

Pre-Kindergarten
And
VPK





Welcome to our Prekindergarten and VPK Roundup at Southwest Ranches Christian Academy. Our focus is to spread the word of God daily. We are thankful for the opportunity to minister to families of diverse cultures and backgrounds. Many of our parents have expressed that our school has a warm and tender environment as they walk through the halls. We believe that feeling is the constant presence of God in every classroom. You will hear the children singing, praying, and reciting their Bible verses at times through out the day. Children express their love of God in a special way through daily devotions and chapel on Fridays. As the children grow in their knowledge and love for God, they will share this joy with their families.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Clara Colindres, and this is my 21st year in the field of education. I am the Director at Southwest Ranches Christian Academy- it's a great school to be a part of. I love children and I love my job! A child's education is very important to me, and I spend a great deal of time researching new strategies and coming up with new, fun, and creative ways to help the children learn.

The accelerated *A Beka* curriculum continues to challenge our Pre-K and VPK students to excel in the classroom and day-to-day interaction. Our team of teachers are certified and have experience teaching, and they show their dedication to the children through patience, love, wisdom, and by providing a safe and organized classroom. Our staff exhibits a high standard of professionalism in all they do.

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the Pre-Kindergarten & VPK team: Ms. Clara, Ms, Micky, Ms. Sharon, & Ms. Sherry. We feel blessed to be able to work with your children. We love teaching, and we believe that every child CAN and WILL learn!

We have an open-door policy. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 954.434.5252. Our mission is for every student to love school in an environment filled with God's love. We hope you are ready for a great year!

In His Service,
Clara Colindres
Director

Curriculum Overview

As you follow your four year olds progress this year, you will be thrilled to see them learn to read, write, and improve their number skills. Their level of performance changes quickly as they acquire new skills. They will be walking through thematic units that will enhance their awareness of different ethnic backgrounds and geographic locations through multi-cultural experiences. They will broaden their insight in science health and manners by being exposed to community helpers and etiquette. Learning centers are incorporated into the classrooms to reinforce their learning experiences and to increase their desire to learn.

BIBLE

Bible is the most important half hour of our students' school day, and by its very nature it is the most interesting. The A Beka book curriculum provides a creative method of presenting the Bible through the telling of stories from the Old and New Testaments. The Bible lessons flow from the word of God into the heart, the soul, and the mind of each child. Bible time includes the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, The Christian Flag, and to the Bible as well as singing patriotic songs, hymns, and choruses. Bible time also includes reciting memory verses, prayer time, and an actual Bible lesson.

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Student will receive a rich language experience that includes auditory, visual, and linguistic development. The students will use the simple, logical phonetic program to begin their journey to a lifelong love of reading. They will master the sound of recognition of vowels and consonants. And the progress to forming blends and reading simple words.

Language Development time is also integrated with interesting topics about animals, people, and place that will encourage the children to think and strengthen their vocabulary and language skills. Poetry, finger plays, and music and also an integral part of the K-4 curriculum.

The students actively participate in the learning process through large and small groups, individual instruction, and learning centers. Learning games and hands on activities motivate the children and make learning fun and exciting.

1st Semester

- Vowels- A, E, I, O, U
- Consonants- A thru Z (name, sound, and formation)
- Blend a consonant with a vowel
- Sound out one vowel words

2nd Semester

- Reading circle begins
- One-vowel rule
- Two-vowel rule
- Reading Sentences



Curriculum Overview Continued

NUMBERS

Students in K-4 will learn to recognize and understand the concept on numbers. They will count from 1 to 100, recognize 1 through 20, distinguish before and after numbers, and learn simple combinations.

A variety of manipulative: finger plays, games, and songs are all used to motivate the students who need to see and handle, as well as hear what is being taught so they can move from concrete ideas to more abstract concepts that they'll encounter in higher grades.

A skills development time is set aside each day to strengthen listening. It includes fine motor coordination, visual perception, and writing skills. The children enjoying many activities such as free art, stencils art, books, and manipulative such as building blocks, puzzles, lacing cards, beads, etc.

1st Semester

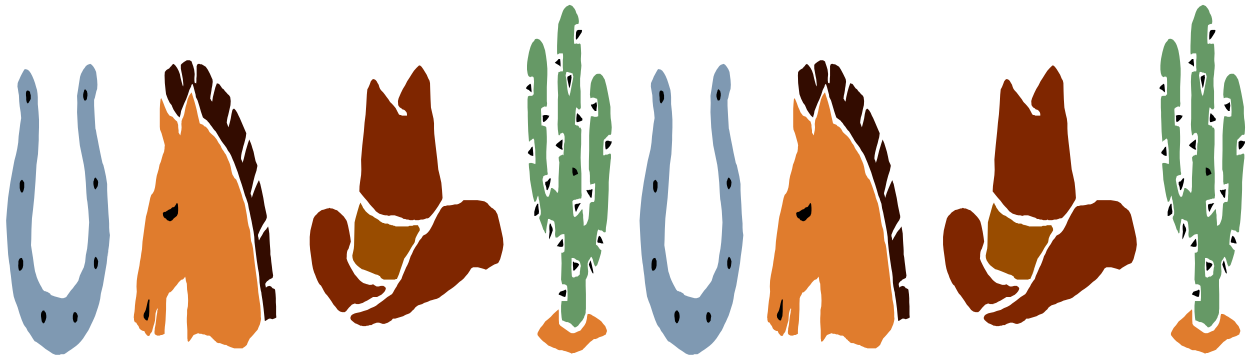
- Counting 1 to 40
- Recognizing and understanding the concept of 1 to 12
- Writing numerals 1 to 10

