

# Little Bridges News



September 2022

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## Calendar of Events

**CLOSED – Labor Day**  
Monday 9/5

**All School Book Fair**  
9/26 – 9/30

**School Pictures**  
10/17 & 10/18

**Pumpkin Patch Field Trip**  
(preschool only)  
Friday 10/21

## Enrichment Classes

**Tuff Tumblers**  
(preschool only)  
Tuesdays

**Art & Soul Music Classes**  
(school age only)  
Wednesdays

## **The Book Fair is Coming!**

Little Bridges will be hosting a Book Fair the last week of September. The store will be set up in the church lobby and courtyard area.

All purchases benefit Little Bridges. We earn 25% in Scholastic Dollar rewards that we can use for more classroom books and supplies.

The book fair will also have an on-line component which will include ALL of Scholastic's inventory. The on-line fair has over 6,000 items for all ages, from board books to adult literature. Plan ahead and shop our fair for birthday, Christmas or classroom gifts. One of the best gifts you can give our teachers is a new book!

## **Help Us Compost**

Did you know that Little Bridges is a Green School? Your children and all our staff separate our waste into three trash bins: Compost, Recycle and Trash. We can actually compost over half our waste here. Paper cups, paper plates, utensils, food waste, pizza boxes, napkins and paper towels can all be composted! Please help us by reducing the amount of disposable items you place in your child's lunch. Refillable sippy cups instead of juice boxes, reusable Bento boxes instead of Lunchables, Tupperware instead of plastic baggies and real fruit instead of fruit cups are easy ways to help our planet!

## **Classroom Shutterfly**

Each classroom has their own Shutterfly site where teachers post the weekly curriculum, calendar events, class news and pictures. This is a very useful place for parents to go to get classroom information. You can also find access to the school newsletters and teacher emails.

## **Friday Communication**

If you are reading this *Little Bridges News* as a hard copy, you probably found it in your child's Friday Folder. If you are reading this on your laptop, you are probably found it in the class *Friday Email* or on your child's classroom *Shutterfly* site.

Teachers also post information by sign in sheets or on the class communication whiteboard. We know how important communication is and have many ways for you to stay informed.

Don't forget to bring your child's Friday Folder back every Monday to get filled up again!

## Thoughts For My Birthday Boy

My fourth and youngest son, Liam, turns 22 this month and I really can't get over how fast he went from baby-of-the-bunch to college graduate. It surprises me every time I hear his "man voice" on the phone. I still have a visual picture in my mind of a chubby cheeked and toe head little boy when I see his number flash on my phone.

When the ultrasound wand confirmed that my last child would be another boy, I cried – not because I really wanted a daughter, but because I already knew about the mother-son connection. I already knew how this last boy with his long blonde hair and tender heart would undo me.

Nearly every day for the past 22 years, Liam has touched my soul in some way, just as his 3 older brothers have. He is the first to ask "How was your day?" and "Did you sleep good?" or say "Momma, you look pretty today." He can all also burp my name. So, there's that.

With my baby boy's birthday celebrations this month, there are some things I want to say to him:

**You don't have to fit in.** The world expects you to act a certain way. But it's okay to be a square peg in a round hole, to look different, be yourself. It's alright to chart your course and dream big, even when others might not understand it.

**You don't have to give in.** You already know about the pressure to talk or dress a certain way, to disrespect your elders, women or other races, or to judge others that are different than yourself. But you possess the strength and character to walk away – or better yet, be bold and stand up for your beliefs and others who may not have a voice. You don't have to give in.

But if you do make bad choices... **You get second chances** and third and fourth... You can start again. Every sunrise is a second chance to get it right, to say no, to say I'm sorry, to ask forgiveness, to make a new start. I want you to know that this is what God is about. He wants to give you as many chances as it takes, just don't ever stop taking them.

**You don't have to be tough** (all the time). Boys are supposed to be rough and tough. Real men are tender, they care about others, and root for the underdog. They rush to open the door for others and use their manners. They cry over poverty and when they grow up, they tuck their babies into bed.

**You don't need a partner** (yet). Become friends with women, and learn to respect and honor them. One day you will find your soulmate, and be head over heels in love. You have time. Relationships are built on truth, forgiveness and lots of give and take. True love is unselfish.

**You make me proud.** If you didn't do another thing, win another award or get another A, I want you to know I'm proud of the young man you've become. I love the way you care for others. I love the way you work hard at all you do. I love the way you have a passion for justice. I love that you are competitive and play til the end. I love that you laugh with friends and love your family deeply. I am so proud of you, son.

**You are a success if you love God and others.** I don't know what you will be when you pick your career. I think a CEO or a teacher, possibly a sports coordinator. The sky is your limit and it's your choice. But no matter what you accomplish or don't, in my eyes, you're successful if you love God first and others second. Always remember this is true success.

**You have great men in your life.** God has given you amazing men to shadow. It doesn't get better than your father and grandfathers. They love(d) their families more than themselves and if you aren't sure where to step next, look for their footprints.

**You can always come home.** No matter what happens in this life, what you do or don't do, you always have a place with us. We might make you want to leave with our rules or ask you to because of your actions, but we won't stop you from coming home.

**You are loved.** No matter how long those legs grow or how high I have to look up to you, you will always be mine. I can still wipe your tears and listen to your heart. I can still give you advice and ask you to say you're sorry. No matter what you do or what happens in this life, you are mine and nothing can change that. If you never hear another word I say or choose not to listen, you must believe that you are loved deeply by your parents. But even more than we love you, you are loved by a God who sent His son for you. Don't ever doubt it. Believe it. This life might bring great joy or sorrow, great wealth or loss, but you can make it because you have love. Make sure you give it away. It's the best way to receive it.

*Happy birthday, Liam*