

Dear Kiddie Academy families,

### "Strong Families Spend Time Together"

Spending time together is an important part of building the strength of your family. Children and adults feel a sense of belonging when they can play, work, laugh, and cry together. Family traditions such as holidays, birthdays, trips, and special family events build memories. Children learn to bring balance to their lives when they see their parents setting aside time for what they value. They also learn how much they are valued and loved when their parents give them what counts most - their time.

## Happy Birthday!

RAELEIGH L. 5/1

VELCY G. 5/2

ROWAN M. 5/5

COLTON M. 5/7

SRUJAN N. 5/7

QUINN B. 5/10

KYLE T. 5/13

KIAN M. 5/21

LOREN V. 5/27

NEIL P. 5/28

MS. BONNIE 5/19

MS. CASSIE 5/31

### Planning a Summer Vacation for the Entire Family

Gone are the days when you and your partner could jump on a plane or get in the car with one bag in hand for a spontaneous vacation. Now that you are a parent, a working parent at that, family vacations have become another item on your to-do list. They require a great deal of planning ahead in the hopes that you can accommodate work schedules, camp schedules and the good ole fashioned need for relaxation and fun. If you're looking to get ahead, May is the perfect month to start planning. Here are some tips to help make planning your family's summer vacation a more pleasant, and dare we say fun, endeavor:

1. **Formulate a Plan.** There are key questions to be answered before diving into the sea of summer vacation planning. What is your budget? How long do you want to be gone? Who is going and what are their interests? Is the destination new or a return trip? If you start your research without these answers, you'll be finishing your plan in 2014.
2. **Have a Loose Itinerary.** Traveling with young kids and no agenda can be a recipe for disaster. Know what activities are available and schedule them into your trip, allowing for some flexibility, of course. You don't want to waste time while on your vacation trying to research options, such as theme parks, horseback riding, bike rides, museums, etc. Set aside some down time or allow for family members to do separate activities as well.
3. **Start a list.** If you're a natural list-maker, this will come easy to you. Making lists for everything from what to pack to a list of songs to listen to in the car, to a list of activities to do when you get there can really take the guesswork out of planning on the fly. Try using a digital list-maker like [Wunderlist](#) for Gmail, a plugin for your Gmail account that allows you to check your to-do list while you check our email!
4. **Keep it Documented.** It's already tough to juggle daily routines, work responsibilities, social plans and planning a vacation just adds more balls into the air. Get organize by keeping a list, or creating a calendar item on your smart phone, of all the "to dos," such as making reservations, buying supplies, purchasing tickets or items to pack. Keep a folder of any receipts, print outs, tickets or schedules that will be needed on the trip for easy reference.

A little smooth planning can lay the groundwork for some great anticipation before the big trip! Channel soothing, summery thoughts in the months leading up to this

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**KIDDIE**  
**ACADEMY.**  
EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE

## CHARACTER EDUCATION

**HUMOR:** Humor is the ability to perceive and appreciate comedy in the world and within ourselves. Children find so many different things funny, from silly sounding words and bodily functions to songs and knock-knock jokes.

It is important to have discussions about appropriate comedy and when it is not acceptable to laugh at someone; for instance, if someone is hurt or if someone looks different.

**HUMOR EVERYDAY:** Adults have the opportunity to use comedy and humor as a teaching tool for children through spontaneous songs and poems. It is also appropriate to demonstrate for children how you can laugh at yourself when you make a mistake to ease the tension or frustration.

**VOCABULARY:** Funny, laughter, joke, silly, serious, riddle, exaggeration, humorous, comedy

## May Special Events

### Cinco de May 5/5

We will celebrate with decorations and Ms. Lola will make nanchos for lunch

### PNO Parent's night out Friday 5/12

**Take Mom out for dinner or a movie for Mother's Day!**

**6:30-11:30 \$30**

### Muffins for Mom! 5/12

When dropping off Please stop by the front lobby area and spend a few minutes with your child we will have muffins and juice.

## Parent Reminders –

Weekly Tuition is due Wednesday

Monthly Tuition is due Thursday of the month end

Please make sure your child has a change of clothes in case of a spill or potty accidents

All bottles and sippy cups must be labeled with your child's first and last name per State.



