

Little Bridges News



May 2022

Calendar of Events

Teacher Appreciation

Monday - Friday 5/2 – 5/6

Muffins for Moms

Friday Morning 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

Zoo Field Trips

5/19 Ducks
5/20 Jaguars/Giraffes
5/26 Pandas
5/27 Koalas

LB CLOSED 5/30

Memorial Day

Monday 5/30

Summer Camp

School Age K – 5 grades
6/13 – 8/3

Donuts for Dads

Friday 6/17

LB CLOSED 7/4

Fourth of July

Monday 7/4

LB CLOSED 8/4 & 8/5

Teacher In-Service

Thursday & Friday 8/4 & 8/5
(School age also closed 8/8)

Spring Show

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 L - Z of the alphabet.

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

We ask that only immediate family members attend and that everyone in the audience wear a mask for the entire performance. Children will be unmasked on stage with their class to perform.

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!

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

Muffins For Moms

Calling all mommies! We want to invite you to drop off your child/ren on Friday, May 6th. Each child has made you a special gift and would like to present that to you in their classroom. Coffee to go and a individually wrapped muffin will be set up in the main courtyard for you to serve yourself.

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. Our kids learned that they can help other kids who are sick. We raised almost \$2,000.00 for St. Jude’s which 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.

Thank You Room Parents

As I write this, many room parents are organizing our 16th 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, collecting, leading, helping and answering daily questions from your parents to make this week memorable for all of us. A special thanks to Diana Deknoblough, Laura Cogorno, Lavanya Elangovan, Viki Berris, Annie Su, Christine Wong, Michelle Curtis, Uma Mange, Perin Sabuwala, Alexandria Janda, Noe Claraty, Marissa Brown, Andrea Kaja-Torres, Shagun Gupta and Jamie Nho. Thank you for thanking us ☺

Don't Blink Mama

My 21 year old "baby" is graduating from college this month and I am in the midst of all the feels. For the past 37 years, I have been a mom and this last child of mine graduating has me reflecting as Mother's Day approaches.

Back in the days when my four boys were little, all I wanted for Mother's Day was a break. A day off from cooking, cleaning, and convincing little boys to bathe and go to bed. And maybe, a little extra sleep. But now that my sons are all grown, I miss it. And while there are lots of things I don't miss about having young children (mystery fevers, school projects, wrestling matches, piles of dirty sports uniforms and shopping for way-too-expensive basketball shoes) there is much that I do.

Sometimes I wish I could go back and talk to my younger mama self. And though I don't know if she'd listen, here are a few things I'd tell her.

- 1. Soak up the giggles, snuggles and butterfly kisses.** They are gone in a flash.
- 2. Hug your own mom, every time you see her.** She won't be here forever, and she definitely won't be here for as long as you think. Ditto for Grandma.
- 3. Write things down.** The little stuff, the big stuff and everything in between. There will come a day when you can't remember which child had the pet rat, who dressed up as a ninja for Halloween, who broke the window with a golf ball and who would say "aw" instead of "all".
- 4. Quit worrying.** About all of it. These children of yours will eventually learn their manners, eat vegetables, survive middle school and bonus - they will pass Calculus without a lick of help from you. They'll survive mean kids, strict teachers, and puberty. You don't have to solve their problems, and frankly, you can't anyway. Just be there for them while they're in the thick of it.
- 5. Don't compare yourself to other moms.** They may look like they have it together, but they don't (not any more than you do anyway). Find the moms who tell it like it is, the ones who admit to almost losing their minds over tantrums and homework and teenage angst. Hang out with them.
- 6. Go on date nights with your husband.** There will be nights when getting out of your yoga pants feels like too much effort. But trust me, marriage is a long term investment. Go out and have fun together, just the two of you. You'll be glad you did.
- 7. Don't work so hard on those Halloween costumes.** They are just as happy with the store bought ones.
- 8. Have someone else take the family pictures.** Otherwise, you'll have twenty billion photos of the kids and hubby and there will be no proof you existed.
- 9. Quit wasting so much time trying to lose that last ten pounds.** Yes, you should eat right, yes, you should exercise. But beating yourself up because you aren't a perfect size is a waste of energy. Your weight is just one part of you and it's not that important.
- 10. All this hard work...getting your 4 kids clean and fed and to school on time, teaching these boys to pitch in at home when it's easier to do it yourself, being the mom that doesn't give in, the one that follows through on consequences... it will pay off!** You are teaching little people to be responsible big people, keep your eye on that long term goal.
- 11. Eventually you'll get more sleep, but you'll still have hard days.** So when you have one, quit fighting it and instead, just get through. Treat yourself in small ways (chocolate helps). Say a prayer, call a friend or simply breath.
- 12. Listen, really listen.** They'll want to talk at the most inconvenient times, like when you have 10 million things to do or you're just about to go to bed, but no matter. Tune in, listen and try really hard not to turn the subject to when you were that age.
- 13. Young teens sometimes behave a bit like toddlers.** Be prepared for this.
- 14. Don't let the world scare you.** You'll hear so much about everything that is going wrong with and for this generation. People will dis the schools, tell you how unsafe the neighborhood is, complain about how awful this generation of kids are. Such talk is rooted in fear and you can't live in fear. There is, and always will be, good in the world.
- 15. Don't take it personal, whatever your 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, or 18 year old says to you (or doesn't).** It's okay to reprimand snarky behavior, but do so with grace. In other words, you have no idea what is going on in his head, so don't take it personal.
- 16. Let your kids fail.** Give them opportunities to make mistakes. Sometimes they will and it's okay. This is how they will learn.
- 17. Slow down a little.** The calendar fills up so quickly. Be sure to pencil in a little time to relax now and again.
- 18. Yes, a vacation for six is expensive.** Just save your pennies and go anyway. Or do it cheap – go camping, stay at the cheesy but inexpensive beach motel, take day trips. The memories are priceless.
- 19. You'll worry so much about giving them everything they need, but all they really need is love and acceptance.** Give them that and the rest will take care of itself.
- 20. That one phrase you came up with, 'I know you're mad and I don't blame you, but I'm the mom and I have to do what I think is best'. Keep using that.** It will work for all four kids.
- 21. Cherish the time when all of you are together.** This will get harder and harder to achieve with time.
- 22. Hang in there.** You can't see it now, but these boys are going to turn into beautiful souls. A little silly, but beautiful nonetheless.
- 23. Don't Blink.** Everyone will tell you how fast it all will go, and that will irritate you. Yet here's the rub: it's true. So do your best to enjoy the ride.