

# Bethlehem Christian Academy

## PreKindergarten Conspectus

*Bethlehem Christian Academy is committed to providing a quality education that is thoroughly Christian. All subjects are taught from a Christian perspective, and Biblical truth is integrated throughout by teachers who are committed to Jesus Christ and dedicated to preparing young people to serve our Savior (Luke 6:40).*

Being in Prekindergarten is an adventure for everyone involved. PreK provides an opportunity for students to be better prepared for success in school, to further develop oral language, fine & gross motor skills, literacy and number skills, and social skills appropriate for school success. These goals are accomplished through the acquisition of developmental skills (cutting, pasting, tracing, coloring, listening, and following directions) and assessment of academic skills (recognition of shapes, name and colors) through the avenue of manipulation and creative art projects, music theory and creative drama, large and small muscle coordination activities, beginning computers, reading and story time, and science experiments.

Children enrolled in the Bethlehem PreK **develop their logistic reasoning and language skills** through comprehension and application as they learn many new vocabulary words, **increase their listening skills** as they listen to new information and then answer questions, **strengthen their motor skills** as they participate in fun games and activities, and **develop an appreciation of God's creation** as they learn about the world around them.

In **Reading** students will learn to recognize and write each letter of the alphabet as well as identify the sound it makes including the long and short vowel rules. At the same time students will learn to put letters together to make words and then simple sentences they can read themselves. Short stories are read utilizing readers that are geared toward the individual needs of the student. There are two sets of readers the students will master. Phonetic reading, including long and short vowel sounds, is the method utilized to help children read.

Counting, number writing, recognition and matching, larger & smaller, before & after, number families (1-100, 5s to 100, 2s to 20), set counting 0-20, addition and subtraction are just some of the skills learned during **Number Time**. Simple addition and subtraction are introduced using objects and number relationship.

During **Bible Time** PreK students are presented with many exciting Bible stories from both the Old and New Testaments. God's love for each child is stressed and principles of Christian living and character development are reinforced. Students are required to learn assigned verses and references on a bi-weekly then weekly basis. Christian songs and drama are utilized to aid in Biblical comprehension. Biblical principles are taught to help children understand the Word. Christian character is stressed to learn Godly behavior and character traits.

Throughout the school year students are presented **Science** lessons about plants, animals, the sea and fish, birds, insects, seasons, senses, and weather as each student gains an understanding of God as Creator and Sustainer of life. In **Social Studies** the focus is on famous people, community workers, families, and health and safety issues. Two projects a month are assigned to help children with the concept of research.

**Poetry and Poems** develop rhythm, rhyme and picturesque imagery. Poetry develops a child's God-given language abilities, expands their horizons and imaginations, and gives them new ways to communicate joyful experiences with family and friends.

Weekly art, music, library, P.E., Spanish, and computer classes are offered as an aid in building skills and preparing PreK students for future success.

\* PreK students must be four years of age by September 15<sup>th</sup> of the year they begin school and be able to care for their own personal needs (including being completely toilet trained) as well as being able to comprehend the social and emotional skills necessary to be attentive, cooperative, work independently and within a group setting. This includes the readiness to learn to open containers, bottles & bags, readiness to tie, put on & take off wraps/clothes, and communication and speech readiness of complete sentences of four or more words.