

Dear Parents,

Hello and welcome! It is with great pleasure that I introduce you to Windmill Creek Academy. Our mission is to develop strength of character and strong academic skills in our students. For over 30 years, the founders of Windmill Creek Academy have been dedicated to the education of young children in the Washington, D.C. suburbs, and we have continued the tradition in Naples. I'm proud to announce that we have won the Southwest Florida CHOICE Awards' "Best Child Care" designation SEVEN (7) years in a row and the "Best of Naples" from 2015 - 2024! Winning these awards is a testament to our dedicated teachers and staff. Our program guides and encourages even our youngest students on the path to academic excellence – while celebrating each child's creativity and unique gifts. Love, acceptance, and the joy of childhood guide our curriculum and philosophy – our goal is that Windmill Creek Academy "graduates" leave not only as great students but also as children of great character.

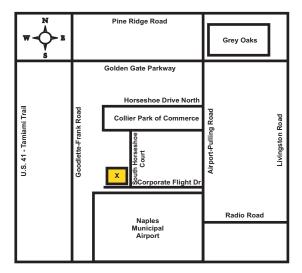
Please feel free to call for more information or to schedule a tour. We look forward to learning more about you and your child, and what we can bring to your child's academic and creative abilities!

Looking forward to meeting you, Janine Janine Welsh Founder & Director Windmill Creek Academy



# Windmill Creek Academy

2682 South Horseshoe Court Naples, Florida 34104 239-434-5439



Ages: Infants (6 weeks) - Pre-K (VPK Provider)

**Meals:** Daily Snack(s) is included. "Pizza Fridays" are available for a nominal fee and are included in our optional, daily Lunch Program.

**Hours:** Windmill Creek Academy is open year-round, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Staff:** Our teachers and staff are thoroughly trained and screened (criminal, fingerprint and background checks). We require a 45 hour training period as well as continuing education throughout the year. Additionally, some of our staff have their Bachelor's Degree and/or CDA (Child Development Associate certification) credential which includes over 600 hours of child-care specific training, and CPR and First Aid Training.

**Group Sizes:** Our teacher to student ratios are kept small to allow for individual attention.

Music, Arts, & our Library: The creative arts are an integral highlight of Windmill Creek Academy -- and are included in tuition! Our in-house Library contains over 1500 children's books.

Holidays: Labor Day, Thanksgiving Break, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Christmas and New Year's Break, "Good" Friday/Easter Monday, Memorial Day, Independence Day. If a holiday falls on a weekend, the preceding Friday or following Monday is observed. (The observance of holidays is subject to change, please see the WCA Yearly Calendar.)



# Windmill Creek Academy



An Academic & Creative Preschool





Windmill Creek Academy 2682 South Horseshoe Court Naples, Florida 34104 (239) 434-5439 www.windmillcreekacademy.com

# Windmill Creek Academy



An Academic & Creative Preschool

**Our Purpose** is to guide children to develop cognitively, physically, and socially in a safe, happy and creative environment. In an atmosphere of love and acceptance, the children learn to play and work together. Our school community is one that respects each person – welcoming students of all races, creeds and nationalities.

**Our Curriculum** aims to develop the children's skills in language, math, social studies, science, physical education, drama, music, and the arts. Our curriculum is fun, interactive and child-centered – using stories, learning centers and various teacher-directed activities to achieve our objectives.

**Our Philosophy** is that a child's character is just as vital to their overall growth as a strong academic foundation. Our Character Training Program is interwoven throughout the curriculum and highlights two specific values each month.









# Windmill Creek Academy's Curriculum

Our curriculum embraces Reading and Math Readiness, the Arts, Social Studies and S.T.E.A.M. (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) through hands-on activities, stories, discussions, group projects and resource centers.

#### Readines

Lifelong foundations are laid for success in reading and math readiness. Our phonics program is designed to make children feel completely at ease with the alphabet and familiar with each sound and symbol before learning to read. Our individualized program encourages each student to progress at their own speed so that they develop healthy self-esteem and discover that learning is fun! In our math program, emphasis is placed on building experience with tangible objects. Experimental knowledge is reinforced by tracing numbers, seriation, and sorting.

#### Music

A highlight of Windmill Creek's program is Music! Movement, rhythm instruments and plenty of singing and dancing encourages your child's creative expression. Music encourages "whole brain" learning because music calls upon both analytical and creative (left and right brain) skills. Music increases phonological awareness, builds vocabulary and . . . provides a wonderful opportunity for self-expression!

#### Art

Providing extensive media for self-expression, our arts program includes paints, crayons, markers, chalk, mosaics, and clay. The students also study the works of the "masters." By learning to imitate the works of such great artists as Van Gogh, Picasso and Leonardo da Vinci, the students become aware of diverse arenas of self-expression. We also encourage the students to follow their artistic passions by creating their own masterpieces!

## Social Studies & Science

The students conduct experiments, study animals and learn about insects. We discover, "All About Me," and learn about



senses, shapes & colors. We explore, "Our Solar System," plants & seeds, famous people, and various other minilessons.

### **School Campus - Indoors**

Once you enter through the main entrance doors at Windmill Creek Academy, you'll discover you're stepping into a different kind of learning environment. The school's welcoming foyer makes for a comforting transition between school and home. A few more steps brings you to the heart of Windmill Creek Academy - the "Studio." Windmill Creek Academy has specific "Resource Centers" for each child's use. We have Music Time in the Studio which includes a state-of-the-art digital Yamaha piano, conga drums, rhythm instruments and musical props. Our School Library holds over 1500 children books! Art is lead in classrooms as well as outdoors. Except for our youngest students, the children use multiple areas of the school property as moving through different spaces creates a sense of expectancy and maintains a stimulating environment.

## **Outdoors**

We are so fortunate to have five, age-specific outdoor play areas for our students. Our main playground is fully shaded with large oak trees and provides a park-like setting. There is a "rock wall" for climbing, five slides, a "monkey bar car," picnic tables, and hard-surfaced areas for games of hopscotch. There's plenty of room to roam, run and relax! Our new "Creation Station" is an "outdoor classroom" including jumbo Lincoln logs, 2 sensory tables, "chutes & ladders," ramp exploration and a 4-sided painting easel.