

## K3 and K4 Information

“Train up a child in the way he should go,  
and when he is old he will not depart from it.”  
Proverbs 22:6

The daily learning experience for three and four year old students captures and supports the learning of important skills and concepts needed for kindergarten readiness. Our curriculum contains age-specific activities that promote creativity, family involvement, and the development of the whole child. WCS teachers are committed Christians who provide a warm, nurturing learning environment based on sound educational theories of child development and learning. As children mature and move the following school year from K3 to K4, they will encounter a higher level of learning that challenges growth while still having fun!

All Students at Westbury Christian School participate in a three dimensional program. The three dimensions are spiritual, academic and student activities.

### 1. Spiritual

#### **Bible and Chapel**

Children are taken on an exciting journey through the Old and New Testament using the NIV Read to Me Bible for Kids and the Positive Action Bible Curriculum. Each day teachers and students join in prayer, singing and praising God. Students will learn about major Bible stories and characters, with a focus on Jesus and his life and teachings. The foundational principals of character traits such as love, compassion and kindness are established with students as the teaching of Christian values and character is at the core of each Bible lesson, as well as the entire learning process. K3 and K4 students join the older students in their chapel once a week to recite their memory verse and receive class awards.

### 2. Academic

#### **School Readiness**

Learning experiences are planned to help the children progress toward the objectives in the following domains chart.

Language Development	Science	Approaches to Learning
Literacy	Creative Arts	Social Development
Mathematics	Physical Health & Development	Approaches to Learning

The chart below shows a sampling of the skills that will be covered in the curriculum and during learning center rotations. These skills are based on many sources of developmental objectives and standards.

Language Development	One-to-One Correspondence
Phonological Awareness	Sequencing, Predicting & Graphing
Letter and Sound Recognition	Estimation
Color Recognition	Problem Solving
Shape Recognition	Cause & Effect
Number Recognition	Social/Emotional Development
Number Concepts	Creative Arts & Expression
Counting	Fine and Gross Motor Skills

## **Learning Centers**

Young children are interested in the world in which they live; learning centers are a symbolic representation of their world. The accessible, open-ended, multi-level learning environment of a center provides unique opportunities for discovery. Young children learn best by being active learners who are permitted to touch, feel, experiment and create. Play is an essential component of a quality early childhood program. During play, children develop problem solving skills by trying different ways of doing things and determining the best approach.

## **Enrichment classes**

To further enhance the development of the whole child, students participate in daily enrichment classes. Depending on the days enrolled, students will experience the following classes:

- **Physical Education**– Students receive instruction using the CATCH (Coordinated Approach To Child Health) Curriculum. As part of this developmentally appropriate curriculum, students participate in activities that: improve both their fine and gross motor skills, teach the importance of being physically fit, as well as sportsmanship and how to interact with their peers.
- **Music**– Musical games & movement, fun songs, steady beat, and rhythm stick activities are all a part of our music program. Students will learn listening skills as they learn to accompany songs with simple instruments. At least once a year students will participate in a music night program as well as special events such as Grandparent’s breakfast and Veteran’s Day Salute.
- **Technology**- Students begin an introduction to computers in their classroom during learning center time. Basic skills are developed to start their journey toward technological literacy.
- **Spanish** – Children are introduced to Spanish vocabulary while participating in planned activities revolving around interactive games, songs, stories and dialogue. These activities will expand their knowledge of the Spanish language while extending their speaking, writing and listening skills.
- **Library** – The librarian reads to the children during story time followed by table time where children have the opportunity to discover bible stories, fairy tales, nursery rhymes and action stories. Families are encouraged to participate in the READ TO ME program that rotates about 15 newly published, noteworthy books among the families so parents can be the first to read these quality books to their children.
- **Art** - Students are allowed to experiment with materials in new ways in order to further their individual creativity. Art in these grades is used to reinforce their classroom curriculum and especially the lessons taught during Chapel and Bible.

## **3. Student Activities**

Preschool students have the opportunity to join with our older students in programs such as Community service projects including honoring our Veterans with “A salute to Veterans” and collecting coins for an orphanage in Honduras as well as food and toy drives for the needy.

**Recess** - Gross motor activities, free play, and lots of time to socialize are crucial to a young child’s development. Children are taken outside daily, weather permitting.

**Field trips** – Students may attend one or two field trips a year. Age-appropriate trips to locations such as theatres, museums, and farms are carefully chosen to teach students about their community and their world.

**In-School Presentations** – Throughout the school year, special presentations, performances, and visitors enrich the student’s school experience.

<p>“Children are a gift from the Lord. They are a reward from him.” Psalm 127:3</p>
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