

# Little Bridges News

March 2024



## Calendar of Events

### **Book Fair**

3/18 – 3/22

### **School Age All Day Camp**

Friday 3/15

### **Min. Days**

3/20 – 3/22

### **School Age Spring Camp**

3/29 – 4/5

### **St. Jude Trike A Thon**

Friday 4/5

### **Spring Show**

Thursday 4/18 7pm

### **Spring Pictures**

4/22 & 4/23

### **Teacher Appreciation Wk**

5/6 – 5/10

### **Little Bridges Zoo Day**

Friday 5/17



## **The Book Fair is Coming**

Little Bridges will be hosting a Book Fair the week of March 18<sup>th</sup>. Come shop with us in the church lobby and courtyard. Every book you purchase earns Little Bridges Scholastic book credit that we use to purchase books and class supplies.

All teachers will have "Wish List Baskets" of books that you can purchase for your child's classroom library. The very BEST gift you can give our teachers is a new book!

## **Thank You for Supporting our Community**

Thank you so much to every family that bought diapers and wipes for our LBSA February Diaper Drive! Collectively, we donated over 1000 diapers and 50 packs of baby wipes to families that are supported through the Community Care Pantry!

## **Spring Show: The Masterpiece**

Please join us at 7:00pm on Thursday April 18<sup>th</sup> for our Spring Show. Come hear how each one of us was formed and designed perfectly by God. Every child is unique and absolutely perfect – everyone of us, a true Masterpiece!

## **Spring Pictures**

Class and individual pictures will be taken Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Look for specific classroom days and times at the beginning of April. PreK students will also be taking graduation photos.

## **St. Jude Trike A Thon**

We will be hosting a St. Jude Children's Hospital Trike-A-Thon the first week of April. Your child will have the opportunity to ride a trike around our playground to help raise money for children with cancer.

## **Little Bridges Zoo Day May 17<sup>th</sup>**

SAVE THE DATE! Little Bridges (Frogs, Ducks, Giraffes, Jaguars, Koalas and Pandas) will be taking over the Oakland Zoo on Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>. Our May school theme is Dinos to Dolphins and each class will be learning all about animals. What a better way to teach than to see real animals in person!

Look for details from class Friday Emails as the time gets closer. Every child will need to have an adult accompany them, so please plan now to attend this super fun day. Meet some of your child's classmates and parents and enjoy the zoo with your class!

## **Well, Why Not?!**

Back in the day, when my kids were in preschool, I spent most of my energy saying the word “no.” No, you cannot play with sticks with your brother. No, you cannot wear slippers to church. No, you cannot have pretzels for breakfast. No, you cannot turn the hose on to play firefighter. No, you cannot take all the pillows off the good couch.

It’s a “No” world when you’re three years old.

I’m not really sure what got me to pay attention to it, but I started to count how many times in a day I said no. And it was a lot. So much so that I lost count and started to annoy myself. In fact, I felt I was often snapping off “no” as a habit. The words would just fly out: No. Nope. Not right now. Later. No. Nah. No thank you. No. I’m busy. Why oh why was it so hard to just say the three letter word – yes.

It’s true that there were a lot of things that I simply had to say no to when dealing with my kids - especially with my boys curiosity and imagination. No, you really can’t put SweetTarts in your cereal or drop toys from the second floor landing onto Sadie (our dog). But I noticed that there were a fair amount of times when I said no that really could have been: All right. Sure. Okay. Of course. Good idea. No problem. Yes. Well, why not?

And when I did say yes, I was met with such joy and delight and surprise by my little boys. *You really mean yes, mama?* And it wasn’t for going to the park – it was for reading a book. Or helping in the kitchen. Or letting them come to the store with me. Or taking ten minutes to play cars.

With all those necessary no’s out there for my sweet, creative, curious little boys, maybe I could eliminate some of the unnecessary ones. And so, I started to try to become a “yes” mom. Yes, you can slide down that dirt hill. Yes, you can wear the same shirt 2 days in a row. Yes, you can eat spaghetti for breakfast.

Instead of thinking of reasons NOT to do something, I started trying to think of reasons TO do things. Usually, they were small things. Taylor would ask if he could play with PlayDoh and instead of automatically saying, “Not right now buddy...” (PlayDoh is so messy!) I said yes. He would ask if he could bring acorns from the yard into the bathtub. Normally, I would say no because...well...because you just don’t put tree foliage into the bath. But why not? So, I said yes.

I couldn’t say yes to every request, but how I worded my responses even changed. It was enlightening to see a difference in everyone’s attitude just by switching my wording around. “No, we can’t play Candyland until your room is cleaned up,” to “Yes, we can play Candyland as soon as your room is cleaned up.” Or, yes we can have a picnic lunch at the park, but we need to fold this laundry first. Yes, you can have a friend over, but we have to wait until tomorrow.

Waiting or having to complete a chore first taught my kids that sometimes we can’t have everything we want right when we want it. Children like working towards a goal that they have set or waiting for a specific event that they have chosen.

Something else strange happened when I started saying yes more often. The more I said yes, the more fun I had! It changed my outlook on things. I found myself looking for small little surprises that I might not normally have done before. Having a cookie at the mall from Mrs. Fields (heavenly!), blowing bubbles inside the house, eating a picnic dinner on the floor in front of a movie. Small little “yes” experiences that were just downright fun!

Try to take a break from going 90 miles an hour, and stop to really think when your children request something. Maybe you too can say, “Well, why not” more often than no.