



TIMBER LINES

Welcome Back

Bridges Academy, Inc.
Established
November 2003

August 2009

Dear Bridges Families,

We hope you are enjoying your summer vacation. As we prepare for the beginning of the 2009-2010 Academic Year, we want to share some tips on how to encourage your child to continue to develop his / her reading habit, ways to consider getting “back into routine” and general information to get you ready for the new school year! Enjoy your remaining time and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Mrs. Egli, Mrs. Brandt, and the Faculty and Staff at Bridges Academy

“Just living is not enough. One must have sunshine, freedom and a little flower.” --Hans Christian Anderson

Reading: Opening a Window on the World

There is probably no greater joy for parents than seeing their child discover the love of reading. It means the child has awakened his or her mind to new things and new ideas, and it also means that the child will have a better chance than most in succeeding through a long and sometimes arduous school system. The benefits of reading are multiple, and research has shown that children who learn to read early expand their vocabularies and greatly improve their writing skills. They are also better equipped to comprehend the more complex ideas that they will encounter later in school and in life. More than just a tool for learning, reading opens a window to the world to young and inquisitive minds.

Author George Orwell said it best when he remarked, “The books one reads in childhood... create in one’s mind a sort of false map of the world, a series of fabulous countries into which one can

retreat at odd moments throughout the rest of life.”

Reading can help children understand their place in a world that sometimes seems daunting and provide the confidence that they need to succeed.

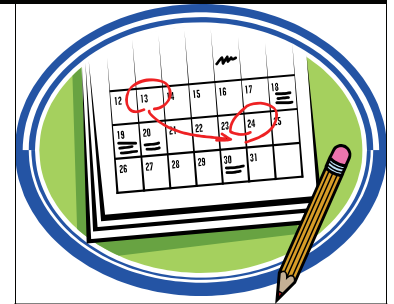
Experts in children’s literacy believe that almost any kind of reading will help a child succeed in school. But as is true of most other things in life, a little guidance from parents is always a good idea. Children should read a variety of books with concepts that are age-appropriate and that fit their individual reading levels. It’s a good idea for parents to go to the library with children, at least until they are old enough to determine their own book list. A librarian can suggest certain books to start a child off, and later, the child can pick out the books that suit his or her own tastes.

Being a positive, reading role model to children is another important role that parents and teachers can play. If chil-

dren see parents at home enjoying books, they’ll want to mimic that activity. A small library of children’s classics such as *Anne of Green Gables* and *Treasure Island* will encourage children to read, as will setting aside reading times, especially on rainy days or during holidays.

The great American education reformer Horace Mann understood the power of reading in learning, and he also knew the important role that parents play in developing this skill. He once said, “A house without books is like a room without windows.”

So open your windows and let the world of reading come in. It will be great fun to see your children learn more about other people and other parts of the world, even as they learn about themselves. Besides, reading really is a lot of fun, and once your child gets the reading bug he or she will get just as much enjoyment out of reading as you do.



Mark Your Calendar

AUGUST

Fundraiser: Enjoy The City Coupon Book
August 17th - 28th

- 13 Meet The Teacher
Pack A & B 2pm - 3pm
Pack C 3pm - 4pm
- 14 1st Quarter Starts
Early Release 1:00pm
- 18 New Parent Orientation
6pm - 8pm

SEPTEMBER

Fundraiser: Adventure to Fitness
September 14 - October 2

- 07 NO School - Labor Day
- 08 Open House - Parents Only
6pm - 8pm
- 10 Open House - Parents Only
6pm - 8pm
- 15 Bowling Party - Oviedo
4pm - 6pm
- 17 Early Release 1:00pm
- 18 NO School - Teacher Work Day
- 25 Fall Photos - Individual & Class

Dress For Success

OCTOBER

- TBA PTO Meeting & Special Speaker
- 09 Country Western Hoedown
- 19 2nd Quarter Starts
- 22 Early Release 1:00pm
- 23 NO School - Teacher Work Day
- 30 Fall Harvest Classroom Parties

NOVEMBER

Fundraiser: Scholastic Book Fair
November 9th - 13th

- 12 Book Fair Extravaganza Night
6pm-8pm
 - 13 6th Annual Thanksgiving Feast
Early Release 1:00pm
 - 19 Fall Photo Retakes - Individual
- Dress For Success**
- 20 Early Release 1:00pm
 - 23-27 NO School - Holiday Break

NO \$\$\$ FUNDRAISERS!!!

