nature and seasons and God's creation
- Counting and rhyming
- God's love for us
- Strong sense of self and independence





ST. GILES SCHOOL

---

A WINDOW TO EXCELLENCE SINCE 1928

St. Giles School exists to foster the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and physical growth of our elementary school children.

We are committed to a quality education that prepares our students to be people of faith, to be lifelong learners, and to serve the broader community.

1034 Linden Avenue  
Oak Park, IL 60302

---

**Call. Email. Visit.**

708.383.6279  
[office@stgilesschool.org](mailto:office@stgilesschool.org)  
[stgilesschool.org](http://stgilesschool.org)