



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MONTESSORI SCHOOL

638 MILL ST. EXCELSIOR, MN 55331 952-474-5812 [www.stjohns-excelsior.org](http://www.stjohns-excelsior.org)

## TODDLER COMMUNITY SUPPLY LIST

Should you choose to do any of your purchasing online, consider using AmazonSmile. Simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and choose St. John the Baptist in Excelsior, MN, as your charitable organization. For every purchase you make, SJB will receive 0.5% from the Amazon Smile Foundation. We appreciate all of the help we can get!

### Needs to be labeled – for personal use:

(1) pair of washable closed toed, with a heel, shoes for indoors. They must also be easy for your child to put on; Either with a velcro strap, elastic around the ankle, or slip ons. We recommend Robeez, Bobux, or similar styles. No Crocs or light up shoes, please.

(6) shirts

A combination of long and short sleeves works best for the Fall.

If starting in the Summer send a combination of short sleeves and tank tops.

(1) sweatshirt/ zip up

(6) pairs of socks

(4) pairs of loose-fitting pants, or shorts depending on the season, that the child may, with practice, pull on and off independently. Please see the Note below regarding proper fit testing and suitable waistband closures.

(6) reusable elasticized pull-style (not snap) waterproof shells/covers for use over training pants. Ensure the fit is secure, but not so tight at the legs and waist as to leave marks on the child's skin. We recommend Best Bottom brand training pants for use as covers, since they are the most cloth-like waterproof barrier and toddler friendly. These are handy for use at home as well, along with the coordinating snap-in cloth inserts, in situations when "puddles" might be problematic.

\*Sizing note: We have found size 2T to be suitable even for children who wear clothing sizes smaller than that, or Best Bottom size Medium. No pull-ups or diapers are permitted on campus. Only necessary if your child is not yet toilet aware.

(1) pair of mittens, (1) hat, and (1) pair of snow pants **to leave at school** and (1) pair of boots (snow or rain, given the season)

For winter use - please see the Note below regarding recommended styles and brands for these



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and other outdoor gear for each season. If a child arrives in a second set of hats and mittens, we will send them home when the child leaves that day. This is to ensure we have appropriate outdoor clothing for each child, should the weather unexpectedly change.

(1) zippered wet bag, in which bowel movement soiled clothing can be sent home, if needed.

(1) small hair brush

Consider these brands: The Body Shop (for curly hair), Green Sprouts, Safety, or Studio 35

(1) small toothbrush

Avoid TV and movie characters. There is no need to send toothpaste, since we brush using water only.

(1) 5x7 inch horizontal paper with pictures of your child and family/friends/pets

Use one or two pictures or a collage. Please print the names of people/animals so we can easily discuss them together. Children love to share these with others!

(1) Individual picture of your child emailed to your child's guide, [cgierszewski@stjohns-excelsior.org](mailto:cgierszewski@stjohns-excelsior.org).

(1) backpack that can fit a standard size folder and that the child is comfortable wearing.

\*Please avoid TV and movie characters

## **Does not need to be labeled – for community use:**

(6) pairs of **white** thick cotton training pants/underwear in size 18M, 2T, or 3T

We use Gerber brand, which is available at Target and Walmart in sizes 2T and 3T or on Amazon in size 12M or 18 M. These are donated to the school's community underwear for use by all of the children in the Toddler Community.

(For home use, consider Gerber, Best Bottom training pants system, PottyScotty/PottyPatty, or Hanna Andersen training pants.

(3) packages of sensitive-skin wipes – such as Huggies natural care, or Amazon's elements. Please send in 4 packages if you are attending during the summer months.

(1) box of facial tissues



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## If eating lunch and napping:

(2) breathable, crib-size fitted sheets, needs to fit a 52" by 24" cot, and (2) small blankets - Please leave stuffed animals, pacifiers, and pillows at home.

We recommend that your child participate in the school lunch plan, since it enhances our sense of community to eat meals together and encourages exposure to a wide variety of foods.

If you must send a lunch box, please supply a thermos for pre-heated hot foods and an ice pack for cold foods. We do not microwave meal items in our classroom environment. Ensure that each of these items is labeled. We provide dishware, utensils, a drinking glass, and a cloth napkin. Please involve your child in packing lunch with you. Save juice boxes and drinkable pouches for at home. Make sure foods you provide are cut to a toddler-friendly size and are able to be eaten with utensils. The Toddler Community is a **nut free environment** so no nut based products in lunches. Sunbutter makes a great alternative to peanut butter.