We will continue to participate in the following no cash needed fundraisers.

- * BOX TOP\$ for Education
- * Campbell’s Labels for Education
- * Nestle Pure Life Go Play! Water Labels

Arrival / Departure Procedures & Information

STUDENTS: Are asked ...

- 1) To be at school and in their homeroom classroom between 8:00am - 8:20am. Students arriving after 8:20am are considered tardy to school.
- 2) To be in proper uniform daily.
- 3) To bring a bottle of water daily.
- 4) NOT to bring gum to school. Gum is NOT allowed on campus this year.

PARENTS: Are asked ... **This is for your child's safety! NO Exceptions!**

- 1) NOT to use cell phones from the time they enter our parking lot until the time they exit our parking lot.
- 2) To park your vehicle and escort your child to the front door in the morning and from the playground or pavilion area in the afternoons.
- 3) To sign your child in at the front office when they are tardy.
- 4) To sign your child out at the front office when they leave early.

Be sure to use **EXTREME CAUTION** when backing up in the parking lot for departure. We have many families walking to their vehicles and many vehicles entering and departing from the parking lot. You **MAY** park along the street in the parking spots provided.

Get Back into the Routine

Human beings are happiest when they have a regular routine. Children need a routine to get their homework completed and to get enough sleep. Adults need one--both at work and at home--to maintain their health and happiness as they manage their multiple responsibilities.

Sometimes a busy period at work or **even a vacation** will disrupt our routine and leave us feeling a bit lost and confused. If your routine has been interrupted after a summer vacation, you will need to spend a little energy to get it back in line. Otherwise, you may find that you feel a little off balance and

sometimes even a little grumpy. Getting back to the routine of work can require changes to your sleeping, eating, and exercise habits. Scheduling time for each of these areas of your life can help you get back into the swing of things. Take the time to restore your routine, and you will feel a lot better about yourself and certainly increase your productivity at work and at home. Once you feel re-balanced, you can add a bit more variety to your life and your routine.

We all know that children seem to be happier, more relaxed, and more attentive in class when they have a regular routine and get

enough sleep, but we often forget that adults need the same thing. Children need enough sleep to learn in class while adults need a good night's sleep just to stay alert and on top of all our different responsibilities as well as maintain our mental and physical health.

Maintaining your routine will not just help you find new energy, but will also help you feel happier and healthier. You may want to begin structuring your "school" routine about two to three weeks before the start of the new school year to ensure a successful transition to school.

Around the Campus News!

Successful Summer Program: Thirty Five students joined our summer reading clinic and made great strides on their individual reading skills. We have several new students who participated in our summer program and got to know our teachers and some of our activities, such as Learning BreakThrough, Reading Assistant, eyetracking and of course, Fast ForWord! Summer was a great success and we hope to see more students participate next year.

PTO Fundraiser: Enjoy the City Coupon Books will be the first Bridgebuilders PTO fundraiser! **Each family is asked to purchase one coupon book for their use and sell 2 to friends or family members.** We do not want your children going door to door! Perhaps you can assist your child in selling the books at the office or ask relatives to purchase one. The goal is 3 for each family, but certainly, more books are available for sale. **Prize Incentives are available to Top Sellers.** Books and order forms will be sent home on August 17th and all unsold books and collected funds are to be turned in to the front office or homeroom teacher by August 28, 2009!

Farewell: We want to wish the best of luck to our Bridging Students...have a great time and enjoy your new challenges!!! Bo Alexander, Christopher Berger, Gary Berrios, Kim Davidson, Josh Felices, James Givens, Steven Gott, Andy Gulley, Eric Hensley, Danielle Hill, Dallas Jarosz, Madison Kuykendall, Christopher Nix, Chris Olliff, Jesenia Sepulveda, Ryan Soud, and Trevor Walker.