2nd Semester

- Counting 1 to 100
- Recognizing and understanding the concept of 1 to 20
- Number family concept
- Larger and smaller, more and less concepts
- Writing numerals 1 to 20
- Before and after numbers
- Combination $1+1=2$ through $9+1=10$



Notes From The



Pre-K & VPK Teachers

ABSENCES: Your child's regular and prompt attendance at school is crucial to his/her success. Most learning activities are group oriented and involve interactions with classmates. Please view school as a priority, and ensure that your child attends every day, except in cases of illness or emergency. If your child is absent, he/she must bring a written excuse upon return to school.

ARRIVAL: VPK begins at 8:30 a.m. We respectfully request that parents are out of the classroom by that time. We will have a very tight schedule this year and will need your cooperation to ensure that every minute in the classroom is productive.

DISMISSAL: VPK is a three hour program. Your voucher will provide those 3 hours to you free of charge. VPK ends at 11:30 if you do not choose to enroll your child in the wrap around program. If you are late to pick up child up you will be charge \$1 per minute you are late.

CLASS RULES:

1. We use "I care" language
2. When someone is talking, we listen.
3. Our hands are for helping and not hurting.
4. We speak with a low voice
5. We raise our hands when we need the teacher's attention.

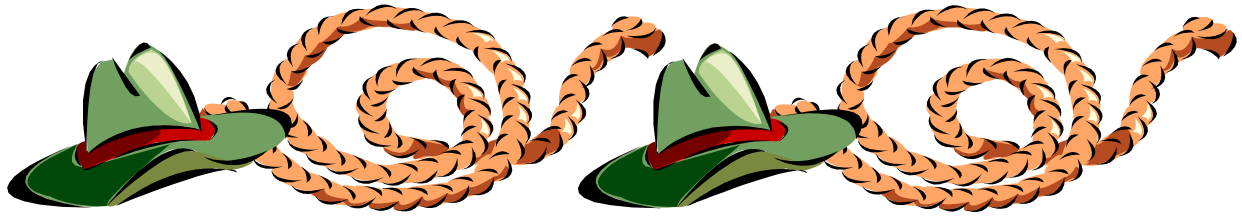
CHECK BOOK BAGS: In each child's book bag there will be a "Sheriff Book." Please check it daily for any papers send home regarding homework, projects, or other current classroom information that you will need to be aware of. Important reminders are also listen on the weekly preview sent home with your child each Wednesday.

DISCIPLINE PLAN: In order to provide our students with the excellent educational environment they deserve, we have developed the following Classroom Discipline Plan which will be in effect at all times:

Consequences:

1. **GREEN** = Excellent Behavior
2. **YELLOW** = Warning
3. **BLUE** = Time Out
4. **RED** = Time Out & Parent Notification Of the Inappropriate Behavior.

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REWARDS: Appropriate behavior will be recognized through a variety of rewards. Rewards may include one or more of the following: free choice time, verbal praise, group awards, special activities, privileges, or the "Treasure Box." We encourage you to praise them for their good behavior at home as well.

HOMEWORK: All students are responsible for completing homework assignments and handing them in on time. Allow your child some free time before sitting down with homework. Encourage your child to complete the assignments independently.

SHERIFF BOOK: Each student is assigned a "Sheriff Book", which they will bring home each day. Please check and sign your child's homework assignment sheet each evening and make sure that it is placed in the take-home folder to be returned to the school the next day.

PARENT INPUT: We encourage communication regarding your child's education. Please feel free to call the office to schedule a conference, or leave a message for your child's teacher or Mrs. Colindres (ccolindres@ournewhope.com) , and you will be contact as quickly as possible.

PARENTAL PARTICIPATION: Throughout the school year there will be a variety of special classroom activities and celebrations. We encourage you to attend these functions when ever possible and to support your child by sending needed supplies or treats. Your support of school activities make your child feel important and send the message that you value school.

SNACKS: We will have snack time each day in the classroom at approximately 10:00 A.M. Your child will need a small, healthy snack each day, packed SEPERATLY from lunch in bag with his/her name on it.

May the Lord richly bless each one of you.





VPK/ K-4 Classroom Schedule

7:00-8:25 Morning Care

8:30-9:00 Bible/Chapel on Fridays

9:00-9:40 Phonics/Writing

9:40-10:00 Skill Development

10:00-10:20 Snack Time

10:20-10:40 Numbers

10:40-11:00 Special Activities (Spanish (W) Arts & Crafts (F)

11:00-11:15 Language Development/ P.E. (F) 11:00-11:30

11:15-11:30 Recess (VPK Dismissal)

11:30-11:45 Restroom/Clean-up

11:45-12:30 Lunch Time

12:30-1:00 Clean-up/ Restroom/Story Time

1:00-2:00 Centers

2:00-3:00 Recess/Playground

3:00-3:30 Snack

3:30-4:30 Table Games

4:30-5:15 Fine Motor Skills

5:15-5:30 Clean-up/ Prepare to pack-up belongings

5:30-6:00 Under the Sea Classroom for aftercare pick-up