



# TIMBER LINES

Bridges Academy, Inc.  
Established  
November 2003

March 2010

## TESTING INFORMATION

During the month of February, we conducted our annual assessments at Bridges Academy. These assessments provide information on our students in several ways: their annual academic growth on specific skills and the ability to take a formal assessment. Assessment make-ups will be on going during the month of March for students who were absent during the original testing weeks.

Parents, please allow our staff adequate time to score and interpret the assessments before calling to get your child's progress report. Each student must take an individual reading assessment. The math, spelling, and written language assessments are conducted in several settings, and are done in a group manner. It is important to understand that we have 75 students whose assessments must be hand scored and reports are created individually for each assessment!

We will begin our reviews with parents who have expressed interest, in writing, in having their child join a new school environment in the 2010-2011 academic year so that the transition paperwork can be completed. The remaining families will review their child's scores at our annual IEP meetings, conducted at the end of April and beginning of May.

Remember, parents, a formal assessment is just a **snapshot** of your child's academic levels of performance. Students who have anxiety in testing, may be fatigued, or are just having a difficult day may not show their true level of growth on an assessment. A true review of classroom performance, combined with frequent curriculum assessments and daily performance graphs along with a formal assessment can provide good information about a child's overall academic growth.

## Pasta for Pennies 2010 Underway!

Did you know that leukemia causes more deaths than any other cancer among children under the age of 20? As a result of this relevant information, Bridges Academy is participating in Olive Garden's Pasta for Pennies fundraising program again this year. It is an annual event that benefits the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. It gives students the opportunity to learn about blood cancers while raising money for cancer research and patient services. We began collecting money in our Math classes on February 8 and will continue to collect until February 26. Students are encouraged to bring in pennies and other spare change to help children right here in Central Florida who are fighting this dreadful disease. We have several activities and incentives planned to help build enthusiasm and excitement. Our goal this year is to raise \$1500. If each student collects and donates \$20.00, we will reach our goal. Bridges Academy's students can make a significant difference in the lives of others which may ultimately give our students a better understanding of community awareness. If you have any questions or concerns about the fundraiser, please contact Carla Brandt.

Bridges Academy students were regional winners in past years, providing much needed funds for the Pasta for Pennies Campaign. We challenge all of our families to give up their change to help children in need! Empty those pockets, pick the coins out of the dryer and get ready to help Bridges Academy make their mark in the community for this worthy event!! The activities are Awesome! Bake Sale, Free Dress Day Passes, Cap Day Passes, Sundaes, Raffles, and Bingo Games are all great fun and a terrific success for the students.

## FOCUS ON FACULTY

Do you know... Ms. Andrea Breen?

- 1) She teaches Math, Reading, History and assists in Fast ForWord.
- 2) She enjoys reading, bowling, & spending time with her daughter and mother.
- 3) Ms. Breen graduated from the University of Central Florida.
- 4) Her favorite video games are Wii and Mario.
- 5) Her favorite food is pasta.

Do you know... Ms. Sarah Miller?

- 1) She was born in Columbus, Ohio.
- 2) Ms. Miller graduated from Ohio Dominican University.
- 3) She teaches Reading and Literature this year.
- 4) She enjoys going to the beach, reading at the park, and going to community festivals.
- 5) Ms. Miller's favorite restaurant is Macaroni Grill.



## Mark Your Calendar

### MARCH

- 11 PTO Meeting - Speaker  
4pm - 5pm or 6:30pm - 7:30pm
- 16 Bowling Party  
4pm - 6pm
- 18 Early Release 1:00pm
- 19 NO School - Teacher Work Day

### APRIL

- 2 NO School - Good Friday
- 5-9 NO School - Spring Break
- 16 Invitation Only  
Spring Dance Formal  
7:00pm - 9:30pm
- 29 Early Release 1:00pm
- 30 NO School - Teacher Work Day

### MAY

- 14 Field Day
- 25-27 Early Release 1:00pm
- 28 Graduation - Off Campus  
Early Release 1:00pm

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Final Bills for Balance of Tuition Owed

All parents will receive a balance owed statement, after the April McKay Scholarship and Monthly Tuition is collected. Your bill will reflect any deficit that may occur in the McKay Scholarship and you will be responsible for the difference in payment amount. If you have any questions, please contact:  
Richard Egli or John Bolin 407-977-1560.

## LITTLE CAESARS FUNDRAISER

Little Caesars Pizza Sale was a Huge Success! Special thanks to all of our students who participated in this great sale. Bridges Academy raised \$1175.00 from the sale, and proceeds will be used to purchase new desk top computers for our classrooms!

