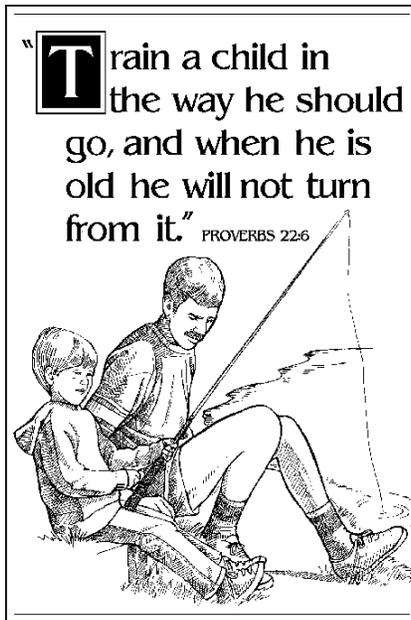


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MOUNT CROSS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

“Let the children come to me, and do not stop them,
because the King of God belongs to such as these.”
~ Mark 10:14

The Mission of the School

Our goal is to provide a creative educational program in a nurturing Christian environment. As students prepare for kindergarten, they will be offered the opportunity to grow in all areas of development (social, emotional, physical, intellectual and spiritual)

“Children are a gift from the Lord;
they are a real blessing.”
~ Psalm 127:3

Mount Cross Child Development Center admits and does not discriminate against, students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin. All rights, privileges, programs, and activities are provided to every student at the school.

Department of Social Services State License #561709978

State Licensing

Our school is licensed by:

Dept. of Social Services
Community Care Licensing
360 S. Hope Ave., Suite C-105
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Tax ID # 953063998

“His mercy goes on from generation to
generation, to all who reverence him.”
~ Luke 1:5

If you are planning for a year, sow rice
If you are planning for a decade, plant a tree
If you are planning for a lifetime, educate a child.
~ Old Chinese Proverb

Conclusion

Thank you for sharing your children with us. Each and every child is a special, unique being. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress, please communicate with us. No concern is too small. Our director will gladly share reading materials with you and help schedule parent-teacher conferences at your request.

Arrival and Departure

Please bring your child to the classroom no sooner than 5 minutes before the start of the session. Our teachers need the time before class to get the room ready for your children. Each child must be signed-in on the sheet provided at the classroom door. Please pick up your child promptly at the close of the session. Being the last child, waiting and wondering if Mom or Dad has forgotten you, can be frightening and interfere with happy school adjustment. If you have an emergency and are 'stuck' somewhere, please try to call and we will assure your child that someone is on the way. It is a state law that all children **MUST BE SIGNED OUT.**

Please supervise any children on the playground, patio or grass area before or after school. It is important they follow the rules of the playground at all times. (Riding trikes in one direction, not throwing sand, etc.) When in the patio area, for your child's safety, please keep your child off the walls and out of the bushes. It is also dangerous for them to run around on the cement.

Spirit Day

During the school year we will have several spirit days. A fun day when staff and students wear the school t-shirt. School shirts are for sale in the school office for \$10. If a student does not have a school shirt, he/she can wear a light blue shirt.

Our school cheer:

"Mount Cross school
That's who we are!
Every student here
is a star!!"

Child Development Center Staff

Pastors: John W. Soyster,
482-3847 Church Office

Director: Cathy Channels
482-9706 Preschool Office

Teachers: Andrea Walker
Angie Strong
Christine Mier
Celine Diaz
Debi Murphy
Karen Fanner
Louise Van Vorst
Melissa Henry
Sandie Mier
Yvonne Seibert

Substitutes:

Jennifer Churchill
Jean Scott
Helena Bellion
Patti Walker
Roberta Muklevicz

Earthquake Kit Contents:

In a zip lock bag with name:
2 granola bars
1 square juice
1 hefty bag (30 gallon)
Family picture (optional)
Out of State contact telephone number

