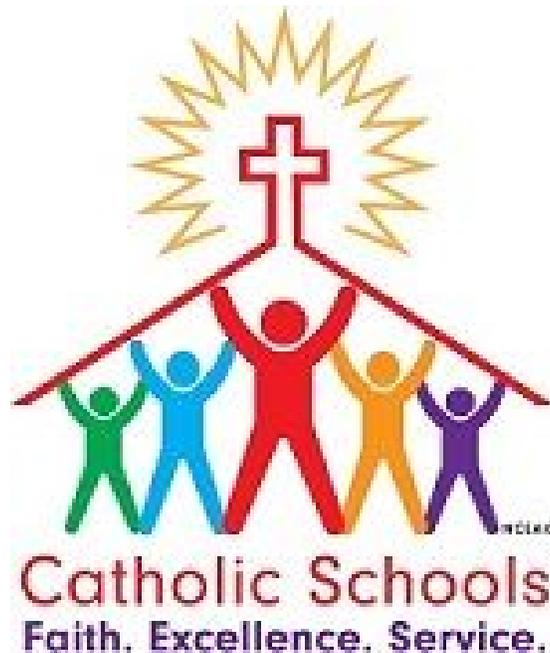


Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Pre-Kindergarten
Parent and Student Handbook
2020-2021



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CATHOLIC MISSION

The staff and administration of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School welcome you to the school, a community of faith, learning, and peace. Let it be known to all who enter Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School that Christ is the reason. He is the unseen but ever present teacher in its classes, the model of its staff, the strength of its parents, and the inspiration for its students.

Student Daily Prayer

I promise to do my best today to be Christ-like and accept responsibility for my words, actions and deeds. With Jesus as my model, I will refrain from anything that can be hurtful to my classmates, but will do my best to be kind, courteous, friendly, respectful and welcoming to everyone I encounter.

“Catholic Education is an expression of the mission entrusted by Jesus to the Church he founded. Through education the Church seeks to prepare its members to proclaim the Good News and to translate this proclamation into action.” *(To Teach as Jesus Did)*

“The educational mission of the Church is an integrated ministry embracing three interlocking dimensions:

1. The message revealed by God which the Church proclaims.
2. Fellowship in the life of the Holy Spirit.
3. Service to the Christian Community and the entire human community.”

(To Teach as Jesus Did)

“Catholic Schools are unique expressions of the Church’s effort to achieve the purposes of Catholic Education among the young. They are the most effective means available to the Church for the education of children and young people.” *(Sharing the Light of Faith)*

The mission of Catholic school education in the Diocese of Tucson is the formation of students to be true Christians. Every effort is made to assist the students in securing knowledge and acquiring habits, which will enable them to lead a thorough Christian life. As educators in the Diocese of Tucson, we assume the responsibility to teach as Jesus did as our role in the teaching mission of the Catholic Church. This mission includes student’s spiritual, intellectual, moral, physical, social, and cultural aspects.

MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School is committed to educational excellence within the traditions of the Roman Catholic faith. We, along with parental support, educate our students to grow in the image and likeness of God, so they may become confident leaders in service to others as well as beacons of hope for all.

PHILOSOPHY

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School believes that each student, as a child of God, has basic needs: to know God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit; to grow spiritually in the traditions of the Roman Catholic Faith as well as intellectually; to respect the dignity of self and others. We assist parents, the primary educators of their children, through the educational mission of the Church.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN HOURS

Half Day Schedule

Monday through Thursday

7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Breakfast (available from home or cereal with milk and fruit will be offered)

Hot lunch (lunch from home or available for purchase)

Full Day Schedule

Monday through Thursday

7:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Breakfast (available from home or cereal with milk and fruit will be offered)

Hot lunch (lunch from home or available for purchase)

Afternoon snack (provided by parents on assigned snack day)

Friday Schedule

7:30 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Breakfast (available from home or cereal with milk and fruit will be offered)

Morning snack (provided by parents on assigned snack day)

TOURS

Tours are provided by appointment for new and inquiring families.

INSPECTIONS

All inspection reports are available in our main school campus office upon request.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

Our pre-kindergarten is regulated by the Arizona Department of Health Services. Their contact information is: 400 West Congress, Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ 85701. Office (520) 628-6541.

ADMISSION, REGISTRATION, WITHDRAWAL

A. Admission Policy

All children regardless of race, national origin, or religious affiliation are welcome. By registering at Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten, students and their parents indicate their intention to accept the philosophy of the school and observe the regulations and policies of the school and the Diocese of Tucson. Upon enrollment parents must provide:

- Copy of a birth certificate
 - pre-kindergarten students must be 4 years old prior to September 1st.
- A completed registration form
- All Catholic students must also provide a copy of their sacramental certificates if applicable.
- A current immunization record
 - Copy of immunization card or document from the child's health care provider
or
 - An exemption affidavit that contains a statement signed by a health care provider that the immunizations required would endanger the child's health or medical condition OR a statement signed by a parent that the child is being raised in a religion whose teachings are in opposition to immunizations

Parents of an enrolled child who **does not** have age appropriate immunizations required by 9A.A.C.6, A 7 will receive written notice that the child may attend school in the facility for **not more** than 15 days after the notification unless the enrolled child's parent complies with the immunization requirements. Once the requirement is fulfilled, the student will be allowed to attend. Furthermore, a child without proof of immunization from disease will not be able to attend class between the start and end of an outbreak of the disease. (Arizona Department of Health Services Bureau of Child Care Licensing R9-5-305).

