



Dear parents,

Welcome to the new school year! My name is Mrs. Rios and I'm so excited to have your child in my class this year!

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I have been with MCES since the beginning in 2012 and I have enjoyed every minute of it! This will be my sixth year teaching three year old preschool at MCES. I love teaching preschool and all the exploring, learning and fun we get to have! I have a degree in Early Childhood Education. I am a proud mother of four young men aged 27, 24, 18 and 17. My youngest two are in the 11th and 12th grade at SMCC. My husband is Juan. I love coffee, gardening, and spending time with my family.

It is my goal to ensure your child's preschool experience is full of growth academically, spiritually, socially and emotionally. I believe that children learn through play and when they are enjoying what they are doing. I always strive to create a nurturing, fun, creative and safe environment for the children. This year your child will be busy learning through a variety of hands-on activities and becoming more independent.

I believe that communication is the key to your child's success and to a great parent/teacher relationship. I will be using our classroom website as a form of communication. I will post our weekly newsletter every Sunday night. You can also check the bulletin board outside our classroom and your child's folder for important information. I encourage you to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by email at lrios@monroecatholicschools.com. I am looking forward to working with you and your child as we teach them.

I can't wait to spend the next year learning and growing with your child!

Sincerely,
Linda Rios

MCES Preschool

Full and Half Day Preschool

7:45-2:25/ 7:45-10:30

Linda Rios

lrrios@monroecatholicschools.com

Amy Beaudrie

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Julie Kinsey

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Curriculum:

- Frog Street: Math, Language Arts, Science and Social Studies
- ABC Mouse: Language Arts
- My Big World: Science and Social Studies
- Catholic Icing and Friendly: Religion

We assess our students in the Fall and again in the Spring. In preschool, we observe multiple areas of growth to evaluate where the child is developmentally. Please note that children aren't expected to master all the things we assess before the end of preschool. The assessments are used as a tool to gauge where a child is and to challenge them in areas where necessary. To achieve this goal successfully, the assessments have additional pieces that go above the preschool expectations.

For specific questions relating to the curriculum, please feel free to contact:

Mrs. Rios, Ms. Beaudrie, Mrs. Kinsey and Mrs. McMillan.

Important things to know:

- We will be using the two-pocketed folder listed on the supply list for communication, which I believe is the most effective way for communication to occur between school and home. I will put everything in these folders: newsletters from me, notes from the school, important dates, order forms, permission slips and the children's work. Please make sure that your child brings their folder to class and that you are checking it daily.
- We will do a weekly journal or craft activity related to the theme we are studying. These activities will be assembled into the binder listed on the supply list and then returned to you at the end of the year!
- It is important to me that the student's feel a sense of belonging to our classroom. So if you could provide a **family picture** to add to our family corner, I would greatly appreciate it. Please send this with your child as soon as possible.
- Please send in an extra set of clothes for your child in a Ziploc bag with their name on the front.
- Full day students are required to nap. Please send the nap items in a reusable bag. We will send these nap items home to be washed Bi-weekly. **Please remember to return the nap items on the following Monday.**
- Morning Arrival: The parking lot door opens at 7:30. Please remain in your vehicle and pull up to the door. Children should try to exit the vehicle on their own. In the beginning of the school year, a few teachers will be in the parking lot to help escort your child inside. **Please be courteous to other families.** Please follow up the MCES drop off procedures. Our class will wait in the gym until all the students arrive. We will walk to our classroom at 7:45.
- Dismissal: At the end of the school day we will bring the children outside the main doors and line up along the wall of the school or the church. **Full day students** are dismissed at 2:25. Please get into the car line for pick up and we will help load your child into the car. **Please pull ahead to a parking space to buckle your child in their seat.** We ask that you remain in your car and do not walk up to get your child so that we can help keep our children safe. We love having our Catholic families bonding together after school,

but we ask that you do so after we are done loading the children. (2:40 p.m.)
Thank you for your help in keeping our children safe.

- **Half Day students** are dismissed at 10:30. They will be dismissed through the G door. Please have your ID ready for the first few weeks.
- Fog delays and weather delays: In the event of a Fog or Weather Delay, when school is delayed for 2 hours, school will begin at 9:45.
- Delays and school cancellations will be announced by MCES. MCES follows Monroe Public Schools for cancellations and delays.

Snack/Lunch

Snack:

- **NO NUTS:** We are aware of children within the school who have nut allergies. So please refrain from snacks with nuts, or have been processed in a nut environment.
- To give children more variety during snack time, we will be assigning snacks for you to bring on your child's snack day. All snacks are chosen from the Safe Snack List. **Please be sure to purchase ONLY the brand that is listed on the snack calendar.** Please send enough snacks for 18 students. We will have our snack around 9:00am.
- When you bring snacks the first time please bring one package of napkins and 5 oz. cups. We will keep the leftovers in class just in case someone forgets.
- Please send in a refillable water bottle labeled with your student's name. **Please fill the bottle with water for the day.** This water bottle will be sent home daily to be cleaned.

Lunch:

- Students who are enrolled in the Full Day Option for Preschool will eat in the gym. Lunch aides and volunteers will be on hand to provide help to the students. Our lunch time will be 10:30-11:00 to accommodate our time on the playground.
- If you're willing to volunteer and fulfill some of your Family Service Hours, please contact MCES website for the sign-up genius.