CDC SCHOOL CALENDAR

2016 - 2017

September 6 - 9	Orientation week	
September 11	Rally Day	
September 12 & 13	*First days of preschool	
October 4 & 5	First Chapel time for CDC - 11:10 a.m. - Parents welcome	
October 16	Fall Open House/Back to school night & dinner for CDC parents, CDC staff installation & speaker	
October 27 & 28	NO SCHOOL — staff in-service. Teachers getting up-to-date on Child Development information, team meetings, and cleaning equipment.	
November 3 & 4	School pictures	
November 11	NO SCHOOL - Veteran's Day	
November 21-25	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Holiday Week	
December 8	Family Christmas Celebration (one session at 6:30 PM; refreshments @ 7:00 p.m.)	
Dec. 19 – Jan. 3	NO SCHOOL - Christmas Vacation	
January 3	NO SCHOOL - Staff In-service	
January 4, 2017	*First Day of School in New Year	
January 4 thru 31	Registration for Mount Cross Church Members	
January 16	NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Day	

learning:

- ⇒ to develop an interest in the activities of the preschool;
- ⇒ to feel comfortable with others at the preschool;
- ⇒ to understand that his parent will come back to pick him up;
- ⇒ that all parents leave their children and come back for their children;
- ⇒ to understand that parents often must concentrate on their own interest and duties which are separate and different from those of a child;
- ⇒ to develop an acceptance and willingness to allow the parent freedom to come and go as needed.

It is important to point out that sooner or later after the initial successful adjustment to school is made, ALL children want to explore the limits of “not going to school”. This period may occur in October or December or in the spring, but it usually lasts for a short time. When this occurs, here are some suggestions which may help you handle the situation:

- * reassure your child that you will be back when school is over;
- * place emphasis on what your child is going to do at school rather than what your activities will be while he is in school
- * see that the child is involved in a specific activity or is in the hands of a teacher before you leave him;
- * tell your child when you are leaving;
- * Avoid prolonged good-byes;
- * ask the teacher for help in separation, we expect the crying and usually the tears are for the parent's benefit;
- * call us back to see how the child is doing or you may wait in the preschool office.

a note or tell the Director who will discretely let them know. Conferences may also be scheduled in March during school hours. (see calendar) Prior to parent conferences, the teachers will assess each pre-k & T-K student for kindergarten readiness.



Scholastic Book Club

We offer you an opportunity to order books through the Firefly Book Club. Your child will periodically bring home an order form (occasionally a month will be skipped). Our school does **not use the on-line ordering for various reasons.**

You can mark your selections and make a check payable to scholastic Books. Attach a check to the order form and place in the box in the preschool office. This is strictly an optional program. We do find that it offers you a chance to get some good books for a low price. We also find that our families who order books tend to read more at home. If you have any questions about book selections, please stop in the school office, our Director will be most happy to help you.

*Please note: Checks only!! (made out to Scholastic books)

Separation Anxiety

The process of separation from the parent as the child enters and attends preschool is one of the most important learning experiences of the preschool child. At each age level a child will react differently. The two and a half year old may follow the procedure quite willingly. The three year old might need a longer period to adjust. At this age, a child is slowly acquiring feelings of belonging to his group in preschool. The four year old learns the process of separation from his parent within a relatively shorter period of time. The five year old usually adjusts in a day or two because at this age level fascination with the school experience becomes all consuming.

As children mature, they begin to identify themselves as independent personalities. In separating from you, the parent, your child is

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February 1 & 2	Registration for 2017/18—currently enrolled families only	
February 9 & 10	*Staff in-service	
February 13	NO SCHOOL—Lincoln’s Birthday	
February 20	NO SCHOOL—Presidents birthdays	
March 2 & 3	NO SCHOOL Parent/teacher conferences	
March 6	Open enrollment	
April 2	OPEN HOUSE - SPRING SING (3 afternoon sessions)	
April 10 thru 14	Easter Vacation	
April 16	Easter Sunday	
May 29	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day	
June 3	Father’s Breakfast & Workshop - Pre-K & T-K classes only	
June 4	Off to Kindergarten blessing-10:30 service	
June 13 & 14	*Last days of school (Tues/Wed)	
June 27 thru July 20	Summer School (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) 8:30 AM—11:30 AM Lunch Bunch until 1 pm	

We will be sending reminders about all these events, but please **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW !**

Tuition

Tuition for the whole school year is divided into 10 equal payments - so the amount is the same each month regardless of holidays. If you are late in payment, Smart Tuition will charge you a \$40 late fee. If you are 2 months behind, in payment, your child may not attend until paid.

Families with Automatic withdrawal: School families can choose to have tuition automatically withdrawn from their account. If your account has insufficient funds, you will be assessed the \$40 late fee from Smart Tuition Management Plan.