B. Withdrawal

To withdraw from Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten during the school year:

- Set up an appointment with the Director
- Make sure all tuition and other payment are current

Withdraw on the grounds of behavior:

Normally a child is not to be deprived of a Catholic education or otherwise penalized for actions of parents/guardians. However, when this behavior significantly reduces the school's ability to effectively serve its students, the parents/guardians may be requested to remove their child from the school for any of the following reasons, but not limited to:

- If payments are delinquent after two months and arrangements have not been made to be paid in full
- Refusal to cooperate with school personnel

- Refusal to adhere to the Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten or Diocesan policies and regulations
- Interference in matters of school administration of discipline
- Insults to or abuse of any faculty/staff or administrator at any time of the school premises, or at some place if the faculty/staff or administrator is required to be present in connection with assigned school activities.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School recognizes that the parents are the primary educators of their children and that the school is privileged to join with them in partnership for the education of their children. The school depends on family support and cooperation and encourages active parental participation in the accomplishment of this joint ministry.

Parents have certain responsibilities that they are required to fulfill as part of the Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Community.

A. Faith Formation

Parents are the first teachers of their children in the area of faith. Parents give guidance to their children by living their Catholic faith. Presence at weekend Mass, as a family, should be the foundation of their relationship with God and each other. Parents are also encouraged to help teach and model God's message through scripture and prayers (grade level prayers can be found on Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School website).

B. Diocese of Tucson Volunteer Screening Process

The Diocese of Tucson under the leadership of Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger is committed to protecting our community against all forms of abuse and responding appropriately. The mission of the Diocese of Tucson "Safe Environment Program" is to ensure the safety of children, young people and the vulnerable who have been entrusted to our care in our parishes, schools, religious education classes, and other programs. We pursue this mission the following ways:

- By thoroughly screening and supervising all members of the clergy (priest and deacons), as well as all employees and volunteers who work with children and young people and the vulnerable as part of their ministry.
- By providing appropriate training in recognizing and reporting child/adult abuse to appropriate civil and Church authorities.
- By holding all members of the clergy, employees and volunteers who work with children, young people and the vulnerable to Christ-centered and professional codes of conduct.
- By following Arizona Mandatory Reporting laws.

All parents and any adult who serves in a volunteer capacity in which they may have independent access to children, must meet the child safety criteria as described by the

Diocese of Tucson's Safe Environment Policies. Details regarding these requirements are communicated to families each school year. This includes:

- Fingerprinting
- Background checks
- Child safety education procedures
- Watch the Diocese of Tucson's video, "Personal Safety Education for Children", and sign an acknowledgment of having viewed the video. This must be completed every three years.
- Volunteers must also abide by the school's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and are asked to sign the school's SOP form each year.

C. Tuition and Fees

The School Advisory Commission Finance Committee and the principal, with the consent of the pastor and Parish Finance Council, set the annual tuition. All families are required to sign a financial commitment form in order to be enrolled for a new school year. Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School depends on your tuition payment in order to operate. We depend on our families to meet their financial commitment so we can meet ours.

Half Day Tuition

\$4590.00 (Full) / \$459.00 (monthly for 10 months)

Full Day Tuition

\$5400.00 (Full) / \$540.00 (monthly for 10 months)

All families will need to register with [FACTS Family Portal](#) to create an account for managing tuition.

Tuition is due on the 1st of each month and is considered delinquent after the 15th of the month; a late fee will be added to your account. The principal and pastor will be notified of all families delinquent in tuition payments. **Should tuition remain past due for two consecutive months, the student is considered ineligible to return to classes until the tuition and fines are paid in full.**

If a family's school financial account is delinquent, it is the policy of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School:

- The student will not be admitted at the start of a new quarter
- Registration for the new school year will not be accepted

Note: If a financial hardship occurs in a family, arrangements with the principal must occur to satisfy the family's school financial account. **A personal appointment must be made within a reasonable time to make arrangements for payment.**

Required dues for each family at the commencement of the school year will be for:

- \$10 Home and School Association membership fee
- 10 tickets for \$10 each (\$100 total) for Annual Fall BBQ

- One couple's ticket for \$150 to the Benefit for the Children Dinner/Dance
- \$15 walk-a-thon pledge per student or \$25 per family
- \$10 Dads' Club Membership Fee

D. Family Service Hours

Any adult who serves as a volunteer must meet the child safety criteria as described by the Diocese of Tucson's Safe Environment policies. (Section V. B.)