### Congratulations!!!

1st Place Homeroom Hopson

1st Place Student	Adam Byrd
2nd Place Student	Sam Strickland
3rd Place Student	C.W. Yarborough

## Matching


**SOCIAL BRIDGES™ TO THE HOME**

An important aspect of acting right and talking right with peers to fit in is **matching**. We can match in terms of our:

- \* bodies (e.g. sitting in class when others are seated vs. walking around)
- \* mood (being serious when others are serious vs. silly)
- \* voice (volume and tone and appropriate word choice)
- \* topic of conversation

If, for instance, two people were discussing the snowstorms up north and one person heard the word boots and started talking about their new fashion boots, the topic would not match. This would serve as a red light cue, and the conversation may even stop. Such apparently unrelated comments are sometimes referred to as "random". This is why it is important to listen carefully to the conversation before attempting to join. If you listen prior to contributing you can ask a matching question or make a related comment. Matching in this way helps the conversation to move forward.

**CODE SWITCHING** – Another way to match a conversation is to adjust word use and tone to match the person with whom you are speaking. For example, we all speak differently to teenagers than we do to toddlers. Many times, students forget to code switch when they transition to another setting. For instance, they may bring their lunch time voice and behaviors into the classroom which would not be appropriate in terms of volume, content and possibly tone. Tweens and teens often fail to code switch to adjust their language when switching from peers to teachers or parents. They therefore may seem disrespectful. Older brothers and sisters may need to code switch when speaking to younger siblings. Boys may need be reminded that females are present and to avoid "locker room" talk.

**You can coach your child to /code switch by cuing them:**

- \* Are you matching (topic, body, voice, tone, volume mood)
- \* What can you do to match?
- \* Are you code switching? You can provide a visual cue of pretending to a turn a key near the ear to remind your child to code switch.

**Activities you can do at home to practice matching include:**

### For younger children:

#### \* **Matching Voice** – (Good activities for car travel)

- \* Echo Song- any songs where you copy or "echo" each other
- \* "A my name is"...

#### \* **Matching Body**

- \* Follow the leader
- \* Matching Activity
- \* Give stickers/praise for matching activity (e.g. playing game, completing chore)

### For older children:

#### \* **Matching Voice** – (Good activities for car travel)

- \* Categories – Take turns adding on all of the subjects in a specific category (e.g. types of ice cream, things found at the beach, types of video games)

#### \* **Matching Body**

- \*Mirroring

### For adolescents and teens:

it is important that they know their peer culture – music, movies, clothing fads, etc. so that they are able to match and fit in. Parents can help with this by discussing current culture at dinner and helping teens to keep on top of current trends, even if they are not specifically of interest to them.

#### \* **Matching Activity**

- \* Add on story – Start a story and have each family member add a few sentences to tell the story. Each part needs to relate to the parts before it.
- \* Add on pantomime – One person begins an action (i.e. building a sand castle at the beach). After watching closely, one by one others join in and add on a matching but not identical action. (i.e. riding a surfboard).

## Accepting Applications for 2010 Summer Reading Camp



894 GARY HILLERY DRIVE  
WINTER SPRINGS, FL 32708  
PH: (407) 366-1099  
FX: (407) 366-1909

### Fast ForWord

INTENSIVE READING REMEDIATION  
Bridges Academy: National Reference Site

## June 7 - July 30, 2010

### NO Camp July 5 - July 9

**Registration Fee until May 21: \$200.00 non-refundable**  
**Registration Fee after May 21: \$300.00 non-refundable**  
**Payment Due In Full On or Before: June 4, 2010**

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	COST
<b><u>Morning M-F</u></b>	
6 Weeks (June 7 - July 30)	\$950
3 Weeks (June 7 - July 2)	\$550
3 Weeks (July 12 - July 30)	\$550
<b><u>Afternoon M-F 1pm-4pm</u></b>	
6 Weeks (June 7 - July 30)	\$850
3 Weeks (June 7 - July 2)	\$500
3 Weeks (July 12 - July 30)	\$500

### MORNING PROGRAM

**Monday - Friday**  
**2½ Hours per Day**  
**6 Weeks: \$950.00**  
**3 Weeks: \$550.00**

#### Activities

Fast ForWord  
Wilson Reading System

Program May Include Activities Such As:

- \*Fluency Practice (Oral Reading)
- \*Learning Breakthrough
- \*Eye Tracking Task

#### Assessments

- \*Phonological Awareness
- \*Decoding
- \*Vocabulary
- \*Comprehension

**SUPPLIES:**  
**Water Bottle & Snack**  
**are needed on a daily basis.**

### AFTERNOON PROGRAM

**Monday - Friday**  
**4 Hours per Day**  
**1pm - 4pm**  
**6 Weeks: \$850.00**  
**3 Weeks: \$500.00**

#### Activities

Program May Include Activities Such As:

- \*Yoga
- \*Technology
- \*Gameology