Invoiced Families: Families who receive invoices and miss a monthly payment, due on the 1st of the month, will also be assessed a \$40 late fee after the 5th of the month. If you have missed 2 monthly payments, you will be required to go to the Auto Debit plan and your child may not attend school until payment is made.

Curriculum

In all classes at Mount Cross Child Development Center we work with the development of the WHOLE child. This includes the Physical, Social, Emotional, Spiritual and Intellectual development. We offer a 20 min. chapel time each week. Also it is our goal to help all our students develop self-esteem and self-confidence. Throughout the school a positive approach is used in general routine tasks and handling discipline. A child is never told that he/she is bad or naughty. It is our belief that bad children do not exist! Another main goal in all classes is that your child have a happy school experience. PLEASE contact the Director immediately if there are any problems or concerns. Your child is listened to and given every opportunity to develop. He/she is encouraged to respect his/her classmates. **Be sure to read the monthly newsletter** from your child's teachers as it contains IMPORTANT information and dates.

Discipline

Discipline at Mount Cross consists of positive reinforcement and re-direction. Our goal is to have our students actively and constructively involved in our program at all times. A child in a "time out" situation will be working a puzzle, playing with play dough, looking at

Flu

Usually flu starts with sudden headache, chills and aches and pains in arms, legs and back. Congested nose and hard, dry cough are common with the flu. Incubation period for the flu is usually one to three days. Period of contagion is shortly before and up to one week after the onset of symptoms.

Pink eye (conjunctivitis)

If the infection is bacterial, it is contagious from the time the child's eyes are red and oozy until 24 hours after antibiotics are started. Viral conjunctivitis is contagious for five to seven days.

Parent Participation

We encourage parent participation in our school program. Inform your child's teachers when you would like to visit the classroom and share your talents, interests, hobbies or occupation with the students. We have had parents bring in cooking projects, read a book, or play a musical instrument. You are most welcome to just come and observe. So as not to have more than one visitor at a time, please plan a date ahead of time with the teachers. Please do visit during the school year as it means a lot to your child to have you at school. At this age, children are very proud of their parents and want to show them off. Enjoy this while it lasts folks! All classes have a unit on community helpers. During this unit we like to invite our parents who are nurses, doctors, firefighters, police officers, mail carriers, dentists, etc., to share with the class.

Parent Conferences

If you would like a Parent-Teacher Conference please notify your child's teachers. They will try to schedule the conference 20 min. before or after school. As we do not like to conference in front of a child, we can put your child into early birds or lunch bunch when possible during a conference. Please do not try to have a conference during drop off and pick up times as the staff are busy greeting and dismissing the children. If there is a problem you would like the teachers to know about, you may hand the teachers

If a child is on any kind of medication that might affect his performance at school, please advise his teacher. Please notify us of any communicable disease in your family.

Common Cold and Allergies

Common colds are the most common form of illness at our school. We ask that a child with a fever or green runny nose or persistent cough be kept at home for his sake as well as that of his classmates and the teachers. We realize some children have allergies that can cause a clear runny nose or cough that is not contagious. If your child has this problem, please tell the teacher. Even though a child with allergies is not contagious, if he is uncomfortable, he will not benefit from the school program and should be kept at home. If your child is allergic to any food, please bring it to our attention.

Vomiting and Diarrhea

A child should also be kept at home at least one day after vomiting or diarrhea has occurred to make sure he is completely well. This could be the beginning of a contagious flu. Also, it is quite traumatic and embarrassing for a preschooler to have this type of problem at school.

Fifth Disease

Fifth disease is a mild illness without fever. It initially starts with fatigue. A striking red rash which looks much like a slap mark, commonly appears on the cheeks. A fine, lace-like rash may then appear on the body. Sometimes the rash may be itchy. Some children may have mild signs of the illness or no symptoms at all. The virus spreads by exposure to secretions from the nose and throat of persons with the disease. Anyone can get fifth disease, but it occurs most commonly in children of elementary school age. Pregnant women that have had contact with persons with the disease should consult with their doctor. A person with fifth disease is most contagious about 1 week before the onset of the rash. Once the rash starts, it probably cannot be spread to others.

a book, etc., but rarely just sitting. We don't want a child getting a negative sense of self at this formative stage in his life.