Birthday Treats

The health and safety of our Monroe Catholic School students is our top priority. Due to the impact sugary snacks have on the health and behavior of our students, along with the sensitivity/severity of several types of allergies on both our St. Michael and St. John Campuses, edible birthday treats cannot be passed out at school this year.

Students that would like to bring in birthday treats for their classmates may share something that is non-edible such as pencils, stickers, small toys, etc. Edible birthday treats have too much of an impact on our school day and will be sent home if they are sent to school. We want our children to feel special on their big day but believe we can achieve this through non-edible treats and other special attention in their classroom. Thank you for your cooperation, understanding and attention to this policy.

I will send home a list near the end of school so we can celebrate summer birthdays. If your little one recently had an August birthday and would like to celebrate now just let me know, I don't want anyone to miss their school birthday celebration!

Positive Discipline

I believe consistency and routine are very important in our classroom because it establishes a sense of security for the children. Therefore, I will spend a lot of time the first few weeks establishing the class routine, discussing and clearly demonstrating the expected behavior in our room. The classroom environment will be structured and nurturing, and the children will be expected to follow the rules and treat others with respect.

In September, we will begin using a monthly calendar to communicate daily behavior. Our classroom management policy will focus on positive behavior, to motivate and teach children good habits. We will use a clip chart. We will have 3 different colors (green, blue, pink). Each day all students start on green. Green is ready to learn, blue is teacher's choice or a warning (usually a reminder of the classroom rules). And pink will result in a note home. The students can always go back up to green by making good choices. A behavior calendar will be sent home at the end of the day, happy face (green), frowning face (blue) or sad face (pink) depending on where their clip is. Students that consistently stay on green at the end of the month will receive a prize from our treasure chest.

Scholastic Books

I will be sending home book orders from Scholastic. This is a great way to begin or increase your child's home library with excellent quality books at a reasonable price! The books can be ordered online or sent into class and they will be delivered to our room so I can send them home with your child. I will send home more detailed information with the first order.

Protecting God's Children

In preschool we love having family members involved in our classroom, but we need to make sure all of the children are protected. Anyone who would like to volunteer in the classroom, or attend field trips must take the *Protecting God's Children* class.

Transportation Home

If your child is going to childcare on different days, please note that on the next page. Please send me a note or email if there are any changes to these arrangements or you can call the office for last minute changes before 2:00 pm.

Allergies

This year we will explore our world using our five senses. It is important that we do so safely. Please complete the form on the next page, making me aware of any and all allergies your child may have. The proper precautions will then be taken.

Preschool Shirts

This year we will once again be getting class shirts. The order form will be sent home at a later date. Please consider ordering a shirt for your child. We will be wearing our shirts on gym days and field trips.

Website

This information packet will be available for reference on my classroom page, on the website. www.mces.com I will also update my website every Sunday evening with the classroom newsletter and any important events, pictures or information.



Our Daily Schedule

Arrival	7:30- 7:45
Morning Prayer Service In the Gym	7:45-7:55
Unpack/Bathroom	7:55-8:05
Circle Time	8:05-8:30
Recess/ Gym	8:30-9:00
Bathroom/ Snack	9:00-9:20
Story/Lesson/Table Work	9:20-9:40
Centers	9:40-10:20
Clean Up/ Bathroom	10:20-10:30
Lunch	10:30- 10:55
Recess	10:55-11:45
Bathroom/Set Up Nap Stuff/Story	11:45-12:10
Nap	12:10-1:45
Pick Belongings/Bathroom	1:45-1:50
Mini Lesson Review	1:50-2:20
Clean Up/Pack Up/Go Home	2:20- 2:25

- Physical Education will take place on Wednesday during our outdoor/recess time. We will not go outside in the morning on physical education days.
- Changes may be made to the schedule as the year progresses.

Student Name:

Protecting God's Children

Name (S) _____

has attended a Protecting God's Children class and will make sure the school has a copy of their certificate (s).

Name (S) _____

hasn't attended a Protecting God's children class, but will be attending the one on _____ (date).

Transportation Home

Please provide the following information to ensure the safety of your child when we dismiss at the end of our school day. Thank you!

_____ will be picked up from school by _____

_____ will be going to Latchkey.

Allergies

_____ Has no known allergies at this time.

_____ Has the following allergies: _____

Please take the following steps of action in the event of a reaction:

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Contact information

Parent cell phone _____

Parent email _____

Parent cell phone _____

Parent email _____

Information About Your Child

We will be doing work with names. What is your child's full name?

What name does he/she prefer to be called?

What name would you prefer for your child to write? (for example: nickname or full name)

How would you describe your child's personality?

What are some things you love about your child?

Does your child need any special items for comfort or security? (such as a blanket or special animal?)

Other than parents, who are the special people in your child's life? Siblings? Grandparents? Aunts? Uncles? Neighbors?

My child needs extra help with:

My expectations for my child this year:

Is there anything else that would help me understand your child's unique personality or special needs?

If you need extra space you can write on the back of the paper. Thank you for taking time to complete these forms. I look forward to the days ahead and appreciate your help in getting to know your child.