Each family is required to contribute **twenty service hours** to the school (**ten hours per semester**). Service hour forms must be completed for all activities and turned in at the end of the month in which they are served. Family service hours may not be shared between families. All service hours must be completed by the second week of May. A fee of \$50 per hour will be charged if not completed.

Of the twenty hours, every family must serve a **minimum of four hours at the annual Barbeque and two hours at a Dads' Club sponsored event**. Additional opportunities to complete service hours include, but are not limited to:

- Home and School activities
- Dad's Club activities
- Booster Club activities
- Cleaning on Saturday
- Serving on school committees
- Chaperoning dances

Volunteer drivers must:

- comply with the Diocese of Tucson Safe Environment Program, including a fingerprint and criminal background check
- be at least 25 years of age or older
- have proof of current insurance
- have a copy of their driver's license
- have a copy of their vehicle registration
- have a driving record check and list of moving violations and accidents
- have seat belts for each student and or car seats if applicable

E. SCRIP

Scrip is a vital and necessary fundraiser for Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School's operation. Each family is required to purchase a minimum of \$2000 of Scrip per school year **or** pay a one-time annual buyout fee of \$200. Families can choose to purchase gift cards through the school office or purchase online at ShopwithScrip.com. Families are able to check your current balance by contacting the front office.

F. Attendance Policy

Parents are required to call by 9:00 am if their child is absent. The school will call the parent if a child is absent and if a parent has not yet called. This procedure is our way of ensuring that parents are aware that their child is not in school.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Pre-kindergarten offers a highly academic, yet hands on Christ and child-centered curriculum to teach and explore literacy and numeracy while supporting the developmental needs of a pre-kindergartener. The Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten staff supports and partners with parents in their mission to nurture the Catholic faith and academic readiness of their child.

Academics aside, a solid pre-kindergarten program puts just as much emphasis in its social teachings as it does in its academic teachings. Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten offers this emphasis in two ways. First, and foremost are our Catholic teachings through the Gospel Values. As our pre-kindergarten aligns with Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School K-8th grade's philosophy of a Catholic School's Gospel Values, we teach and model to our student body to be a community of faith, knowledge and service. In that spirit, we bring this powerful message down to the pre-kindergarten level with *Stories of God's Love*, a Bible based curriculum that teaches God's message and scripture through stories that are relevant to the everyday life of a preschool aged child. God's message and His teachings will be taught and modeled through daily prayer: morning prayer, prayer at snacks and meals, and the end of the school day. The prayers that are taught and modeled for Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten students are: Angel of God, Hail Mary, Our Father, and Grace Before Meals. Students will also gain an understanding of the Catholic Church's traditions, symbols, and sacraments. The second emphasis will be placed on character building, peer relationships, social skills and problem solving with our *Second Step* curriculum. This program teaches everyday social situations with the use of puppets, roll plays and stories. These stories are relevant to complexity of a preschooler's day. Communication skills, frustration tolerance, acceptance of others, turn taking and fairness are challenges all preschoolers face daily.

Students explore literacy in the areas of English/language arts with the *Engage NY* curriculum. This curriculum is highly engaging while providing students with early English and language arts readiness skills. The curriculum is taught in thematic units where stories, both familiar and new, are told, retold and acted out in art, dramatic play, blocks, writing, music, movement, science, social studies, child initiated writing, and games.

Students will explore numeracy in the area of math. Math is a very complex curriculum at the preschool level. Aside from the basics of numbers and shapes, math concepts are taught and explored through music, movement, trial and error, and hands on play. Our math curriculum, *Engage NY*, will provide a sound foundation in math concepts to prepare children for a strong understanding of numerals, spatial awareness, shapes, quantities, and groupings.

The whole child is our focus, therefore, our program provides daily gross motor and fine motor activities. Whether a child is playing on the playground, water table, sand table, playdough, thematic sensory exploration or working on their coloring and writing skills, each and every student has the opportunity for movement, experimentation, exploration, and discovery.

A. Report Cards

Students will be assessed on developmental milestones which are aligned with both the *Arizona Early Learning Standards* along with the benchmarks for the *Engage NY* curriculum. Items on the report card that are shaded are not in the zone of developmental mastery at that time and therefore, are not assessed. Report cards will be sent home quarterly. A \$2 fee will be paid to the office for a lost report card.

B. Conferences

All students and parents will be required to attend a conference in the fall and spring. Additional conferences are available upon request of parents or teachers. The fall conference will address academic goals and benchmarks, along with developmental and emotional adjustments to the pre-kindergarten year. Spring conferences will be looking ahead to kindergarten readiness and a scope and sequence of the mastery of developmental skills throughout the year.

