

# Little Bridges News



September 2024

## Calendar of Events

**CLOSED – Labor Day**  
Monday 9/2

**Back To School Night**  
\*Frogs – Tigers Only  
6:30 – 7:30 9/5

**School Pictures**  
Monday 9/9  
Lambs, Frogs,  
Jaguars, Koalas  
Tuesday 9/10  
Ducks, Giraffes,  
Pandas, Tigers

**Book Fair**  
9/23 – 9/27

**NEGU Bakesale**  
**School Age Outreach**  
Friday 9/20  
3:30 – 5:30

**Pumpkin Patch Field Trip**  
\*Frogs – Tigers Only  
Friday 10/18

## **Back To School Night 9/5**

Back-to-School-Night is scheduled for Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 pm.

This is a time for teachers to discuss the class curriculum, the daily schedule, and the objectives for the year. I hope you plan on attending this very informative night. **This night is for parents only please.** Parents can go straight to their child's classrooms.

## **Picture Days 9/9 & 9/10**

School pictures will be taken on Monday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. All orders must be placed on-line BEFORE your picture day. Children who do not have an order placed will not sit for an individual photo session. All students are in the class photo regardless of order status. Links for picture orders have been sent out in your Class Friday Email.

**IMPORTANT!** Please place one order per child as the order is automatically matched to each child's individual data. Orders are not able to be split between multiple children. For a SIBLING PHOTO to be captured a separate order must be placed for the package you want to receive for that session.

## **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!

A blue promotional banner with white and yellow text. On the left is a pink cupcake, and on the right is a blue coin drive with gold coins. The text reads: "LBSA OUTREACH PRESENTS THE 4TH ANNUAL COURAGEOUS CUPCAKES BAKE SALE & COMPASSIONATE CHANGE COIN DRIVE IN HONOR OF CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH". At the bottom left, it says "Bake Sale: Friday, September 20 3:30-5:30pm or until sold out! Coin Drive runs throughout the rest of September!". At the bottom right, it features the "NEGU" logo with "NEVER GIVE UP" and "AND THE JESSIE REES FOUNDATION".

LBSA OUTREACH PRESENTS THE 4TH ANNUAL  
**COURAGEOUS CUPCAKES  
BAKE SALE**  
& COMPASSIONATE CHANGE COIN DRIVE  
IN HONOR OF  
CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

**Bake Sale:**  
Friday, September 20  
3:30-5:30pm or until sold out!  
**Coin Drive** runs throughout the rest of September!

**NEGU**  
NEVER GIVE UP  
AND THE JESSIE REES FOUNDATION

*Thoughts from Ms. Jacque...*

## **The Beauty of Right Here and Right Now**

I've sometimes wondered if I'll spend the rest of my life missing my sons as the little boys they used to be.

Even now, though it's been years since I reminded anyone to look both ways, the sight of a mom crossing the street hand-in-hand with a little guy with sleep-ruffled hair and rolled up jeans fills my eyes with sudden tears.

As I watch you parents walk your children in and out of Little Bridges daily, I want to shout to you "Do you know how quickly this will all be over? Do you realize just how sweet and rich your lives are right here and right now?!"

Of course, this is what older people have been saying to younger ones since time began. And no one wants to hear it.

Your lives right now are busy and distracted - wondering how to transport your kids from point A to point B and pick up some food for dinner and get the homework done without a fight. An over-stretched, over-tired parent isn't worrying about the end of childhood so much as how to survive the hours between 5:00pm and bedtime. I know. I've been that parent, too.

When my children were small, I would sometimes lie in bed in the early morning and try to envision the day ahead. Not the schedule of the day, but rather the attitude I wanted to bring. Imagining myself being patient, calm, accepting, I would create a picture in my mind of the mother I wanted to be for my four boys. Of course, at some point, usually before 7:30am, the morning challenges would always get the better of me. Curtis was going to be late AGAIN because of his obsession with his snooze button, Jacob would be trying to convince me he could wear only a bathrobe to school (because, ya know, it wasn't listed anywhere in the dress code policy that he couldn't), Taylor was so hungry he had proudly poured a whole box of cereal into a 12 liter mixing bowl all-by-himself and Liam had decided to get into the art cabinet and decorate his face with markers "like mommy does" every morning.

It seemed to me during these early years of child raising that my sons' childhoods would go on forever. I couldn't imagine any other life than the one that consumed me right then, full of joys and demands. It is such a raw and relentless business - parenthood. There is a constant physical engagement, at once exhilarating, and at once exhausting. But there is also passionate, insistent emotion - the frightening, thrilling fierceness of our love for these souls.

The journey of these emotions, between childhood and adulthood, doesn't end, of course. When the kids head off to college or embark on careers or start relationships or move across the country. Full of twists and turns, detours and disappointments, surprises and sudden revelations. But what has hit me lately is that this nostalgic longing that brings me to my knees at times has caused me to forget the true wonder there is in the here and now.

Who I am, what my boys are, where we are at this moment is absolutely different from what it was - yes. But it is in no way less than. And the surprising truth is, I wouldn't trade our family's beautiful, complicated, ever changing and un-predictable present for any yesterday.

When I am able to simply be in today - with things as they are, able to accept the day's challenges without judgment or wishing for something else, I am receiving what God is offering me - right here, right now. And I wouldn't want to miss the beauty in that.