

"I am so grateful that my children attended HopeMark Preschool. Since my children are only 19 months apart in age we were a part of the HopeMark family for 5 straight years! We were so pleased with the environment, teachers, curriculum, professionalism and true dedication to our precious children. The staff at HopeMark truly made it their priority to help my children get a jump start on the beginning of their educational journeys. My children were prepared and ready for Kindergarten thanks to the well-rounded curriculum at HopeMark. Over the years we participated in the 2-day, 3-day, 4-day afternoons and lunch bunch. I am so grateful HopeMark was close to our house, in our own community and I truly believe it was a quality education. Also, as a mom I made lots of new "mommy friends" who I am still friends with today." - *Lisa Casciola*

So, HopeMark's Hawaiian days were rife with anecdotes: "How do they say 'hello' in Hawaii?" "Hello-ha." "I broke my luau at school today." "Your what?" "You know, that flower necklace." Also, they learned about malaria! I don't think I heard the word malaria until at least 4th grade history, and didn't learn much else about it until college. Wish she could stay at that school forever!
— *Jenna Putzel*

HopeMark was our family and our sons' second home for several years. I credit them with the confidence and skills—both socially and academically—that both my sons took with them to Kindergarten and that has continued to serve them in middle-school. My oldest son started at HopeMark in the Pre-Kindergarten class after turning 5 and “aging out” of another preschool. Jeanne and the faculty were so helpful in forming our decision to send him to the Pre-K program instead of straight to Kindergarten, and we have never regretted it. My youngest son started HopeMark at age 4, again after having tried another preschool. He had a lot of anxiety about leaving home, but once he started at HopeMark, he was able to overcome that fear and enjoy being at school with his friends. I attribute this entirely to the approach Jeanne and the faculty took with him. Both my sons excel at school and in their personal relationships, and we are indebted to HopeMark for starting them on this path to success.

How do they do it? Well, HopeMark is a small, nurturing place with a preschool program that both challenges the students and makes learning fun through music, play and lots of interesting and engaging projects. Jeanne and the faculty are also exceptional at creating an environment that encourages children to grow socially, by setting appropriate expectations, enforcing those expectations lovingly and celebrating personal connections. We went to drop-off early almost every day to visit with the other families on the playground (and in Jeanne's office!) and stayed after pick-up to do the same. There are too many fond memories and experiences at HopeMark to list—Christmas and grandparent programs, Big Wheel-a-Thon, parent conferences with the teachers, Halloween parade and the end-of-year picnic. But by far the best illustration of what being a “HopeMark Kid” is all about is the song! “. . . I like my teachers, I like my friends. But most of all I LIKE ME! Look at me, look at me, I'm a HopeMark kid, and everywhere I go, I want the world to know, I'm a HopeMark Kid! - *Shannon and Steve Williams*

HopeMark is the perfect place to start your little ones in pre-school. Both of our kids went there and both had great experiences, loved their teachers and made lots of first friends. As parents we really felt like our children were well taken care of and loved. I love the small environment and felt very comfortable leaving them in the good care of HopeMark teachers. We were so sad when our 4 years at HopeMark were up. Our kids look forward to Summer Camp there every year as a reminder of good times. – *Emily and Brad Booker*

HopeMark was the perfect place for our children. The January before our middle daughter started kindergarten, our work schedules changed. Julia was able to enroll in the Pre-K class for that semester, and she loved it. HopeMark focuses on academic development within a fun environment. Julia liked the challenging work, and she enjoyed the creative art projects the teachers introduced. Our youngest, Michael, attended HopeMark for three years, finishing in the Pre-K class for a full year before Kindergarten. The teachers were so patient and fun. He always wanted to go to school, and we frequently went early or stayed late to play on the awesome playground. Our children learned so much at HopeMark, and we appreciated the caring and fun environment that Mrs. Ryan and the teachers created for them. - *Sarah and Dan Sise*

After 2 children, both sets of teachers, and 5 years of experience, I can confidently say that HopeMark Preschool is a tremendous school for preschoolers and their families. The director and all of the teachers genuinely care for each child. While this is a great foundation, it is not all that HopeMark offers. Children who attend HopeMark are academically prepared for a Kindergarten in any environment. Academic concepts are introduced in developmentally appropriate ways that respect the child's need to be a child. The importance of play is valued. Equal attention is also given to children's social and emotional development. Music and the arts are also explored. Teachers communicate both challenges and successes with care and professionalism. It was because of the insight and support of teachers at HopeMark that we made the difficult decision to have one of our children complete an extra and nontraditional year of preschool. We trusted their opinion and his later Kindergarten teacher praised our decision to hold him back. I am convinced that this choice has made all the difference in our son's current enthusiasm for and success in school. I'm not sure we would have considered that important option without the insight of his HopeMark teachers. Families who choose HopeMark can be confident that their children will Thrive in a child centered environment with experienced teachers who will guide them through their preschool years with love and skill. The children at HopeMark are happy and well prepared for kindergarten and for life! - *Jennifer Pautsch*

HopeMark Preschool was the perfect introduction to school for my boys. It is a perfect blend of learning, fun and social interaction. Besides being excellent educators, the teachers are warm, happy, welcoming, positive, caring, supportive, friendly and approachable, patient and full of life and energy. Friends of ours (including staff) from HopeMark are still friends of ours today. It's a special place – and the perfect start – *Ann Tettamble*

Dear potential/future HopeMark parents,

I'm writing this in hopes that you consider sending your child (children) to HopeMark preschool. After searching and visiting preschools for our daughter, HopeMark was number 16, the last one. She was two and a half and this was, without a doubt, the best visit ever. We (she) just knew.

I can't begin to tell you how wonderful the staff, education, facilities, and creative art remained consistent at Hopemark school for the two years she attended! The wonderful teachers pay attention to every single child as if they were their own. We are comfortable to say that it was her home away from home, and it was fascinating to watch how much she grew while she was there. They understand that this time is a very unique, separation time in a child's life, and it is handled with the utmost professionalism and nurturing. They even comfort us parents! Their security system is comfortable as well.

While our daughter attended HopeMark, she learned to read, count, problem- solve, as well as, respect, discipline, and listening skills. Importantly, she also learned about praying, interaction with others, compassion, and friendship. The teachers make it very clear that they are a "team" with the parents, and are always readily available to talk about any concerns.

I truly hope you consider HopeMark for your child's educational foundation. You won't regret it. The heartfelt memories and benefits for the future are countless.

Thank you,

A VERY proud mom,

Angie Kraus