

RAMONA LUTHERAN SCHOOL  
A Montessori Preschool  
520 Sixteenth Street  
Ramona, California 92065-2622  
(760) 789-4804

For only a few cents more than you would pay a sitter, your child can participate in a Christian education using the Montessori method of education. Dr. Maria Montessori's lifelong work revealed that young children work very hard at building the adult they are to become. They do this in a unique way before six, by being sensitive to and absorbing their environment (much as a sponge absorbs water).

To this period (early childhood), more than any other, it is imperative to give active care . . . The child, instead of being a burden, shows himself to us as the greatest and most consoling of nature's wonders! Guided by his inward teacher, the child labors indefatigably in joy and happiness – following a precise timetable – at the work of constructing the marvel of the universe, the human being. The Absorbent Mind, Maria Montessori, pp. 8,9.

In the Montessori Christian environment the child is invited to use special equipment that engages him in purposeful movement. These activities facilitate the translation of concrete experiences into abstract concepts. As success builds upon success, the child gains an inner discipline and the security of a strong self-image. The environment your child would absorb is flexible but includes:

**SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT:** Montessori called early childhood the time of the "spiritual embryo" (the things the child experiences become a "part of his soul"). We are conscious of this as we plan the environment. Chapel is held once a week on Wednesdays. In addition, there are Christian songs and Bible teachings.

**PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT:** Recognizing the relationship between the parts of the whole person, special attention is given to physical development.

**SOCIALIZATION:** The children have social interaction in the open classroom of mixed ages. This diminishes competitiveness and encourages a genuine concern for others. Joy and growth abound.

**PRACTICAL LIFE:** The activities help the child achieve coordination, orderliness, independence and concentration through care of himself/herself and the environment. Good work habits are established for future academic work.

**SENSORIAL DEVELOPMENT:** Care is given to develop and refine the senses since all learning comes through one or more of the senses.

**ART AND MUSIC:** Creativity is the recombining of known elements. Training in the use of materials and techniques is given with freedom to create.

**ACADEMICS:** The child is introduced to math, language (including phonics for reading), geography and science with the encouragement for the child to go as far as his/her interest takes him/her. Emphasis is on preparation so that when the child engages in academic subjects, he/she finds them easy and fun, thus developing a life-long positive attitude toward learning.

**LICENSE**

The Ramona Lutheran School is licensed for children 2 1/2 through 6 by the State of California, Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing. It has been inspected and meets all requirements of the Department of Health and the Fire Department.

### **ENROLLMENT POLICIES**

Ramona Lutheran School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic or other school-administered programs. In order to balance the classroom, age, sex and extended care needs will be considered in addition to needs of the child and date of application when accepting a child from the waiting list. If, after consultation with the parents, the directress determines that the classroom cannot meet the needs of the child, the parents would be requested to withdraw him. The enrollment agreement is for the entire school year and requires two weeks written notice to terminate it. In order to serve more families, two preschool sessions are offered at: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., with an enrichment program from 12:30-2:00 p.m.

**FEE:** An annual enrollment fee is due each year upon notification of child's acceptance in the school. The fee for 2005-2006 has been set at \$75.00 enrollment and \$75 consumable supply fee.

**TUITION:** The tuition for the entire school year has been broken down into 10 monthly payments September to June.

<u>Preschool</u>	<u>Monthly Installment</u>	<u>Annual</u>
5 days per week	\$262.50	\$2625
3 days per week (M,W,F)	\$244.50	\$2445
2 days per week (T,TH)	\$235.50	\$2355

We strongly urge you to enroll your child for the five day program. The young child needs the continuity and consistency of five days. Our experience has shown that he/she does not suffer from being away from home for three hours a day. If you enroll your child for less than five days, please be aware that you may not see the same degree of concentration, establishment of good work habits, successful adjustment in separation difficulties, and progress as you may see in children in the five day program.

No credit on tuition is given for absences. The school will operate on a school calendar set each year.

### **FULL DAY PRESCHOOL AND EXTENDED CARE PROGRAM**

Ramona Lutheran Preschool is offering extended care from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30a.m. and 11:30a.m. to 6:00 p.m. It is not the same as, and does not replace, the preschool program. It is in addition to the preschool program for those who need care before and after preschool.

The emphasis and content of the extended care and preschool program are different. There is more time for the children to participate in caring for the environment, playing on the playground, working with favorite equipment, and pursuing special interests. The

children enjoy bringing their lunches, preparing, eating, and cleaning up with friends. Children using extended care in PM rest after lunch. Those who do not fall asleep after a short time will begin afternoon activities. A nutritious snack is served mid-afternoon.

The child encounters the same “freedom within limits” of the preschool. He is recipient of the same Christian love and respect for the child and concern for his development. The young child needs this consistency. However, the extended care will be a small group experience and less intense, more like the environment he/she would have at home.

### **ENROLLING IN EXTENDED CARE**

It is important to schedule extended care in order that we can be properly staffed at all times. Please indicate on the preschool enrollment application what you expect your extended care needs to be. However, extended care can be used on a drop-in basis by appointment for those enrolled in the preschool. Extended care is available from 6:45 a.m. to 8:30a.m. and 11:30a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### **COST OF EXTENDED CARE**

Extended care rates for 2005-2006: **\$3.00 per hour for one child in extended care.** The maximum number of hours charged in any one week of extended care for a 5 day preschooler would be 25 hours (even if the actual number of hours exceeds that amount). You will be charged only for hours actually used, to the nearest quarter hour. Reservations are made and canceled by the office (789-4804) between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. or by leaving a message on the answering machine. Teachers do not make the reservations or cancellations. That must be done through the office.

It is very important that you come for your child before 6:00 p.m. since we are staffed only until that time. It is school policy to charge \$1 a minute for each minute after 6:00 p.m.

The extended care hours actually used will be totaled at the cut off date of each month and bills placed in your child’s cubbie. The bills for extended care will be issued on the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month and are past due after the 5<sup>th</sup> of the subsequent month. Tuition will be deducted from your banking account through the F.A.C.T.S program the school uses please see the office staff for more information. If you choose not to use the F.A.C.T.S program you may pay tuition in full at the time of enrollment.

### **COST OF THE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

If your child does not nap on a regular basis and is here for a full day, you may want to consider the enrichment program. This program offers not only academics, but also art appreciation, including, but not limited to fine arts, music, dramatics and such. Cooking, dancing, Spanish, and special science projects will also be offered. The subjects will be on a monthly rotating basis. If your child is enrolled 5 days per week, for an additional \$100 per month, your child will be given the opportunity to improve skills, develop new interests and enhance overall learning. This program is being offered from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.