If we have a discipline problem that continues, we will conference with the parents and, hopefully, come up with a successful plan. If a child continually hurts or threatens other children, we do reserve the right to discontinue the child's enrollment in our program. We must provide a safe environment for all our students to grow and develop. We tell our students, "We won't let anyone hurt you, and we can't let you hurt any one else."

Field Trips

Because we are a Child Development Center and not a day care, we have very few field trips at our school. Since most of our students only attend school two or three half-days a week, we feel they will get the most out of our program in the classroom setting and on the school grounds. We have found that most of our parents take their own children to the beach, zoo, Christmas tree farm, etc., on their children's off-school days. As our teachers plan their units, we may consider a field trip off-campus, (fire station, search and rescue, local park). We will always notify parents of an upcoming field trip and ask that you sign a permission slip. We always invite two or more parents to go with us or to provide transportation.

We like to have 'in-house' field trips by inviting fire fighters, police officers, nurses, etc. to come to our school and share with the students about their jobs and safety.

Lunch Bunch

As a service for our parents who may want to plan shopping, personal care and doctor appointments, or just good ol' R and R, we offer a special Lunch Bunch program for our enrolled students every Monday through Friday. Your child may stay from 11:35 to 1:00 for \$9 a time. Monday-Funday students may participate by arriving at 11:35 on Mondays. We take them to their class at 12:30 the fee for the hour is \$6. Signup in the Preschool Office. An early signup is recommended to facilitate staffing and ensure a place for your child. **If there is space available**, you may sign up your child on the morning of the day you want lunch bunch. **Lunch Bunch children must bring a lunch in a labeled**



container (please, no candy or gum!)

Fees: All fees are payable to Mount Cross CDC at the time of signup. Please put your child's first name and the lunch bunch dates on the memo line of your check. If your child cannot attend because of illness, you will receive credit for payment:

SCHEDULE: 11:35-11:45 Get together/wash hands
11:45-12:10 Prayer and lunch
12:10-12:45 Playground
12:45 - 1:00 Circle time & stories

CHILDREN MUST BE PICKED UP AND SIGNED OUT-PROMPTLY at 1:00 PM !

Early Birds

From 8:00-8:30 AM every school day we will have Early Birds. A staff member will greet your child in the school office at 8:00 (no sooner). Cost is \$3.00 per day. Checks payable to Mount Cross CDC.

Birthdays at School

If your child has a birthday during the school year and you would like to celebrate in the classroom, please set a date with your child's teachers. You may want to bring a special treat for snack that day.* When your child celebrates a birthday at school, we will make him/her a crown, sing 'Happy Birthday' and give him/her a new book from the birthday box. We like to keep our celebrations **LOW KEY!** Please no party bags, favors, hats or balloons. This might be a fun day for the parent to visit the classroom. If you want to invite classmates to a party outside of school, we ask that you not hand out invitations at school unless they are for the whole class. This will prevent hurt feelings. You can get names, addresses, and phone numbers from the school office, if the parent has given permission to release that information. If your



child has a summer birthday, please pick a date to have an un-birthday or a half year celebration.

Every child needs a day to wear a crown and feel extra-special.

*Suggested birthday treats: yogurt push-ups; pretzels and cheese, party cups with raisins, sunflower seeds, cheese crackers, oatmeal cookies, fruit cups, celery and carrot sticks with dip, blueberry or banana mini muffins, finger Jell-O. **Nothing with peanuts.**



Cell Phone Use

Please **do not** use your cell phones while driving into and out of the school parking lot. We need to give full attention to driving to be safe. Also, when picking up your child, remember that he is excited to see you, so please do not be on your cell phone at that time.

Parking Lot Safety

The church parking lot speed limit is 15 miles per hour. Please-honor this as you enter and exit the parking lot.

Do not park along the parking lot curb in front of the school or church when you drop off and pick up your child. Even if it's just for a few minutes, it can cause a dangerous situation. Please help us stay safe—park in a marked spot only. Hold your child's hand when in the parking lot at all times.

It is illegal to leave a child unattended in a car for any amount of time. Licensing considers this child endangerment.

Illness

It is our goal at Mt. Cross to provide a healthy environment for your child. We ask that you keep sick children at home. If a child becomes sick at school, we will contact you immediately. We will keep your child quiet and comfortable in the school office until you pick him up. A child should be kept home and quiet at least one full day after having a fever. The child's temperature fluctuates during the day, usually lowest in the morning and higher in the late day or evening.