

Little Bridges News



May 2010

Calendar of Events

Teacher Appreciation

Week of 5/3 – 5/7
Friday Luncheon 5/7

Muffins For Moms

Monday 5/10

CLOSED

Memorial Day

Monday 5/31

Donuts For Dads

Friday 6/18

Summer Camp Starts

For kids entering 1st - 6th
June 21 – August 18

Enrichment Classes

Art & Soul

Tuesdays

Tuff Tumblers

Thursdays

Science/Math/Magic

Varies

Kinderdance

Wednesdays

Soccer Shots

Mondays

Canyon Creek Church

VBS 6/14 – 6/18

Sunday Services & Sunday School

8:30 am & 10:00 am

Parent Survey – We Want Your Feedback!

Please help us continue to make Little Bridges better and better by filling out our Parent Survey. The purpose of this survey is to gather your opinions about our school. Your answers are completely confidential and will be used to help us evaluate our programs. Last year we made changes in the ways we communicate with parents, in our snack menu, and added the hot lunch program - all as a result of your feedback.

Each family will be receiving an email that will have a link to our on-line parent survey. Just click and follow the easy directions. All results will then be tallied through the service we are using. Hard copies of the Parent Survey are also available in each classroom if you would rather hand write your responses.

St. Jude's Hospital Trike -A - Thon

Thank you to all the families who participated in the St. Jude Children's Hospital Trike – A – Thon. The kids loved peddling around our little track and we raised over \$3000.00! St. Jude's is the only National Cancer Institute devoted solely to children. Your contributions will help make it possible for patients to receive treatment regardless of a family's ability to pay. Awesome!

School Age Summer Camp

Little Bridges offers a fun-filled summer program for school age children ages 6 to 11 years. Our program alternates between structured activities such as academic review, book time and journal writing with summer time traditions like crafts, organized games, swimming, free time and fieldtrips.

Summer Camp brochures can be picked up at the front office or in our School Age Program. We offer weekly sessions to accommodate everyone's summer schedules.

Thank You Room Parents!

As I write this, many room parents are organizing our fourth annual Teacher Appreciation Week. It is a special week for the staff here at Little Bridges and we would like to thank each of you for organizing, e-mailing, shopping, cooking, collecting, leading, helping and answering daily questions from your parents to make the week memorable for all of us. A special thanks to **Keri Spanier** who has coordinated this event for the past four years. Other room parents include: Carla Epps, Nancy Kumasaka, Heather Wyatt, Lisa Sears, Janet Navarro, Haley Kim, Lynn Said, Caroline Nakamura, Michelle Bower and Kim Martin.

Hey Mom!

Hey Mom, where are my football pads? Hey Mom, have you seen my homework folder? Hey Mom, can I go to Gordy's house on Saturday?

I have figured out why old people lose their hearing: its because they want to. After raising children, they have used up their allotment of hearing for this lifetime. And they don't want to listen to anyone anymore about anything.

Hey Mom, where's the glue? Hey Mom, do I have to brush my hair? Hey, Mom, can you see somebody's soul?

I have not had a complete thought in twenty-five years. Come to think of it, it's probably been twenty-six. It started when I was pregnant: clearly it must have been the hormones at work. Somehow during pregnancy, your brain starts to short circuit in preparation for the coming events of the child raising years, including sleep deprivation and your child's vocabulary development. Much like nature prepares your body for labor and delivery; hormones now help your brain develop pause waves, which cause all coherent thoughts to immediately vaporize upon formation. In retrospect, its probably a good thing.

Hey Mom, what's a prism? Hey Mom, where's my DS? Hey Mom, did you get to ride the bus to school?

It all begins shortly after birth as we coo over our adorable little bundles. Operating under the delusion that our child is a superior genius, we mentally transform a belch into our child's first complete sentence at about 8 weeks. Before long, when the authoritative parenting books tell us they should be using ten words, we're certain our child is beyond brilliant and is actually using 50 or 60 words. The reality is before long they really do know 300 words and they use them all - before you've had your first cup of coffee.

Hey Mom, where do babies come from? Hey Mom, how long till Christmas? Hey Mom, what's for dinner?

When they are babies, the interruptions are natural; the cry for I need food, I need a clean diaper, I need to be held. When they are toddlers, it is most often a matter of playing goalie as parent: catching them by the seat of the pants before they fall down the front steps, grabbing their arm before they reach to pet the snarling dog, keeping them from walking into the street.

But once they start talking the real interruptions flow freely and you may as well put away the books, magazines and newspapers as well as any hope of a coherent thought. You've just entered the Stream of Consciousness Zone of Parenting where every thought that enters your child's mind is verbalized the moment it hits the first brain cell. While your child's inner monologue will eventually develop, don't count on it anytime soon.

Hey Mom, the dog just threw up on the carpet. Hey Mom, can I have five dollars? Hey Mom, how long till I can learn how to drive?

Most of the time, you think you can outsmart this immutable law of nature. But as you learn, one way or another, it is simply not possible. Once you've read the same paragraph seventeen times, you know its over. If you're lucky, you might manage to read a caption in People Magazine in its entirety when they're in third grade. But for the most part, don't bother. You can read after they go to college.

Hey Mom, have you seen my shoes? Hey Mom, where's Ecuador? Hey Mom, how come the milk smells funny?

Pretty soon, it feels as if the lobes of your brain actually begin to shut down. Your auditory nerve begins to shrivel and go limp like a long forgotten piece of celery. You fear that your ears might actually bleed if they tell you about that scene from the Star Wars again.

Hey Mom, did they have electricity when you were in school? Hey Mom, did I eat enough for dessert? Hey Mom, can we get a pet llama?

But there will come a day and time when you can no longer stand the interruptions, whether its from PMS, a bad day at work, or simply exasperation. The resonating sounds of your child's constant chatter threaten to reduce your ear canals hammer, anvil and stirrup into a tiny pile of dust. Years of verbal tap dancing on the acoustic nerve will at some point shrink your patience to zero and you will snap. And just when you think that you can't take it anymore, that's when. Hey Mom. WHAT??!! I love you.