

Little Bridges News

April 2022



Calendar of Events

School Age Spring Break

All Day Camp 4/4 – 4/8

Trike-A-Thon

Week of 4/18

Spring Pictures

Monday 4/25

Tuesday 4/26

Teacher Appreciation Week

5/2 – 5/6

Spring Show

Wed. 5/11 4:30-5:30pm

Families A – K only

Thurs. 5/12 4:30-5:30pm

Families L – Z only

Memorial Day CLOSED

Monday 5/30

Canyon Creek Church

Sunday Services

10:00 am

Good Friday Service

Friday 4/15 7:00 pm

Spring Show Rescheduled!

Prepare your heart to listen to your children sing and perform as they go on an underwater adventure. Instead of “Finding Nemo”, our Little Bridges classes will be “Finding Jesus” in this year’s back-to-in-person Spring Show!

In order to keep the audience small, we will be doing two shows. One on Wednesday, May 11th from 4:30pm -5:30pm for all families whose child’s last name falls between A - K in the alphabet, and then again on Thursday, May 12th from 4:30pm – 5:30pm for all families whose last name falls between M - Z of the alphabet.

- Wednesday May 11th Abdou - Kwon
- Thursday May 12th Lam - Zhang

We ask that only immediate family members attend (to keep the attendance low) and that everyone in the audience wear a mask for the entire performance. Children will be un-masked on stage with their class to perform and then will mask up after.

All children will perform both days and we will be streaming both shows on FaceBook Live. Family near and far can watch and enjoy the show!

More details to come...SAVE THE DATE and TIME.

If you cannot attend on your specific day, please contact the office to make arrangements to attend on opposite day

Spring Pictures: April 25 & 26

Picture Day is coming soon! Student portraits and PreK Grad pictures will be taken by APVisions on Monday, April 25th and Tuesday, April 26th. We are proud to have this local company come again to take individual and class photos of our students. Teachers will be sending out specific days and times for your class soon.

St. Jude’s Hospital Trike-A-Thon

We will be hosting a St. Jude Children’s Hospital Trike-A-Thon the week of April 18th. Your child will have the opportunity to ride a trike around our playground to help raise money for others in need. 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.

Just Say No

The request was simple. My 7-year-old son wanted the latest toy and asked if I would buy it. After a few minutes of consideration, I launched into the answer. "Sweetheart, it's really not a good idea. You'll see – everyone wants one now, but in a few weeks it will be something else." I went on to explain that our house was becoming full of unwanted toys, pointed out the environmental repercussions of mountains of batteries and plastic, told him it was overpriced. I explained rationally and with respect.

He watched this song and dance for a few minutes, looked me in the eyes and said, "Mom, just say no!"

With those three words he pushed a button. My son really nailed me. I was an adult, a strong and confident parent, but I was afraid of a two-letter word. No. It just seemed so stark, so final, so negative. I saw myself as a teacher or a guide, and "no" seemed so authoritarian. But he was right and taught me a valuable lesson that day. Sometimes saying "no" and only "no" is the short answer my child needs to hear from me.

I'm sure you see our Little Bridges teachers say no with regularity and your kids don't mind. In fact, they embrace it. They like the boundaries and the certainty. "No" is a limit that shows children where they stand. "No running in the classroom." "No, that is not yours." "No talking while I'm talking." "No, you need to sit on your bottom." "No, it's not time to get up."

The word "no" is one of the first words we like to teach our Faithful Frogs. A toddler is all-powerful when they stand unwavering, arms crossed, staring firmly, fixed and saying, "No." You can see that look cross their faces, the recognition of power when they test limits and hold their ground with the help of the "N-word". It is a quiet battle, because toddlers know that they also have stomping, arching and screaming in the arsenal if "no" doesn't work, and parents have a choice. Accept their victory and divert their attention, or engage in all-out war. Toddlers may be small, but they have stamina.

My son is now 14, and matter-of-factly stating "no" still works. I don't use it all the time – trust me, I'm open for discussion on reasonable requests - but there are times when I say it calmly and we can just go on. No further explanation needed. You will find that teenagers are masters at analyzing and attacking the logic of a parent's arguments, so if I simply say no, there's nothing for him to sink his teeth into. It is clear and undebatable when it's not accompanied by reasons and arguments.

Saying "no" to your kids is not always easy, but don't let on. When my son asks if he can split the cost for the new i-phone, I remember his advice so long ago and I follow it. In fact, I have a large repertoire of retorts. "Not a chance." "No way." "Absolutely not." "You must be crazy."

If you have an infant, you may not be able to imagine that you'd deny him anything. Then one day he'll crawl, walk, get into things, do something you find unacceptable. You'll have to be the adult, the parent, the naysayer. And you'll learn to just say no.