



# Family Handbook 2019 – 2020

"Inspiring future leaders."

July 2019







# PRESCHOOL DIRECTORY

CEO General Director	Marilú Bobadilla
Academic Director	Sandra Bobadilla
Administrative Director	Marina Garrigó
Preschool Principal	Claudine Bergés
Preschool Secretary	Deritza Cruz
Preschool Counselor	Rosemilia García
Preschool Nurse	Elizabeth Zapata
Afterschool Coordinator	Damián Rodríguez

# PRESCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER (809)-262-9723

#### **PRESCHOOL ADDRESS**

Calle Manuel Corripio #8, La Esperilla Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

# ST. PATRICK SCHOOL WEBSITE

The St. Patrick School website < www.stpatrick.edu.do > is a wonderful source of information about all divisions of the school. The site is updated regularly.

# FACEBOOK

http://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Patrick-School-of-Santo-Domingo/143968808964977?ref=ts

> **TWITTER** @stpatrickSRD



**INSTAGRAM** @stpatrickpreschool



#### WELCOME TO ST. PATRICK PRESCHOOL



Our end in mind when creating this resourceful St. Patrick Preschool handbook was to help you adjust and become familiar with the practices, policies, rules, regulations and procedures our preschool. This handbook is also intended to help you and your family become proactive members of our growing community.

If after reading this handbook you have questions, comments or concerns about your child's school day or learning environment, you may speak with the counselor, the teachers, the preschool principal and our school's academic director. Your feedback is extremely important to us, we want you to make a smooth transition into the St. Patrick community to fully enjoy your experience.

St. Patrick School and Preschool is fully accredited by the **Dominican Ministry of Education** since 2005. This accreditation is for the Preschool, Elementary, Middle School and High School levels.

The school also counts with the support of the **National Private Schools Accreditation Alliance** who granted Class I, full Accreditation to St. Patrick School in the year 2010. This level of accreditation was awarded because the school obtained outstanding marks and deserved recognition, support and public confidence.

St. Patrick School is also a Member of the **Accrediting Commission International**, **Inc.**, a well-known Educational Corporation.

Our curriculum is directly linked to the U.S. Common Core standards in order to ensure that our methodology and expectations are of the highest quality. We also comply with all requirements of the Dominican Ministry of Education. During our Open House events, and at any other time throughout the school year, we will be happy to provide curriculum guides to acquaint you with the academic elements of St. Patrick School. This handbook focuses on the other, equally important, aspects of school life.



# **ABOUT US**

#### **A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY**

St. Patrick School of Santo Domingo, an American type English school, was founded on March 17th, 2005. One of our main objectives is to support and reinforce the guidelines of the education system in the Dominican Republic and to provide through an American Curriculum, the education necessary to succeed in all areas of development. We focus in providing an integral, modern education for students starting in Preschool all the way through High School.

In 2007, motivated by the need to continue to promote the strong principles that are an intricate part of our educational beliefs, we decided to adopt the Catholic identity and include in our curriculum, specific subjects as well as special activities to promote the highest human values that frame our identity as a school: Integrity, Loyalty and Commitment. The school fulfills the standards of the North American Curriculum, supported by the Common Core Standards and it follows the official programs, academic calendar and requirements of the Ministry of Education in the Dominican Republic.

#### THIS IS WHO WE ARE

The entire preschool student body, from our NIDO I Level (1-2 year olds) through High School Grade 12, includes over 630 students with approximately 110 of those students in the Preschool area. About 90% of our students are Dominican citizens. The remainder of the student body is composed of students from different countries.

The academic year of St. Patrick School is divided into two semesters. The first semester begins in late August and ends mid-December. The second semester starts in January and ends mid-June. The academic calendar is updated and available on the school's website. When planning family vacations, we encourage you to make every effort to have your child attend every scheduled school day. While we support the value of family vacations and understand that occasional scheduling conflicts may arise, each and every day is special and cannot be replaced.

Four Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled during the school year. You have the opportunity to meet with your child's teachers to discuss his or her development in class. Additional conferences are easily arranged at any time throughout the school year at either a teacher's or parent's request. Teachers can be contacted directly by email or note, or through the School receptionist.



#### VISION

To be recognized as the leading educational institution through our commitment to academic excellence, society and the holistic development of our students.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We are an educational community forging enterprising leaders through an innovative and international program, incorporating holistic development of our students and respect for diversity, while honoring one's identity.

#### VALUES

**Integrity:** I am trustworthy, with my actions I project honesty and kindness. I always act in accordance with my beliefs and values.