C. Field Trips

Field trips provide a learning experience with the purpose of expanding students' insight into a particular curricular concept. Students may be denied participation if they fail to meet the academic standards or behavioral requirements. Permission slips must be signed and returned by the due date indicated on the form in order for your child to attend the field trip. Phone calls in lieu of the permission slip will not be accepted. Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten and its staff do not provide transportation for its students, therefore,

Volunteer drivers must:

- comply with the Diocese of Tucson Safe Environment Program, including a fingerprint and criminal background check
- be at least 25 years of age or older
- have proof of current insurance
- have a copy of their driver's license
- have a copy of their vehicle registration
- have a driving record check and list of moving violations and accidents
- have seat belts for each student and or car seats if applicable
- current First Aid/CPR certification

This information must be on file in the school office.

D. Transportation Policy

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Pre-kindergarten does not transport children.

E. Daily Schedule

MONDAY- THURSDAY

Time	Task
7:30-8:10	Arrival/ Breakfast
8:10-8:25	Morning Circle Time
8:25-8:40	Religion
8:40-8:55	Outdoor Play
8:55-9:45	ELA
9:45-10:20	Centers
10:20-10:55	Math
10:55-11:00	Lunch Prep
11:00-11:20	Lunch
11:20-11:30	Pack-up/ Half Day Dismissal
11:30-11:45	Bathroom/ Toothbrushing
11:45-1:15	Nap
1:50-2:50	Centers
2:50-3:10	Closing Circle
3:10-3:15	Pack-up/Dismissal

FRIDAY (August- January)

Time	Task
7:30- 8:10	Arrival/ Breakfast
8:10- 8:25	Morning Circle Time
8:25- 8:40	Second Step
8:40- 9:00	Outdoor Play
9:00- 9:15	Snack
9:15- 9:55	Math

9:55- 10:35	ELA (with Small Group)
10:35- 11:35	Centers
11:35- 11:55	Closing Circle
11:55- 12:05	Pack-up/ Dismissal

FRIDAY (February- May)

Time	Task
7:30- 8:10	Arrival/ Breakfast
8:10- 8:35	Morning Circle Time
8:35- 8:50	Read Aloud/ Bathroom
8:50- 10:00	Mass
10:00- 10:10	Snack
10:10- 10:30	Outdoor Play
10:30- 10:45	Second Step
10:45- 11:45	Centers
11:45- 11:55	Closing Circle
11:55- 12:05	Pack-up/ Dismissal

HEALTH AND SAFETY

A. Open Door Policy and Parent Involvement

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten has an open door policy for parents whose children are registered at Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten and are welcome anytime. Parents are asked to enter the campus through the office as all comings and goings are recorded. Upon arrival, all visitors must check in at the front office to obtain a pass. Visitors must check out at the office when leaving campus. Anyone without a pass will be asked to go to the office and check in. Parents are welcome at any time to volunteer in their child's classroom. The pre-kindergarten class will participate in thematic parties throughout the year and parent involvement is encouraged.

B. Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Parents will park in the west parking lot to walk their child to the classroom. Students will be welcomed to enter the classroom at 7:30 am. Any student who arrives before 8:00 am will be required to bring a breakfast from home. In the event a child forgets a breakfast, cereal with milk and fruit will be provided. A parent/guardian/authorized caregiver must

accompany the child to the room and sign the child in for the day. A signature must include the initial of the first name and full last name of the parent/guardian/caregiver per Arizona Code, R9-5-306. Students will be dismissed at either 11:30 (half day) or 3:15 (full day) when the teacher opens the classroom door. Parent/guardian/authorized caregiver must sign the child out following the same signature requirements as sign in. If a child needs to be dismissed before the designated dismissal time, the parent/guardian/caregiver may enter the room to pick up the child and sign them out. If a child is not being picked up by a parent/guardian, written authorization needs to be provided stating the name of the authorized caregiver. The authorized caregiver **MUST** bring picture identification for verification before a child may be released. Older siblings may not sign out pre-kindergarten students. Older students in grades K-8 may be picked up under the ramada **after** your pre-kindergarten is signed out.

C. Illness

Less serious injuries or complaints will be treated in the health office. If appropriate, the student will be sent back to class. If the injury merits more attention, parents will be called.

In the absence of definite symptoms, the student may be treated and sent back to class. If s/he returns later with the same complaint, parents will be called to pick up the child. A few guidelines (See Center for Disease Control- <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/guidance.htm>) for sending a student home due to illness are:

- Fever of 100 F or above
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Suspicious, widespread rash
- Severe, unrelieved headache
- Possible pinkeye not related to allergies
- Severe, red sore throat
- Repeated complaint of any nature or if the child appears unwell
- Abdominal pain unrelieved by eating, resting, or a bowel movement

Parent/guardian of the ill student should be advised to pick up their child within an hour of being notified. When students are ill, only the office staff will call parents. Students are not allowed to call from the classroom nor will the classroom teacher call.

