## Exploring Child Development

## A Journey Through Primary School at St. James



## Welcome Parents!

## St. James School Mission:

Our vision is to develop each child to his or her fullest potential; spiritually, intellectually, and physically, that each may grow in grace, enjoy freedom through knowledge, and lead a healthy, productive, and meaningful life.

## We Will Explore \& Discuss

## * Child Growth \& Development

* The idea of "Readiness"
* Continue building an informed Early Childhood Environment


## Child Development

Child development can be defined as the process by which a child changes over time. It's a journey from total dependence to full independence.

- Physical



## Chronological Age

 How physically old we are

- 5


## Developmental Age

indicates where a child is socially, emotionally, physically, and intellectually on the path of development, when compared to typical behaviors $\longrightarrow$ and skills for an age range.

1 Milestones
2 Biological traits \& environment
3 Expectations, skills, \& readiness

## Tools and Resources



## Peer Interactions

## Routines

Curriculum Observations Assessments Conferences

We are looking for the program that is just right!



* Children develop at different rates in each of these 4 areas: Physical, Cognitive, Social/emotional, and Linguistic. In this season of childhood, there is more variance in development.
* As a society, we tend to overvalue skills we can quantify and measure and undervalue the soft skills which are much more abstract.

At St. James our goal is to equally support all four domains of child development so we can ensure our scholars are set up for success for the next level of learning.

## Please join us for:

A Day In Primary School

## Bible Lesson

## Pre-Primary

- Same story presented over $1-2$ weeks
- Small portions of the story read daily
- Scholars are exposed to some components of depth and complexity during the Bible reading



## Primary

- Same story presented over 1-2 weeks
- Small portions of the story read daily
- Scholars are introduced to some components of Depth and Complexity during and after the Bible reading



## Pre-K

- One story studied all week
- Overview on Monday
- "Deep Dive" Tue-Thur
- LTL chart completed during each "Deep Dive"
- Pre-K Bible Journal illustrated each Friday



## Whole Group Expectation

## Pre-Primary

- 10 minutes or less
- Includes songs, fingerplays, stories, music and movement
- Teacher led 1 or 2 step directions and whole body movement
- Teacher led transitions



## Primary

- Approximately 10 minutes
- Includes morning meeting, calendar, circle time, phonological awareness
- Call and response and whole body movement
- Guided transitions

- Approximately 20 minutes of sustained attention during instruction
- 30 minutes sustained attention while listening to fiction
- Internal pondering and the practice of waiting to share thoughts/questions
- Independent transitions



## Small Group Expectation

## Pre-Primary

- 10 minutes or less
- Includes songs, fingerplays, stories, music and movement
- Teacher led 1 or 2 step directions and whole body movement
- Teacher led transitions



## Primary

- About 10-12 minutes
- Includes 3-4 scholars at a time
- Mostly teacher led instruction moving towards more independent work



## Pre-K

- Teacher Table: About 15 minutes
- Usually 2-3 scholars
- Scholar led activities with teacher guidance
- Literacy -20 minutes with independent rotations
- Math stations - 20 minutes with independent rotations
- Scholars complete activities independently with teacher assistance to check for understanding



## Learning Through Play

## Pre-Primary

- 4 available stations (dramatic play, building, reading, etc)
- Parallel play with peers
- Cooperative play with teachers



## Primary

- Structured groups and rotations (big building, dramatic play, sensory, literacy, etc)
- Includes 3-4 scholars at a time
- Cooperative play with teachers and peers

- About 50 minutes with independent rotations
- Includes 3 scholars per center
- Scholar led interactions to develop social/emotional skills needed to support learning



## Rest Time

## Pre-Primary

- Nap time from 12:00-1:30
- Most scholars sleep the entire time
- Can bring in items that are part of their nap routine at home



## Primary

- Nap time from 12:00-1:30
- Some scholars may not sleep, but are expected to lay still and quiet on their mats
- Can bring in items that are part of their nap routine at home
- Assist in putting their nap mats away



## Pre-K

- Self Smart time to reset and relax for about 20-30 minutes
- Scholars lay quiet and still on their towels



# Thank you! <br> <br> $\star Q * A$ 

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$\star$ Grab a brochure


* Make a connection!