**Loyalty:** I am a good person, faithful to others, to my principles and obligations. I assume commitments even when facing changing and adverse circumstances.

**Commitment:** When I make a promise, I fulfill it. I don't perceive commitment as a burden, but as a ways to serve others.

**Leadership:** I am a source of inspiration to others and motivate them with my actions.

**Respect:** I am considerate and kind with others and myself. I value other people's opinions.

**Innovation:** I am able to translate an idea into a good or service that is valuable for my community.

A green shield that adds the spiritual part of our philosophy protects the basic values of our institution; these values resemble the shamrock that Saint Patrick uses to illustrate the Holy Trinity, three different entities that come together as one. St. Patrick School promotes important values which are an integral part of our Academic system.





#### FACULTY

Our preschool is enriched with both English and Spanish-speaking teachers, trained in Early Childhood Education and Psychology, who provide excellent academic and socioemotional support while being committed to the educational philosophy and practices our school promotes.

#### COMMUNICATION

At the St. Patrick Preschool, there are many people here to help parents and students. The following plan is based on the understanding that whenever a question, issue or problem arises, the solution is to first go to the source. In any situation, it is best to go to the person directly concerned in order to ensure that you:

- gain first-hand information
- get the complete story
- achieve a quick response

 support the concept of open sharing of information as an aid to assisting your child's learning

In general, if it involves your child's day-to-day education, classroom activities, relationships or requirements you should first contact your child's **teacher**, either personally or in writing (email).

The following issues should be addressed directly to your child's teacher:

#### TEACHER

- Class information
- Class materials
- Homework
- Student behavior
- Project or research requirements
- Student progress
- Classroom and school relationships
- Teaching or classroom procedures
- Missing items
- Field trips and excursions
- Enrichment activities





#### **PRESCHOOL COUNSELOR**

Preschool Counselor, Ms. Rosemilia García

- School Relationships
- · Emotional, Social, Adjustment Issues / Family Conflict

#### PRESCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Preschool Principal, Mrs. Claudine Bergés

- Academic Programs
- Classroom situations

# **ATHLETIC COORDINATOR**

Mr. Damián Rodríguez

After-school Program, Sports competition, coaching, team trips, team issues

If the situation is still unresolved after communicating with the appropriate personnel, or if you require more information, you may wish to make an appointment with the Principal, with the knowledge of the teacher concerned.

#### ACADEMIC PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Sandra Bobadilla

#### ADMISSIONS

St. Patrick School of Santo Domingo is a private catholic college prep school. The school welcomes students from the Dominican Republic, United States and other countries, regardless of their ethnicity, religion, gender or political preference. Visit our web site to fill in the forms: <u>http://www.stpatrick.edu.do/admissions/admissions-process.html</u>. You will receive **Tuition information** personally, once you visit our school grounds.

St. Patrick School of Santo Domingo offers four education levels in two locations:

- Preschool Nido-Kinder
- Elementary School 1st 5th grade
- Middle School 6th 8th grade
- High School 9th-12th grade

If you are interested in visiting our school, please call to make an appointment. Our doors are always open. **FOR VISITS TO OUR SCHOOL:** Request an appointment with the preschool's Administrative Director to receive all information and a tour through our school facilities. Tours are given between 8:00 and 9:30 a.m.

Mrs. Claudine Bergés G.

E-mail: <u>claudineb@stpatrick.edu.do</u> Tel: 809-262-9723





#### PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

**Leader in Me:** The Leader in Me program is based on the book the "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" by Stephen Covey. In the year 2015 the school started this process by adopting a leadership culture. The program formally begins in kindergarten, with the book "The 7 Habits of Happy Kids" and it continues all through High School. All our staff is trained to work with the 7 Habits. Together with this leadership program, our school is part of the **Anti-Bullying Campaign "Not in our School"**, since the year 2012, promoting good behavior among our young students.

**Guided Reading** is a program based on small group instruction focused on strengthening the reading process from kindergarten through 5th grade. It has a complete set of books with different reading levels. It provides students differentiated instruction, according to their specific needs in this cognitive aspect. It helps speed up the reading process.

**Reading Intervention** is a special St. Patrick School program taught by a teacher who is a specialist in literacy. Children who scored INTENSIVE in the DIBELS standardized test, participate in this program to strengthen their reading skills. The teacher works with small groups according to the specific needs of each child.

