



Meghan Falkenberg

Kindergarten

Ms. Falkenberg has been at St. Thomas since Fall of 2017. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Indiana University and substitute taught in Bloomington, Indiana prior to coming to St. Thomas.

“As a teacher, I like to take on a student-centered approach. A lot of the learning that goes on in my classroom is inquiry-based. I allow my students to explore and actively participate in their learning. I tend to keep an open-mind because just as each teacher differs in their teaching styles, each student differs in their learning styles. Getting to know each child on an individual level plays a vital role in being able to understand and identify specific needs. As different needs arise, I will differentiate my instruction to best support the child in an environment that they are able to flourish.”

About the Students

“I have always had such compassion for teaching little ones. After working within multiple preschool classrooms in the MCCSC school district in Indiana and working as a preschool teacher at STV last year, my desires to become a kindergarten teacher in my hometown were completely confirmed. Each day, I am greeted with the smiling faces of such eager, curious and engaged little minds. I love to nurture young learners in an environment that addresses the whole child- academically, emotionally, socially and spiritually. Teaching kindergarten is truly a rewarding experience.”

“My classroom management strategy for my kindergarteners is based around “shining your light” for Jesus. I will often stop and ask my students whether they are shining their lights in the name of Jesus. This reminds them of God’s love and that we all need to reflect His love through doing the right thing! In kindergarten our religious education is based off our We Believe textbooks. We stress the importance of being a loving friend, caring for and helping one another.”

Special Units and Projects

Superkids Reading is the program used in my kindergarten classroom. It is a deliberate and thoughtful text approach built on systematic phonics. One goal of the program is to make legible and fluent handwriting an automatic and mastered skill. In kindergarten, children learn the 26 letters of the alphabet and one sound for each letter, then apply their new skills to blend sounds to read words and sentences. This program integrates reading, writing, grammar and spelling through a super fun, interactive and hands-on approach! It is completely aligned with the state standards. **Superkids Reading** teaches children foundational skills as they learn to understand the relationship between written and spoken language. By the end of the kindergarten school year, children will be able to read, write and spell hundreds of short-vowel words!

Field Trip

Crabtree Nature Center, Cinderella, Nutcracker

On St. Thomas of Villanova

“As a second year teacher at STV, I feel so blessed to be a part of this wonderful school family. I have been welcomed with open arms and have had such great support along the way. The staff members in this school all have such a great rapport with each other, as well as the students! I couldn’t ask for a better second year and am thankful to be involved in and committed to this community of faith-based teachers and learners.”