

## YEAR 2023-2024

## Paula Niklewicz - Preschool

I graduated cum laude from Bradley University and began my teaching career at St. Celestine School and then took some time off to raise my own daughters. This is my 24th year at St. Celestine. I have taught third grade, Reading Resource, and I am happy to be with the 4 year old preschool program this year for our 12th year of all-day preschool!

I have two adult daughters and the most amazing Goldendoodle named Winnie.. My oldest, Emily, is a doctor of Physical Therapy and works in St. Louis at an inpatient rehabilitation center. My youngest, Julia, is a Special Ed teacher in a junior high classroom. She is starting her fourth year of teaching and we love swapping daily stories about our kids. Some days it feels like yesterday when I left my own daughters at preschool at St. Emily School. I am an active member at my home parish and I am on The Parish Council. I consider myself lucky to be part of two awesome religious communities.

This summer I was able to have some wonderful relaxing days. We had some family graduations to celebrate and some wedding plans and showers to enjoy since my oldest daughter will be getting married in October in St. Louis. I hope you also had some time to spend in your yard, do some shopping and gardening, take some long walks with your dog and play some pickleball.

I am looking forward to all the new smiling faces joining PreK 4 this year! I welcome the friends I know from Mrs. Jandrists' preschool 3 class and some wonderful new friends we all get to meet.

I love to spark interest in the little people and enjoy watching them form new friendships that will hopefully last a lifetime. I am happy to welcome all of you into the family that I call St. Celestine! It's going to be a great year!