The American Academy of Pediatrics, (<http://www.aappublications.org/content/31/9/43.6>) recommends that health office personnel advise parent/guardian to keep their child home when exhibiting the following symptoms:

- Fever (100 degrees +) or has had one during the past 24 hours
- Difficulty breathing or has a heavy cough
- Mucous or pus draining from red eyes, or thick, yellow-green drainage from his/her nose.
- Two or more very loose or watery bowel movements in the past 24 hours

- Vomiting two or more times in the past 24 hours
- Severe sore throat that lasts more than 48 hours, especially when accompanied by a fever and/or swollen glands
- Significant rash, particularly when other symptoms are present
- Severe ear pain
- Severe headache, especially with a fever

Parents/Guardians may allow children to return to school after symptoms are gone for at least 24 hours. For fever, students may return when free of fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducers such as acetaminophen.

If your child returns to school before the 24 hour period, a doctor's note is required. If your child was sent home with an infectious illness, a doctor's note is required upon returning to school.

D. Emergency Procedures

In the event of a serious injury, if we cannot reach a parent/guardian/authorized caregiver, a staff member of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten will accompany the child on an emergency vehicle if necessary.

E. Medications

To ensure that medications are properly administered, the following guidelines will be followed:

- A Medication Authorization Form is available in the front office and must be filled out for both over the counter and prescription medications, to include sunscreen.
- The medication must be provided with a medication request with the child's first and last name, name of the medication, prescription number, instructions for administration, starting and ending dates of dosage periods, times and frequency of administration, reason for medication and the date of authorization.
- Only designated staff will dispense both prescription and nonprescription medications. Ms. Ochoa, the Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School designated medication administrator, will dispense medications to students while chaperoned by a pre-kindergarten classroom teacher.

MEALS

Breakfast, snack and lunch menus will follow the Arizona Department of Health's Table of Meal Pattern Requirements, R9-5-508.

- If your student is dropped off between 7:30 am and 8:00 am a breakfast should be sent with the child to be eaten in the classroom. In the event a breakfast is not brought from home, cereal with milk and fruit will be offered.
- It is mandatory that milk is served with lunch.

- Parents and/or guardians will provide milk in addition to the scheduled snack.
- An afternoon snack will be provided for the class by parents and/or guardians as assigned on a rotating basis throughout the year.
- The options for snacks are not limited to the food listed but offer some examples.

Snack- Choose one option from two categories.**

Category	Options
Milk (fluid)	½ cup per child 1% or 2% in original container
Vegetable/Fruit	½ cup 100% full strength juice apple, orange, grape, cranberry, etc. in original container ½ cup of vegetables carrots, cucumber, celery, broccoli, cauliflower, sugar snap peas, etc. ½ cup fruit strawberries, apples, blueberries, watermelon, etc.
Bread or Bread Alternates (whole grain or enriched)	½ slice of bread ½ serving cornbread, rolls, muffins, or biscuits ⅓ cup cold, dry cereal ¼ cup cooked cereal, pasta, noodle product, or cereal grain
Meat or Meat Alternates	½ ounce cooked lean meat, fish, or poultry ½ ounce cheese ½ hard boiled egg ⅓ cup cooked dry beans or peas* 1 tablespoon peanut butter, soy nut butter, or other nut or seed butters ½ ounce peanuts, soy nuts, tree nuts, or seeds OR an equivalent quantity of any combination of the above meat/meat alternates 2 ounces yogurt
<p>* In the same meal service, dried beans or dried peas may be used as a meat alternate or as a vegetable; however, such use does not satisfy the requirement for both components. ** Juice may not be served when milk is served as the only other component.</p>	

*If a child has a peanut allergy, Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Pre-kindergarten will be a peanut free environment.

For children attending both half day and full day pre-kindergarten, lunch will be served at 11:00 am. A lunch from home is welcomed. There will be an option to buy lunch that is prepared under the Arizona Department of Health's requirements. The Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School hot lunch program is available for \$4.50 per lunch. If your child is absent and has ordered hot lunch, you will have the option to come and pick up the hot lunch during the scheduled lunch period. No refunds will be given. Weekly menus/order forms are available the week in advance. Lunch orders are due the Thursday prior to the lunch week. No late orders will be accepted. If your child forgets a lunch, parents will be called to drop off a lunch. If parents are unable to drop off a lunch, one will be provided by the office at the hot lunch cost of \$4.50. Parents may eat with their child but must first check in with the office.

NAPS

All students in the full day pre-kindergarten program will nap or have a quiet rest time from 11:45 am until 1:15 pm. Our pre-kindergarten program furnishes a cot, sheet, and blanket for each child. Parents may provide an additional blanket as well as any comfort items (i.e. stuffed animal, pillow). Please label all items. All personal nap items will be sent home on Fridays to be washed and returned to school the following Monday.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School's mission, Student Learning Expectations, and the Gospel Values help to inform and guide students to instill self-discipline. By following the Gospel Values, our young students will grow in faith and will learn to implement these values in everything they do – both in and out of school. These Gospel Values will become part of who they are and will stay with them throughout the rest of their lives, giving them guidance and strength through life's journey.

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Pre-kindergarten practices positive reinforcement. Positive reinforcement and rewards are used schoolwide as part of the classroom management. The rewards system will include whole class, small group, and individual. Positive reinforcement for all will vary between edibles, tangibles, activities, social, and tokens.