**Go Math Kinder:** is a comprehensive math program that begins in kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Aligned to the Common Core Standards of the United States. The program emphasizes what are the essential questions and big ideas in order to understand mathematics in depth.

**Journeys Kinder** is a program of English language development that covers writing, reading and grammar in kindergarten. It is designed to provide strong, clear and focused instruction, setting a realistic manageable pace and using resources. It empowers readers through their skills; inspired by rich literary text, children are sure they are building the skills necessary to succeed.

**Fundations Pre-Kinder & Kinder is** program that provides students in Pre –kinder and Kinder with systematic instruction to develop reading skills, emphasizing phonics skills, the use of frequently used words, fluency, vocabulary and writing.





#### **STANDARDIZED TESTS**

**DIBELS** means Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills in English. Dibels is a standardized test that measures five English skills necessary for learning to read.

#### These skills are:

- 1- **Phonemic awareness:** Listen and use the sounds of spoken words.
- 2- **Alphabetic principle**: Knowing the sounds of letters and ability to read words aloud.
- 3- **Fluency and oral reading accuracy**: The ability to read stories and other texts easily, quickly and with few errors.
- 4- Vocabulary: Understanding and use a variety of words.
- 5- **Understanding:** To understand what is said or read.

The numbers that result in the test, are classified intensive, strategic and benchmark.

A **RUNNING RECORD** is a tool that helps teachers to identify patterns in student reading behaviors. These patterns allow a teacher to see the strategies a student uses to make meaning of individual words and texts as a whole. Running Records are used to place the children in the reading level that they belong in the Guided Reading Program. In Kinder, the Guided Reading Levels go from Level AA up to Level D.

Item	Teacher Says	Student Says	Number Correct	Item	Teacher Says	Student Says	Number Correct
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2	down	/d/ /ow/ /n/	/3	12	moat	/m/ /oa/ /t/	/3
3	chef	/ch/ /e/ /f/	/3	13	apron	/a/ /p/ /r/ /o/ /n/	/ 5
4	must	/m/ /u/ /s/ /t/	/4	14	mean	/m/ /ea/ /n/	/3
5	win	/w/i/ /n/	/3	15	pack	p/ /a/ /ck/	/3
6	rant	/r/ /a/ /n/ /t/	/4	16	main	/m/ /ai/ /n/	/3
7	smile	/s/ /m/ /i/ /le/	/4	17	wrath	/wr/ /a/ /th/	/3
8	huddle	/h/ /u/ /dd/ /le/	/4	18	soak	/s/ /oa/ /k/	/3
9	jump	/j/ /u/ /m/ /p/	/4	19	snail	/s/ /n/ /ai/ /l/	/4
10	open	/o/ /p/ /e/ /n/	/4	20	lime	/l/ /i/ /me/	/3

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#### PRESCHOOL ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL SCHEDULES

NIDO I	7:30-12:00 pm
NIDO II	7:30-12:00 pm
JR. KINDER	7:30-12:30 pm
PRE-KINDER	7:30-1:00 pm
KINDER	7:30-1:00 pm



# AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH LEVEL

	NIDO I	From 1-2 years old
PRESCHOOL	NIDO II	From 2 to 2.10 years old
	JR. KINDER	From 2.11 to 3.10 years old
	PRE-KINDER	From 3.11 to 4.10 years old
	KINDER	From 4.11 to 5.10 years old

#### **CLASS LISTS**

There is a team of professionals in charge of preparing class group lists. This team includes our General Director, our Academic Director, the psychologists of each area and the teachers involved in the process. We take into account the following: amounts of boys and girls, special needs (both academic and social-emotional) as well as previous evaluations. We dedicate a great deal of time, making sure the groups are well balanced. *That is why all our lists are final.* 

#### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Regular and consistent attendance is critical to student learning. Students who do not participate fully in the curriculum and activities designed by the school do not gain the intended educational benefits of the program. The curriculum has been established to meet the needs of our student population and emphasizes interactive, collaborative experiences.



Class activities and assignments are organized in such a way that they cannot always be replicated at a later date. Regular daily attendance, therefore, is necessary and expected of all students. The Ministry of Education has established that student can only miss 20% of the total amount of school days in a school year. Students who miss this amount of time, will automatically repeat the level, even when those levels don't repeat. We recognize and praise students' consistent, full-day attendance. The School asks parents to ensure that their children begin classes from the first day of school onward and attend regularly. We urge parents to exercise discretion and avoid absences due to convenience, travel, and vacations during regularly scheduled schooldays and/or on days adjacent to weekends and school holidays.

# ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

English as a second language is introduced starting with the 3 yr. old group, Jr. Kinder all the way through kinder, in the preschool levels. The children are exposed to the language in every part of their daily routine through songs, poems, rhymes, stories, hands-on activities, games and general instruction.

# SPANISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

**Kinder** receives **Spanish Lessons** twice a week. The Spanish teacher follows an interactive Spanish program designed to help children with their reading and writing skills, as well as their comprehension skills too. The levels **Nido I and Nido II** are instructed in Spanish due to the children's age level.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND GROSS MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

Physical Education is an important part of our curriculum. Our students engage in organized games, balance activities, dance, and gross motor stimulation activities to develop their coordination, self-control, team work and sportsmanship. Children should wear the full PE uniform which includes sweat pants, t-shirt, sneakers which should be mostly white or tennis shoes (no crocs) in order to participate safely in our class activities. Our young leaders have access to a fully equipped Mini-Gym as well as open space areas to practice these activities.

# **MUSIC CLASS**

Our young leaders receive musical stimulation classes with a specialized teacher who works with different musical instruments, focusing on rhythm, music and fun!



# **RECESS/LUNCH/CAFETERIA**

Students are encouraged to eat healthy snacks. Even though our preschool building is located outside the main building, we have access to the St. Patrick School Cafeteria, where you can order a wide variety of foods which include sandwiches, salads, full lunches and all sorts of drinks. You can pre-order your children's lunch or sign up for the lunch combos with the cafeteria's owner Mr. Leo Rodriguez, 809-338-5995, ext 234.

# **GENERAL RULES FOR RECESS AND PLAYGROUND**

Since our students are very young, the homeroom teacher and assistant must both be at the playground supervising their children.

# On the playground, (according to age level) students are expected to:

- Respect the activities of others.
- Keep their shoes on at all times.
- Eat their snacks while sitting on benches.
- Dispose of wrappers and other garbage in the trash bins.
- Always ask for permission before leaving the playground.

#### **DISCIPLINE IN PRESCHOOL**

We work alongside the Leader in Me program to prompt our young students to show proper behavior in school. Since they are going through different developmental stages we resort to simple disciplinary measures to help them reflect upon their actions. For example, a 2 year old child can only stay for 2 minutes in time out, a good resource to help children stop their inadequate behaviors.

#### **BEHAVIOR NORMS FOR PARENTS**

All students are called to cooperate and abide by the norms and regulations of school to be able to promote a healthy and dynamic academic environment. We expect for the parents to abide by a dress code that is appropriate for a school environment. St. Patrick School of Santo Domingo also appeals to parents to show self-control when dealing with unpleasant situations that may involve a member of school personnel or teaching staff. School will not tolerate verbal or physical aggressions against their employees, other student, parent or visitor, during academic activities or any other event related to school. The School Direction reserves the right to decline the re-admission of a student whose Parents/Tutors have shown an improper behavior.



#### **GROUP CHATS/WHATSAPP PROTOCOL**

The end in mind of the different chats is to have a way to communicate effectively with each other. Following are the guidelines to ensure that these chats are used in the most effective manner:

- 1. All members of the group need to show respect towards each other.
- 2. The group chats are to share important academic information.
- 3. The Parent Leader of the class will be the person incharge of sending important information until 6:00p.m.. After this time the group chat should be used exclusively for emergency cases.
- 4. Maintain the information as clear as possible to avoid confusion or misunderstanding of the message.
- 5. The group chat should be a positive communication tool to enhance the authentic school and family relationship for the good of our children.
- 6. Maintain communication via email and the group chat.
- 7. The group chat is not for individual complaints. If you have a specific complaint you should communicate directly with the teacher or the principal.
- 8. Avoid gossip and hearsay that can cause confusion.
- 9. It is not necessary for each member of the group to contribute to the comments. The person that begins the conversation should begin with a salutation but everyone does not have to respond.
- 10. Remember most people are busy working so do not expect immediate answers to your questions.

# FORMS TO FILL

**Infirmary Form:** It is a form that authorizes the medication that can be administered to your child. Teachers do not administer medication, the nurse is the only person who can administer a medication with the indication of the child's pediatrician. Medications requiring refrigeration must be informed.

**Pick-Up Release Form:** You must fill the authorization form to pick up their children. If someone is not written down, he or she will not be allowed to take your child. Changes must done in person or send a permission slip by email with the identity card of the person.

**Authorization Photo in Social Media:** You must fill in the authorization form to post pictures of your children in our social networks (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and our website).



