Marymount’s Kindergarten Program provides our young students with a strong educational foundation. It offers a dynamic program which challenges and supports children to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful and happy learners. Students in Kindergarten engage in the following academic program and enrichment activities.

Our Kindergarten program combines core content areas such as literacy, math, science, and social studies with co-curricular subjects like music, computer, art, library, and physical education to provide our students with a well-balanced, developmentally appropriate set of experiences that promote creative thinking, support curiosity about learning, and develop global awareness.

The instructional language of the Kindergarten curriculum is English, however we firmly believe that building on a child’s home language is a fundamental teaching principle in the early years. The beauty and historical significance of our host country, as well as the cultural diversity represented by our students and teachers, are valued and celebrated regularly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten Program</th>
<th>Marymount International School Mission Statement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Marymount International School Rome is a private, Catholic, English-speaking, co-educational school that aims to further the mission of the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary. We welcome students of diverse cultural and religious backgrounds and offer an excellent program of studies and extracurricular activities. We seek to guide students towards the achievement of their full potential by empowering them to think creatively, reason critically, communicate effectively and learn continuously. It is our goal that a Marymount student should desire to celebrate God’s love, respond generously to the needs of our world, and promote justice and dignity for all.</td>
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<td>Word Study/Phonics</td>
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<td>Writing</td>
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<td>Math</td>
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<td>Science</td>
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<td>Social Studies</td>
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<td>Religion</td>
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<td>Enrichment Classes</td>
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<td>Art</td>
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<td>Computer Skills</td>
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<td>FabLab</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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<td>Music</td>
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<td>Physical Education</td>
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INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Our instructional strategies are based on sound principles and practice. The importance of inquiry and critical thinking are important aspects that underpin our approach to teaching. Through careful and ongoing assessment of a child's development, teachers provide an instructional program that equips children with the skills, concepts, and tools needed for continued learning. A low teacher-to-student ratio helps to support learning, as do our collaborative English Language Learning (ELL) and Learning Support programs.

Through the use of a positive response philosophy, teachers endeavor to foster the social skills of cooperation, assertion, responsibility, empathy, and self-control in all students.

READING

In Kindergarten Reading is taught using the Reading Workshop Model approach. The workshop model allows teachers to differentiate and meet the needs of all their students. Reading Workshop helps to foster a love of reading and gives students chances to practice reading strategies independently.

- Unit 1 Launching the Reading Workshop: emergent reading with nonfiction and fiction books
- Unit 2 Super Powers: reading strategies for emergent readers
- Unit 3 Bigger Books, Bigger Reading Muscles: using patterns, letter-sound knowledge, consonant clusters, word endings, thinking and talking about books, predictions
- Unit 4 Becoming Avid Readers: reading and thinking more about books, acting out stories, reading poems and songs, searching for topics of interest in nonfiction

WORD STUDY/PHONICS

- Phonemic awareness
- Letter formation (Uppercase & Lowercase)
- Phonics
- “Snap word” (sight words)
- Blending and segmenting CVC words
- Long and short vowel sounds
- Consonant digraphs: wh, ch, sh, th, ck
- Decoding three sound words with digraphs
- Spelling ck at end of words
- Sentence structure and dictation

WRITING

Writing Workshop is a teaching technique that invites students to write by making the process a meaningful part of the classroom curriculum. Writing is an expected activity on a daily basis. Students are exposed to the organization and thought required to create a story or write about a favorite topic. Because they are allowed to choose the topic, students are motivated to create and complete works to read to classmates. The Writing Workshop format includes story planning, revision, teacher editing, and direct instruction in the mechanics of grammar.
Kindergarten Program 2018 - 2019

- Unit 1 Launching the Writing Workshop: procedures, using materials, planning topics, writing nonfiction and true stories.
- Unit 2 Looking Closely - Observing, labeling, listing: Representational drawings, labeling, patterned sentences.
- Unit 3 Writing for Readers: Stretching out words to write them, using punctuation to end sentences, partnerships, practicing reading skills.
- Unit 4 All About Books: Writing about topics of personal interest, adding more information, editing.

**MATH**

The Kindergarten math curriculum follows a curriculum that encourages problem solving and the mastery of the fundamentals in mathematics education. At every stage, understanding the concept underpins the mastery of a skill. The students are given access to manipulatives and the lessons are structured to allow appropriate follow on reinforcement activities.

In Kindergarten the following topics are taught:

Module 1: Numbers to 10  
Module 2: Two-Dimensional and Three-Dimensional Shapes  
Module 3: Comparison of Length, Weight, Capacity, and Numbers to 10  
Module 4: Number Pairs, Addition, and Subtraction to 10  
Module 5: Numbers 10-20 and Counting to 100  
Module 6: Analyzing, Comparing, and Composing Shapes

**SCIENCE**

The Science Curriculum is planned to allow the maximum teaching time through engaging the students in meaningful science experiments.

