

Dear Families,

Summer is officially here! We have a fun filled summer planned. Please mark your calendar for our June events.

Please mark your calendar for these events:

June 1-2, 2017, Manatee County Schools Closed- We will be having care for school age students (K-5). A sign-up sheet is located at our front desk.

June 5, 2017, Kiddie Camp and Venture Camp starts.

June 5, 2017, Summer Enrichments- Our Zumba enrichment program will be continuing throughout the summer. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please stop by our front desk. Zumba enrichment is for students 3 years old and older.

June 9, 2017- Water Days- Starting on 6/9 every Friday will be water day. Please bring your child to school in their bathing suit with a change of clothes and a towel. No swim diapers please. Water play will be at your child's AM playground time.

June 16, 2017, Doughnuts with Dad's- In honor of Father's Day please join us for Doughnuts with Dads in the Dolphin classroom from 7:30 am -9:00 am.

June 17, 2017, Parent Night Out- Our next Parent Night Out will be held on Saturday, from 6:00-10:00 pm. As our parents have a special night out their children will also have a night out enjoying crafts, a movie and pizza.

June 19th-29th, 2017, Parent/ Teacher Conferences- Teachers will be conducting parent/teacher conferences. If you are interested in scheduling one please see the sign-up sheet located on your child's classroom door.

Summer is not just a time to amuse and entertain your kids. It's also an important season to keep their minds and bodies active, working and healthy. The hazy, lazy days of summer don't have to be boring for little ones. Parents can keep kids physically busy and mentally active during the summertime by reinforcing the skills they learned during the school year. Make the most of your summertime by thinking outside of the box for projects and activities that are both fun and educational. Here are a few ideas:

1. **Create musical instruments from materials you already have throughout the house.** Make a guitar using a recycled tissue box, rubber bands and a pencil. Make a maraca from two paper plates. Pull out the pots and pans to try out some drums with a wooden spoon.
2. **Cool down with a gelati or Italian ice at a café with outdoor seating.** There's nothing like a cool treat on a hot summer day, with the opportunity to practice manners ("please" and "thank you"), and table etiquette without a lot of pressure. Couple that with good conversation with family and you have a fun, educational experience for all.
3. **Start a family or a neighborhood summer reading club.** Get the family together, or other families in your neighborhood and start a children's book club by reading the same book and talking about it at the end of the week or month.
4. **Take a hike alongside a river or stream.** Hiking in the shade by a moving body of water can really cool down a hot summer day. Pack a snack and find a place where you can dangle your feet into the water. Emerging bodies of research show that communing with nature can reduce stress—find out for yourself first-hand! Explore the nature around you and ask your children what they see and think about the environment they're in.

Enjoy summer in ways that keep your child's mind challenged and active, but keep their safety in mind on every adventure. It's important to teach young kids how to have fun in the sun safely and take the right precautions to avoid burnout. [Read our under-the-sun tips and picks](#) to learn more about keeping your family protected under the sun this summer. Keep the learning going and have fun!

Happy Birthday!

Anizeta, Dinah, Andrew, Brylee, Sofia, Hannah, Gabriela, Liliana, Payton, Sophia, Luke, Rami, Christopher, Laney, Scarlett, Edinam, Adalyn, Skylar-Kay Ngwa

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KIDDIE 
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EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE

Amelia Earhart Inspires Children to Explore their Capacity for Courage at Kiddie Academy

This summer, Kiddie Academy of Lakewood Ranch an early education child care provider, will teach children to discover their inner courage as they learn about Amelia Earhart, Gertrude Ederle, Rosa Parks, and Katherine Switzer - historical pioneers known for their fearlessness when facing enormous personal and political challenges. The lesson is an extension of Kiddie Academy's ongoing Amazing Starts Here creative campaign, which highlights strong role models from America's past to inspire generations of the future. According to Richard Peterson, vice president of education for Kiddie Academy, the latest curriculum is designed to help children understand what "courage" really is.

This summer, Kiddie Academy's CampVentures® program will inspire children's imagination through a program of exciting and developmentally appropriate activities, field trips, and special visitors designed to turn summer vacation into a summer of exploration for children ages 2 through 12. With four brave and determined role models as their inspiration, children will be encouraged to try new things, take new risks, meet new friends, and discover that they have the courage to make mistakes as they learn and have fun.

Parent Reminders

- Please pack a seasonally appropriate change of clothes (including socks and underwear) . Be sure to replace this extra set of clothes as the seasons change and your child grows
- Reminder: We are a Peanut-Free Center
- Water Days start June 9th. Please bring your child in his/her bathing suit. Please bring a change of clothes and a towel. No swim diapers.

VPK Mother's Day Tea Party