## Optional supplies for donation to the SJB Toddler Community:

- \* Black permanent markers
- \* New or used clothing and accessories, such as:
  - indoor clothing in sizes 18M, 24M, 2T, 3T, 4T
  - outdoor clothing such as jackets, winter coats, snow pants, and hooded rain coats in sizes 18M, 24M, 2T, 3T, 4T
  - waterproof mittens and sun hats of various sizes
  - indoor and outdoor soft shoes, tennis shoes, rain boots, and snow boots in children's sizes 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
- crib size sheets or small blankets

## Labeling:

Please label all personal items with your child's name or initials using a permanent marker or other staying label system (such as Oliver's Labels), down to **socks** and mittens. We know how toddlers can be! This helps us distinguish items that are theirs from items they *wish* were theirs.

Please also do this with clothing from home that your child wears to school each morning. We do our best to catch any unlabeled item, but it is easy to miss in our dynamic environment.

If we do come across unlabeled clothing we cannot identify, we will place it in our "Unlabeled Clothing" tab on our classroom website.



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## **Clothing for Independence:**

To nurture independence, please send your child in clothing and footwear that are reasonable to learn to fasten without the help of an adult. Fit and design are very important for this.

We recommend pants with an elasticized waist and loose fit: one or two adult fingers should fit comfortably between the waistband and body. Avoid leggings, tights, button-waist, or zip-fly pants until your child has learned to fasten them independently.

No lace-up or tie shoelaces or constricting boots which cannot be widened with unzipping or unstrapping.

We will monitor the tightness of shoes and clothing items as your child grows and send home anything that needs to be exchanged for a larger size.

Half-Day children need 4 sets of clothes, including covers.

Full-Day children need 6 sets of clothes, including covers.

## **Inexpensive Clothing and Footwear:**

Outfits will become dirty. That means we're having fun! Please send your child in inexpensive clothing that may get stained with water, dirt, flour, tomato sauce, grape juice, yogurt, clay, paint, chalk, etc. Save special clothing and shoes for home.

## **TV and Movie Characters:**

Please refrain from clothing and accessories with TV or movie characters on them, since they are very distracting.

## **Durable Outdoor Gear:**

A significant amount of time will be spent outside daily, when it is above 20 degrees Fahrenheit including wind chill. Please send your child in clothing that fits the weather forecast - we love to go out and explore all types! We recommend the following brands of outdoor clothing and accessories:

- Fall/Spring Mittens:
  - Fleece or a lighter waterproof mitten works best for keeping the chill off their skin.



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- All-Season Jackets:
  - Dressing in layers and having the right jacket for the season is the most efficient way to guide the child in staying comfortable in all seasons. Hoods with fur are nice for keeping the wind off of the child's face and supports the preference of children who would rather wear a hood than a firmer fitting hat on their head.
- Rain Boots:
  - The brand Bogs is a rain boot and winter boot in one with handles to assist the child in pulling the boot on independently. Inexpensive rain boots with handles from Target and Walmart work well, too. Please avoid Crocs rain boots, as the foam material tends to get stuck on socks.
- Winter Mittens:
  - Waterproof Mittens that have elastic around the wrist and at the end of the mitten work well. This is a wonderful style for toddlers. The child can put them on and then we can help tighten the elastic, keeping their wrists warm and the snow out! Stonz brand, Jan and Jul waterproof mittens on Amazon, and the Head side zippered mittens, work well; parents have mentioned Polarn O. Pyret has great gear. Recommend sending both a waterproof and insulated soft mitten for frequently changing & snow conditions.
- Snow Pants:
  - Bib-style, overall-style, and snowsuits work well for allowing toddlers to play hard in the snow and stay dry. Parents have mentioned Land's End is a great brand. Bigger sizes are better for movement. Snowsuits are workable as long as the child can easily raise their arms overhead without restriction of their full range of movement.
- Scarves and Neck Gaiters:
  - These are great for keeping the area of the neck warm that can't be covered by a jacket.
- Snow Boots:
  - Brands like Bogs, Sorel (with Velcro), and Kamik Snowbug 3 insulated boots both help the child reach independence and stay warm. Wool socks also help keep ankles and feet from getting cold.
- Sun hat:
  - Our playground can get very sunny. A wide brimmed hat or a baseball cap is recommended to help protect them from the sun.