

# Little Bridges News

June 2022



## Calendar of Events

### **Donuts For Dads**

Friday 6/17

### **VBS**

### **Vacation Bible School**

June 6 – June 10

### **Summer Camp Starts**

For kids entering 1<sup>st</sup> -6<sup>th</sup>  
6/13 – 8/8

### **Enrollment Forms Due**

Friday 7/15

### **First Day of Preschool**

Monday 8/8

### **First Day of School Age**

Tuesday 8/9  
*ALL DAY CAMP*

### **First Day of SRVUSD**

Wednesday 8/10  
*MINIMUM DAY*

## **CLOSED**

### **Fourth of July**

Monday 7/4

## **CLOSED**

### **In-Service Staff Training**

Thursday 8/4  
Friday 8/5

## **Donuts For Dads June 17<sup>th</sup>**

Dads, we want to celebrate you on Friday June 17<sup>th</sup>. Please plan on dropping off your child(ren) this day! You will have the opportunity to walk your child to class, accept a gift from them and then grab a to-go donut and coffee from the courtyard.

## **VBS at Canyon Creek**

Canyon Creek's annual Vacation Bible School is happening here the first week of June. There will be LOTS of activity going on. Little Bridges preschool continues to run as normal and our school age children have the opportunity to attend the fun filled week to hear the Gospel. The whole church gets involved - including the high school and middle students who learn to be leaders.

## **Sunscreen & Water Wednesdays**

Please apply sunscreen to your child EVERY morning as they are getting ready for school. We will re-apply mid day before your child's afternoon outside time.

Kids love water play! Look for specific information from your class about Water Wednesdays. These will start in June.

## **Fall Registration/Welcome Packets**

All families enrolled in Little Bridges for this fall will be receiving a Welcome/Enrollment Packet from us via email in July. Please read through all the material carefully. Enrollment forms can be filled out electronically and emailed back to us. **All forms are due before Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.**

The packet will contain a 2022/2023 calendar, parent handbook, new Fall tuition schedule, specific class information, bios on your teachers, daily schedules and enrichment information.

- *The first day for preschool classes is Monday, Aug 8<sup>th</sup>.*
- *The first day for school age program is Tuesday, Aug 9<sup>th</sup>.*

## **Little Bridges CLOSED August 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>**

Little Bridges will be closed for staff training days on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday August 5<sup>th</sup>. We use these days to connect as a team, attend educational workshops, do safety training and get the classrooms ready for the new school year.

# WHY DO WE LOVE Snake Hill?

Snake Hill (fondly named by our class at the time) began as a silver lining during the pandemic. Our small group of students needed an outlet outside of our classroom, and from there it has grown - *literally and figuratively* - into a passion project of our students and teachers. The Snake Hill Project is now on its way to becoming a NWF Schoolyard Wildlife Habitat, as well as a favorite space for students.

*Our hope is to continue to develop it into a safe, usable, engaging, and fun outdoor education space for all of Little Bridges!*

**But why the passion for it? Read on to find out!**



## Responsibility & Respect:

Through daily chores of watering, weeding, and tending to the space, our students are learning invaluable lessons in *responsibility, as well as developing respect and understanding for nature, and each other!*



## Life Skills:

Our time on Snake Hill has given us so many opportunities for hands learning about *gardening, small construction projects, wildlife conservation and safety, composting, and more!*

## Curriculum Development:

We are able to provide opportunities for all classes to make real-life *connections to their classroom curriculum!* Science lessons come to life when they can actually see growth, life cycles, animals and nature in action.



## Safety:

As with any outdoor activity, there are some risks, but *our teachers are diligent about the safety of our students.*

We talk extensively with the kids about how to be safe in nature - *staying on paths, keeping away from tall grass & unidentified plants, and even staying hydrated and protected from the sun.* We are especially careful to learn about what critters we may see up there, and *how to safely and respectfully interact with them* - even if that means leaving and coming back later, though to our knowledge, there are no animals who pose a real threat to us. *There have been no rattlesnake sightings on Snake Hill - only Gopher Snakes!*

## Physical Benefits:

The physical benefits of getting out of the classroom and into nature are HUGE! Not only are kids developing *motor skills* by learning how to use their bodies in different ways (climbing, hiking, digging...), but they are also *building muscles, and safely exploring boundaries & limits.* Not to mention all of that *fresh air, which has been shown to help kids focus once they're back in the classroom!*



## Social & Emotional Benefits:

Increasing research is showing the massive benefits to children's social & emotional learning (SEL) from time spent outdoors. The more open environment has proven to *increase self-management skills and responsible decision making skills.* We have seen increases in our student's *relationship skills and teamwork, as well as an increase in empathy and understanding.* We've seen the kids' *confidence, resilience, and calculated risk taking* increase, as well as huge feelings of *accomplishment* as we complete projects. and take on new tasks.

*We relish in providing a safe, experience rich environment for students to explore and learn.*

*If you have any questions or concerns, or if you like to support the Snake Hill Project, please contact a School Age teacher or the LB Office.*