The topics covered in the Kindergarten Curriculum provide the students with opportunities to study physical and life sciences. Some of the topics studied are listed below:

**Physical Science:** Energy, Structures and Properties of Matter: Pushes and Pulls  
**Earth and Space Science:** Earth Systems, Structures, and Processes: Weather Patterns  
**Life Science:** Animals, Plants and Their Environment

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

The children in Kindergarten are encouraged to build up their understanding of the world, to think critically, ask questions and explain their thinking.

In Kindergarten the following topics are taught:

- Multicultural Unit  
- All About Me  
- The Past  
- Folk and Fairy Tales  
- Tools and Techniques
RELIGION

Children from all religious traditions are welcome at Marymount. In Kindergarten, our religious education program seeks to help children receive and respond to the great gift of God’s personal and deep love for them. We want children to explore God’s loving gifts of creation and most especially the gift of his son Jesus. The children participate in the liturgy in the second half of the academic year and give thanks and praise to God through prayer and song each day in the classroom.

ENRICHMENT CLASSES

In addition to the regular classroom subjects, children in Kindergarten attend classes with trained specialists in the following areas:

ART

Each grade covers the basic art media at different age appropriate levels. Watercolor, tempera, printmaking, paper construction and painting are explored at every level. Crafts such as bookmaking, ceramics, and papier-mache are also introduced. Whenever possible, projects are thematic and integrated with subjects studied in the classroom.

COMPUTER LAB

The curriculum is designed to empower our 21st-Century students by enabling them to use all the resources available to them in creative, meaningful, and responsible ways. The students visit the Computer Lab once a week and are given time to develop the necessary skills to understand how to operate a computer, save files and carry out simple research.

LIBRARY

The Library is available for teachers to bring their classes to check-out library books and to use the computers with their classes. Students are encouraged to develop a lifelong love of reading during their weekly Library lessons. In Library, students learn about different kinds of books, and where to find books at their developmental and interest level.

FABLAB

In Kindergarten the children have regular access to the FabLab. The Early Childhood FabLab is a novel, model learning environment specifically designed for the youngest children to engage in open-ended activities, pursue individualized interest, and gain familiarity with the next generation of creative tools.

In Kindergarten the children build on the skills consolidated in EC2. The students continue to be encouraged to generate observations, and with adult support seek solutions in collaboration with their peers. The process continues to be more important than the end product as we are working towards creating students who are open minded and ready for the changing challenges in education. The Kindergarten students are capable of focusing for longer periods and are encouraged to use their growing knowledge of technology to add more complexity to their completed projects.
MUSIC

The teaching of music develops students’ ability to listen and to appreciate a wide variety of music and to make judgments about musical quality. It encourages active involvement in different forms of music making, both individual and communal, developing a sense of group identity and togetherness. It also increases self-discipline and creativity, aesthetic sensitivity, and fulfillment. Students learn technical skills and the core elements of performing, composing, appraising and listening.

- Following the Director – performing in response to musical signs, signals and symbols.
- Timbre – distinguishing between the types of classrooms instruments.
- Playing Techniques – using beaters, brushes, sticks and hands to play.
- Melody and Accompaniment – performing melodic and rhythmic ideas.
- March Music – pulse, beat and rhythm.
- Rhythm – using word rhythm patterns as a starting point.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Through the Physical Education Program, Kindergarten students are introduced to sportsmanship and teamwork, and perform activities that develop fine and gross muscle coordination. They learn the fundamentals of soccer, basketball, dance and other organized sports.

KINDERGARTEN SAMPLE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 - 8:45</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 - 9:00</td>
<td>Morning Meeting</td>
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<td>9:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>Literacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 10:45</td>
<td>Snack &amp; Playtime</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50 - 11:55</td>
<td>Math or FabLab / Computers</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 - 12:55</td>
<td>Playtime and Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00 - 13:30</td>
<td>Quiet and Reflective Activities (i.e. drawing, reading, sharing a story)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30 - 14:00</td>
<td>Science/Social Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:05 - 14:35</td>
<td>Physical Education / Music or Word Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:40 - 15:10</td>
<td>Religion /Art /Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:10 - 15:20</td>
<td>Snack and Closing Circle</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:20</td>
<td>Dismissal</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

First day of School:  
- Tuesday, 4th September 8:30 - 12:30 PM
- Wednesday, 5th September 8:30 - 1:30 PM (Lunch Served)
- Thursday, 6th September 8:30 - 3:20 PM (Full Day)
- Friday, 7th September 8:30 - 3:20 PM (Full Day)

For any further information or clarification please contact Ms. Helen Davico, Elementary School School Principal at hdavico@marymountrome.com