

Little Bridges News

July 2019



Calendar of Events

CLOSED - Fourth of July

Thursday 7/4

CLOSED – Staff Training

Friday 8/9
Monday 8/12

First Day of School

Tuesday 8/13

CLOSED – Labor Day

Monday 9/2

Enrichment Classes

Science

Varies

Tuff Tumblers

Thursdays

Soccer Shots

Wednesdays

CCPC Happenings

Sunday Services & Sunday School

8:45 & 10:15

Teacher Training/In-Service Days

Little Bridges will be closed on Friday, August 9th and Monday, August 12th for teacher training/in-service days. We will be using these days to go through safety training, curriculum, and team building exercises.

This year's agenda includes a workshop entitled, "What if Everybody Understood Child Development?" Our guest speaker will focus on "knowing better, doing better" when it comes to ages and stages of development.

Welcome Packets

All children enrolled in Little Bridges for this fall will be receiving a Welcome Packet from us in July. Please read through all the material carefully and return any forms by July 17th. The packet will contain a 2019/2020 calendar, new Fall tuition schedule, specific class information, bios on your teachers, daily schedules and enrichment information.

Summer at Little Bridges

Summer months may seem more lazy, but here at Little Bridges we keep up the regular school pace. Our curriculum is a year-long program that runs from August to August. We continue to build on concepts and skills we have been working on all year - however, we also believe that summer should be extra fun for kids! Our themes this summer include "Great-Get-Aways", "Down & Dirty", "Wet & Wild", "Crazy Carnival" and "Park & Picnic".

Please Excuse Our Mess

The preschool classrooms and offices will be getting a makeover the first week in July. All rooms are getting a fresh coat of paint (and a new color!) and we are preparing the walls by removing everything.

Please rest assured that our classrooms will run smoothly like a normal day during this time and we will minimize any distractions and changes.

K & TK After School Openings

We have openings in our kindergarten afterschool program for this fall. We have spaces available for children enrolled in TK or K classes **for Coyote Creek, Quail Run and Bella Vista schools.**

We pick up students in our Little Bridges vans and run a fantastic "K-Time" program that is filled with a mixture of academic and fun activities. Mr. Al and Ms. Raman would love to have you join their class next year!

From Boys to Men

One of my four kids is turning 20 in a few days and I am feeling old. This milestone birthday has put me in a spin of reminiscing and going through old photos and memories. My sweet little “Tay-Tay”, who is sprouting facial hair and making adult decisions, doesn’t know it, but when I look at his face, I still see the three-year-old version with chubby smooth cheeks who wouldn’t grab a snack without asking me first.

Taylor is the third of my four boys whose ages range from 18 years to 34 years old. For some odd reason that comes to such a shock to people when they meet me for the first time. Sometimes I don’t know whether to feel complimented or insulted by their reaction. But, yes, it is true; I am the official receiver of the typical silly phrases, and you parents of multiple kids; especially of one gender, know what I’m talking about. The “I can’t believe you have four kids. I don’t know how you did it. You must be crazy. Did you know what caused it? Did you ever want to try one more time for that girl? I bet you were wishing for a girl with your last, weren’t you?”

Now that all the boys are out of the house (most of the time), my day to day life has gotten simpler. I am trying to embrace this new calm, but in a strange way I miss being someone JUST on the verge of insanity. It was crazy at times, yes, but I loved it.

In my kid-rearing life, I changed more poopy diapers, cried more sympathy tears while my kids received shots/stitches/finger pricks, and have seen more Hot Wheels cars and Nerf bullets in the strangest of places. I have washed more sweaty uniforms, know all the Ninja Turtles names by heart and used to catch myself singing the Sponge Bob Square Pants song out loud. I have set up hundreds of good-guy/bad-guy scenes with action figures, have learned that bumps and bruises give boys something to be proud of, and could impress you with my knowledge of skateboard terminology. My ears used to perk up not when I heard a crash - but when the room was silent. I heard “it’s not fair” at least 20 times a day, and my heart would (and still does) absolutely break when I see one of my boys trying to hold back tears. There were days that I absolutely felt like I could jump out of a window if I heard another argument over who was playing Playstation next, who could throw the ball the farthest, or who didn’t not want to bathe.

Twenty-Year-Old-Taylor now has a booming deep voice, but I can still recall Two-Year-Old-Taylor’s angelic voice, with a slight lisp, like a recording in my ears: the way he said his name (Tawor) and how he pronounced ahvaa- caados and how he would call me “mommy” all bring a smile to my face (I am now officially just “mom”). I remember numerous times rushing Taylor to school in the mornings and hearing the pleading of that little voice wanting to hug mommy one more time. I recall that my first inclination was frustration—I was already 15 minutes behind, I’m going to be even later, I’m sure I’ll get behind all the slow people now. Then once I felt that hug, my mind would stop and my heart would begin to overrule it all... and every second that I stood there embracing that sweet little boy just wasn’t long enough. I’m so thankful looking back now, that instead of brushing off my sons’ request, I stopped what I was doing and took that moment to hug my sweet “Tay Tay”. I now realize that I needed that as much as he did—if not more. Especially now, these memories are good reminders of what is truly important.

I honestly feel truly blessed in my life. Yes, there was chaos. Yes, there was stress. Yes, there was a lot of wrestling, ball playing, video game addiction, food outages, burp contests, fart jokes and toilet-lid-hinge replacements, but I would not change any of it for the world.

I loved being a mom to four boys and I now love being a mom to four men. My kids complete me. They are my inspiration and my burden and also the cause of most of my tears and reason for most of my smiles. They come between my marriage and they pull my husband and me closer. It is all I know and I love it. How many people do you know who can honestly say they are the queen of their castle? Yeah, well, I can’t think of anyone either, but the point is, life was good. No. Life is great.