# **UNIFORM POLICY**

St. Patrick Preschool students are required to dress in uniform at all times. Students need to come to school in uniform every day except for designated days. We ask that parents help us to enforce proper uniform attire by making sure children have ready access to clean uniform clothing every day. School uniforms are sold exclusively here at school. There are no companies authorized to use our school logo to print or embroider on shirts, pants, sweaters and to sell or distribute outside of school grounds. Any person who uses our logo without proper authorization will face serious legal consequences.

It is our belief that a uniform allows children to attend to their tasks here at school: to think, to create, to question, to learn, and to develop social relationships based on mutual trust. We wish to build community values while reducing the competitiveness that is often a part of fashion and advertising.

# The students must wear the corresponding uniform according to his/her schedule.



#### **CLASS SUSPENSION**

In case of natural disasters, general difficult situations (strikes) or the Secretary of Education chooses to suspend classes, your child's teacher will call you ahead of time, or information will be posted on the school's Facebook and Twitter accounts.



#### HOMEWORK AND READING

Our goal in assigning homework is to provide an opportunity to practice and reinforce what was taught in class and to develop the habit of doing homework.

Habit 7, Sharpen the Saw, states that balance is the key to a healthy life. In order to have a balanced life, it is important to have time to rest, enjoy quality time with family and friends and live a healthy life and practice activities that fill our lives with purpose and joy. Keeping all this in mind, here at St. Patrick School we have created a homework policy based on the importance of maintaining high academic standards but also providing time to do things we love and have time to spend with our families.

It is important to recognize that some academic activities performed at home do not qualify as homework. The following activities are not considered homework:

- 1. Daily Reading (this is a habit forming activity)
- 2. Getting ready for a test, presentation, spelling bee, etc...
- 3. Investigating
- 4. Finishing Classwork.
- 5. Group or individual projects (Monthly or by semester)

#### Homework Policy: Depending on the Preschool Grade Level

1. One or two homework assignments per week (15 minutes)

2. One Family Project (This may include a visit to a museum, watch a movie, create a family collage, etc.

3. Read to your child every night and keep a Reading Log.

#### FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

It is important for the St. Patrick School community to count with the involvement of each of our families. Your support is what moves our school to be the best of the best. There are many ways in which you and your family can cooperate with our educational community:

- Participate in activities like meetings, concerts, fairs, family days, community service activities, School for Parents, etc.
- Attend all of your Parent-Teacher Conferences.
- Be a part of the Parents Association.
- Reinforce our values at home.
- Respect our institutionalized procedures and activities and be an active part of them.
- Support our academic programs and extra-curricular activities.
- Motivate your children to participate in after-school programs.
- Check your child's homework, communicate with your teachers and principal.



# WHAT DOES FAMILY LITERACY LOOK LIKE?

What can you do at home? This list of suggested activities is short, and is designed only as a springboard for your own ideas. Begin with an activity you can do easily and comfortably with your child. Then add those activities that work especially well for you and your children.

• Let your children see you reading for pleasure. Share some vocabulary or great phrases, a character, or even part of the story line with them. See if there are any similarities with books that your children are reading.

• Talk to your children about how your parents read to you or told you stories.

• Let your children see you write for pleasure. Send family letters to relatives or friends. Let everyone in the family contribute a part or an illustration.

But most of all—have fun while you read!

# MISCELLANEOUS

#### **BIRTHDAY PARTIES**

The school cannot take an active role in organizing or implementing children's birthday parties. We include the following procedures regarding birthday parties only because they are a source of potential misunderstanding.

•Birthday parties are celebrated only on Fridays during the group's lunch and playground time. (It should take about 1 hour. Children will continue their normal routine after the party is over). We celebrate only 2 birthdays per month. Our Assistant Deritza Cruz, has a schedule list for birthday party celebrations.

•Direct family members (mother, father and siblings) may attend the party. Children from other classrooms are not allowed to attend, as well as children from outside our school.

•School Birthday Celebrations *<u>must be kept simple</u>*: No candy or popcorn machines, no clowns, magicians or animation shows.

• We ask that if invitations to your child's party are distributed at school, that you include ALL the children in your child's class. If you prefer to have selected children attend the party, please arrange delivery of invitations to the parents of those children at a time **outside** of school.

• If you are having a party that involves children leaving for your house directly from school, inform the teacher and receptionist **by writing/fax/email.** 

• If your child is attending a party that requires a change in their usual means of transportation, you must inform the school **in writing** even if the parent having the party has informed the school. We must receive **written** notice from you giving permission for your child to alter dismissal procedures and attend the party.