Student of the Month awards are earned by students who practice the Student Learning Expectations. Every class will select a Student of the Month for each month of school. In the first semester selected students will be recognized by receiving a certificate in class before the end of the day. In the second semester, once students begin to attend Mass selected students will receive a certificate in the church after Mass.

"Paw Print" stickers are earned by students who follow schoolwide procedures and learning expectations. Paw Prints are stickers with a wildcat paw print along with the Student Learning Expectation that the student was following.

Gospel Values

Community

Committing to building a welcoming, strong, and loving community.

“For as in one body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another.”
(Romans 12:4-5 New American Bible)

Servant Leadership

Leading and serving like Jesus.

“For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45)

Respect

Respecting the life and dignity of myself and each person in thought, word and action.

“Give honor to all, love the community, fear God, honor the king.” (1 Peter 2:17)

Gratitude

Being thankful for every gift and lesson I learn.

“Give thanks to the LORD for he is good, his mercy endures forever!” (Psalm 107:1)

Humility and Understanding

Seeking first to understand.

“Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show his works by a good life in the humility that comes from wisdom.” (James 3:13)

Wellness

Caring for and respecting the entire self – body, mind, heart and soul.

“Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”
(1 Corinthians 3:16)

Patience and Perseverance

Having courage to push beyond my perceived limitations, the ability to keep fighting, and the strength to endure through the struggle.

“Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope.” (Romans 5:3-4)

Diligence

Working with careful, and planned persistence.

“The plans of the diligent end in profit, but those of the hasty end in loss.” (Proverbs 21:5)

Integrity

Acting and speaking with honesty and sincerity.

“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” (Luke 6:31)

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATIONS (SLEs)

A Faithful Catholic Who:

- Prays daily and takes an active part in the liturgical services
- Values the sacredness of life and creation
- Has a basic knowledge of Catholic teachings and values
- Makes moral decisions based on the teachings of Jesus

A Diligent Learner Who:

- Has a strong academic foundation
- Utilizes critical thinking skills
- Uses information resources appropriately, thoughtfully, and ethically
- Is actively engaged in his/her own learning
- Demonstrates strong independent study habits

An Active Community Member Who:

- Participates in community, parish, school, and family activities through service
- Takes responsibility for their actions and accepts consequences
- Resolves conflict peacefully and equitably applying Gospel values
- Responds to the needs of those less fortunate

A Globally Aware Citizen Who:

- Works toward peace and justice
- Exhibits an awareness of current events and their impact on society
- Actively cares for the environment
- Takes responsibility for his/her own actions

A Well-Rounded Individual Who:

- Understands and utilizes her/his own unique gifts and talents and appreciates the unique gifts and talents of others
- Values and exercises self respect and self discipline
- Utilizes technology and other resources competently to present ideas and information
- Appreciates achievement and strives to attain high standards

With constant communication, parent involvement, and patience, students will be successful in their day to day interactions. We assist children in helping them learn acceptable social interactions with peers and teachers.

The first weeks of school will greatly focus on our independence, classroom rules, and friendships. Our pre-kindergarteners will follow a color coded behavioral system. Our goal is for all students to be kind, courteous and friendly learners. This color system provides a visual reminder to each student to monitor their progress in this area in the most efficient way.

Color	Description
Purple	Consistently Follows Behavior Expectations
Blue	Role Model
Green	Ready to Learn
Yellow	Warning
Orange	Timeout (3 minutes)
Red	Time Out with Teacher Interaction

All students begin each day with their name on green. Those students who practice the Gospel Values and SLEs will move up the scale. A student will receive two warnings (whole group then individual) before they move down the chart. A daily behavior calendar will note your child's behavior for the day. A parent will be notified in the event that a student has earned orange or red anytime during the day. Please initial/sign and return any notes sent home back to the following school day. In the event of a disciplinary situation where redirection is unsuccessful, a child may sit in time out for no more than 3 minutes. In the event that the child is not ready to return, the child may stay in time out up to 10 minutes, however a staff member will provide interaction with that child during the 10 minute period. If behaviors continue and become routine, parents will be contacted for a team plan to be put in place consisting of the director, teacher, and parents.

*At no time does Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Pre-kindergarten use corporal punishment.

GENERAL POLICIES

A. Communication

Parent boards are located in your child's classroom and have postings of a weekly menu, lesson plans as well as information regarding our license, staff, and emergency plan. In addition to our parent board, a weekly newsletter will go home with your child for an overview of the week ahead. Each student will be given a daily folder with a communication log. This log is to be used as home and school correspondence, as needed. Parents will also receive communication via Renweb from both teachers and office staff. Communication from the director/principal goes out on Wednesday via the "Brown Envelope" link located on the homepage of the Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School website. Parents should correspond via email to office staff or via daily folders and/or email with teachers.

B. Pesticide Application

In the event that Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten, parochial school, and/or church building(s) is being treated with pesticides, written notice will be posted at all entrances of each building 48 hours in advance.

C. Insurance

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Pre-kindergarten carries a \$1,000,000 insurance policy.

D. Handbook Regulations

By registering your child at Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Pre-kindergarten, you agree to abide by the Parent and Student Handbook in its entirety. Parents/guardians are required to sign a form indicating they have read and understood its contents. The director is the final recourse and reserves the right to amend the handbook. Parents/guardians will be given prompt notice of any handbook changes.

E. Title IX Compliance

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten is in compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to the extent that no person shall, on the basis of gender, race or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, not to be subject to discrimination under any education programs or activities, nor shall there be discrimination by gender, race, or national origin in the employment of personnel.

F. Computer and Information Resource Agreement

All students enrolled in Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten and their parents/guardians are required to sign the *Computer and Information Resource Agreement* policy, located at the back of the Parent Handbook. Failure to sign this policy, by either student or parent/guardian, will result in the student not being allowed use of the computer network or internet at school.

UNIFORM POLICY

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School pre-kindergarten will follow a dress code similar to that of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School. Uniforms are required and must be in their full uniform by the time they enter school grounds until they are picked up at the end of the school day. Uniforms should be clean, pressed, labeled and appropriate in size and length. Polos, cardigans, and sweatshirts must have the Saint Francis Catholic School logo.

Refer to general uniform guidelines and general dress code for further specifications.

A. Uniform Purchases

Uniforms should be purchased from:

- Desy's Alterations and School Uniforms located at 1406 S 4th Ave (783-1880)
- French Toast Uniforms for Kick Pleat Scooter for girls at www.frenchtoast.com

B. Pre-kindergarten Girls

- White or navy cotton/DRI-FIT polo OR
- Current school year spirit t-shirt (BBQ, Catholic Schools Week, Student of the Month)
- Navy cardigan OR
- Navy crew neck sweatshirt
- Navy scooter OR
- Navy twill or canvas pants
- Solid black or white socks or white tights
- Tennis shoes

*Refer to general uniform guidelines and general dress code for further specifications.

Friday Mass Dress February– May

- White or navy cotton/DRI-FIT polo
- Navy cardigan
- Navy scooter
- Solid black or white socks or white tights
- Tennis shoes

*Refer to general uniform guidelines and general dress code for further specifications.

C. Pre-kindergarten Boys

- White or navy cotton/DRI-FIT polo OR
- Current school year spirit t-shirt (BBQ, Catholic Schools Week, Student of the Month)
- Navy cardigan OR
- Navy crew neck sweatshirt
- Navy twill or canvas shorts OR
- Navy twill or canvas pants
- Solid black or white socks
- Tennis shoes

*Refer to general uniform guidelines and general dress code for further specifications.

Friday Mass Dress February– May

- White or navy cotton/DRI-FIT polo
- Navy cardigan
- Navy twill or canvas pants
- Solid black or white socks
- Tennis shoes

*Refer to general uniform guidelines and general dress code for further specifications.

D. General Uniform Guidelines

- Polos, cardigans, and sweatshirts must have the Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School logo with hunter green and golden yellow colors
- All uniform shirts are to be worn tucked in
- Polos may be short or long sleeve
- No capped sleeves or Peter Pan collars
- Only plain white undergarments under uniform shirts and blouses
- Turtlenecks or long sleeve shirts may not be worn under uniform tops
- Shorts and scooters may be no shorter than three inches when kneeling
- No hoods, drawstrings, or zippers on cardigans and/or sweatshirts in the classroom
- Shorts, scooters, and pants may not be denim, jean, or cargo
- No sandals, open-toed, or backless shoes
- No boots

E. General Dress Code

- Students should practice personal hygiene
- Boys' hair should be clean, trimmed above the ears and shirt collar, and out of the eyes (No razor designs)
- Girls' hair should be clean and out of the eyes
- Hair coloring must appear natural
- Marking on body is not permitted
- No makeup or lip gloss
- No colored nail polish or artificial nails may be worn
- Girls may wear one pair of earrings no larger than one inch in dimension
- Boys may not wear earrings
- No other jewelry is permitted in pre-kindergarten
- Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School is not liable for lost, stolen, or damaged jewelry
- Hats or sunglasses may not be worn inside the school building

G. Spirit Dress Code

Spirit dress is worn on designated days.

- Appropriately fitting jeans
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses no more than 3 inches above knee when kneeling
- Shirts containing images and slogans must be appropriate
- Boys must have sleeves on their shirts
- Tank top straps must be at least two inches
- No spaghetti strap, racerback, mid-drift, or low-cut tops
- No flip-flops, sandals, open-toed, or backless shoes

In order for your child to participate in the designated spirit days, the fee must be paid by the due date.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic devices (cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, leap pads, iPods) are not allowed to be used at school. In the event an electronic device is brought to school, the device must be powered off and turned into the teacher at the beginning of the day and will be returned at the end of the day.

PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

A. School Advisory Council

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Advisory Council is an advisory board composed of the principal, clergy of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, and appointed representatives from the school and parish community. To be a member of the commission one must have children in the school, are alumni of the school, or are parishioners with a devoted interest toward the continuing growth of the school.

B. Home and School Association

Home and School Association is an organization through which parents/guardians can exercise their roles as partners with the school in the education of their children. Every family is a member of the Home and School Association. The home and School Association consists of six elected parents to serve as Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School officers. At Home and School meetings, parents/guardians become more informed about various areas of education involving their children.

Home and School assists Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School and pre-kindergarten through service functions such as classroom, library, or office help, room-parents, playground supervision, health screening, special lunches, school picnics, preparation for special receptions and celebrations, school maintenance, P.E. activities, etc.

Home and School is a great financial help to Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School and pre-kindergarten. The major fundraising activities are the Annual Fall Barbecue, Benefit for Children Dinner/Dance and Annual Walk-A-Thon. Each family's participation is important for the successful operation of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School and pre-kindergarten.

Required dues for each family at the commencement of the school year will be for:

- \$10 Membership Fee
- 10 tickets for \$10 each (\$100 total) for the Annual Fall BBQ
- One couple's tickets for \$150 to the Benefit for the Children Dinner/Dance

All Home and School fees are due by September 1st and are non-refundable.

C. Dads' Club

Dads' Club is an organization in which the fathers, grandfathers, uncles and friends of our students exercise their role as partners with the school in the education of their children. Women may also be involved and attend meetings or support the activities. Every family is a member of the Dads' Club. The Dads' Club meets once a month. They have elected officers that serve for two years.

The Dads' Club is a great benefit to the school, not only through the presence of dads at school functions, but in raising money and working to make improvements to the school grounds.

Each family is required to help with one fundraiser. Their fundraisers include but are not limited to a poker tournament.

- \$10 membership fee

All Dads' Club fees are due by September 1st and are non-refundable.

Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School
700 West 18th Street
Yuma, AZ 85364
Phone: 928-782-1539
Fax: 928-783-0403
E-mail: vlopez@stfrancisyuma.com

Photo Release Authorization Form

The school reserves the right to use any photographs of your child for news releases, the school's website, the year book, school-related video and slide presentations, marketing purposes, etc. The school will allow members of the media to take pictures of students, athletic events, and other school activities for publication.

Student _____	Grade _____

Yes, I grant permission for Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School to use my child(ren)'s photo for the publications listed above.

No, please do not use my child(ren)'s photo.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

The Photo Release Authorization must be returned by Friday, August 28, 2020.

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Technology Acceptable Use Agreement

Acknowledgement of Student Responsibility

I will take personal responsibility for my network account, for the content of any message sent from my account, and my uses of the school's computer and information resources. I understand that if I violate this agreement that I may lose computer and information resource privileges and be subject to disciplinary action, dismissal, and /or criminal liability.

Student Signature

Grade

Parent/Guardian Consent

As Parent or Guardian of _____, a student at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School, I have read the St. Francis Technology Acceptable Use Policy. I have discussed with my child the contents and meaning of these documents. I release the Diocese of Tucson, my child's school, and their personnel from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my child's use of, or inability to use, applicable computer and information resources.

I authorize my child access the Internet while at school according to the school rules, use of a school email account (with applied content filter), my child's picture or intellectual property such as artwork, poetry, essays, etc. to be used on the school's web page or in RenWeb. I also authorize the release of my child's photo/image and name to be published in the internal and external publications required in the normal course of business. Publications may include, but are not limited to: Yearbook, local newspapers, social media, student publication, school-related brochures, promotional videos or videotaped ceremonies. If you disagree with any of the above authorizations, please list exceptions.

Student

Grade

Parent/Guardian

Relation to Student

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

*This signed form supersedes all other agreements.

The Technology Acceptable Use Agreement must be returned by Friday, August 28, 2020.

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Parent/Guardian/Student Handbook Agreement

The school administration reserves the sole right to amend or waive any of the included policies. Common sense, order, safety, and charity are the rationale behind these guidelines and policies, which are in compliance with Diocese of Tucson policies. Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Handbook is designed to help provide an environment that enhances spirituality and respect for God's creations, academic excellence, and personal responsibility. Thank you for your support in upholding the policies and regulations in Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School's Handbook.

THE STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK REMAINS IN FORCE IN THE SCHOOL FOR EACH STUDENT, EVEN WITHOUT STUDENT AND PARENT SIGNATURES.

My parents/guardians and I have read and discussed Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Handbook. I agree to cooperate with all the rules and regulations of Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School.

Student Signature

Grade

Student Signature

Grade

Student Signature

Grade

Student Signature

Grade

We have read the Saint Francis of Assisi Catholic School Handbook. As parents/guardians, we accept the full responsibility to see that our child/ren cooperate with the rules and regulations of the school and personally uphold the school's rules and regulations.

Print Family Name

Mother/Guardian Signature

Date

Father/Guardian Signature

Date

The Parent/Guardian/Student Handbook Agreement must be returned by Friday, August, 28, 2020.