• Any child leaving school to attend a party by any means other than usual must be authorized to do so **in writing** by the child's own parent stating what form of transport will be used and where the child is going.

# **AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

We have an After-School Activities Program for students in the Levels Jr. Kinder, Pre-Kinder and Kinder.

Art Attack: (Free) Arts and Crafts activities for ages 3-5 yrs. old

**Fun Afternoon:** Combination of fun activities (sports, games, crafts, cooking, etc) for children ages 3- 6yrs. Old from Mondays through Thursdays 3:00-5:00 pm (must contact Activities Coordinator Damian Rodriguez to discuss cost).

#### SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

Always check the school calendar.

**"Make Someone Happy"** is a program that resulted from the need to create an educational community more committed with the needs of the most vulnerable communities in our society. Through this program we bring sensitivity to our students as we create proactive leaders for the benefit of society, and we also *Make Someone Happy*.

It has diverse fund-raising activities that take place during the whole school year. Different institutions are chosen every year.

#### Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a holiday which is celebrated in the United States the last Thursday of November. There is no school on Thursday or Friday. We have a special activity the Wednesday before with a feast and a Mass where we all thank God for everything we have.

#### **Christmas Concert**

Christmas presentations take place during the 2nd or 3rd week of December in a large auditorium in our city. Parents, students and all teaching staff enjoy this Christmas event filled with lights, love and peace.

#### **Dominican Independence Day Celebration (February 27th)**

St Patrick School values Dominican patriotism. Students in Preschool and Elementary School exhibit the importance of patriotic values and represent the relevance of Independence Day.



#### Family Day – St. Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick is Ireland's patron saint who contributed to Christianity in Ireland and its spread around the world. St. Patrick School celebrates Saint Patrick's Day (March 17th) with a family field day. The whole community is integrated in this activity which is the most expected event in school.

#### Mother and Father's Day

Mothers and Fathers are invited to enjoy an activity that the students prepare together with their teachers.

#### **International Fair**

The International Fair is celebrated every other year. The theme changes year to year.

#### **Flag Ceremony**

As our school emphasizes the Dominican culture and moral values, love and respect for the country, is promoted during the Flag Ceremonies. They are assigned by day to each grade level.

We raise both Dominican and American flags, and we play both anthems. Important aspects of these ceremonies include presentations of figures in the area of history, our culture, sports, science, as well as participation from parents of the community. Preschool's flag ceremonies will take place on Wednesdays.





#### OTHER SOURCES OF IMFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 1. Parents are encouraged to make maximum use of the sources such as the Parent-Student Handbook, Parent Information meetings, and PTA meetings in order to be well informed on school matters.
- 2. Other good forms of communication are the students agenda and the monthly letters.
- 3. We encourage open dialogue between parents and teachers. Since teachers have busy schedules, we ask that you make an appointment through the Preschool secretary to meet with your child's teacher rather than arriving without an appointment and finding the teacher has prior commitments.
- 4. You can also get information through our school calendar, posted on our web site and usually atttached to the first monthly letter of the school year.

#### **PARENT-LEADERS ASSOCIATION (PLA)**

The Parent-Leaders Association is an organization whose goal is to integrate all aspects of the SPS community. All parents are encouraged to become active members of this organization and to participate in the varied activities held during the school year. These leader parents have specific duties, among them, to keep the parents in their groups informed about classroom and school activities.





#### **EMERGENCY AND OTHERS**

#### **School Nurse**

The school maintains a qualified nurse on campus at all times during school hours in order to meet the needs of ill or injured students. Parents will be contacted if their child is unable to return to class due to illness or injury. In the event of an emergency, the school will contact emergency medical personnel and inform parents immediately.

If a student requires dispensation of medication throughout the day, parents should contact the school nurse for complete instructions regarding such procedures.

**Medications require a written note** from both parent and the doctor with full instructions on how the medication is to be administered. Without this, the nurse will not be able to administer any medication.

#### **Emergency Medical Need**

In the event of emergency medical need for any student beyond what can be provided by the school nurse, the student will be taken by ambulance or other arranged school transportation to the nearest medical facility or the clinic/hospital of the parent's choice. The student's parent(s) will be contacted. The parent or guardian is responsible for all medical coverage cost. If the accident took place at school the school`s insurance will cover the cost of the first aid.

# Welcome to St. Patrick Preschool!

