



# HOMESCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Welcome Back!



*LICOC*  
**HOMESCHOOL  
GROUP**

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Remember to smell the flowers.

*Dear family,*

*Welcome back! The summer has come and gone and fall is upon us – Time flies!*

*With the start of a new homeschool year our schedules are busy and time seems to speed by. But we must remember to smell the flowers.*

*Currently, God has planted us at home and it's easy to be distracted by all of the work that needs to be accomplished each day. It's important for you and me to work towards our goals for the day but we also need to look for opportunities to nurture and grow our relationships.*

- Here are some examples:
- \*Start each day with affection- even older kids need affection*
  - \*Eat lunch together (picnic inside, theme, etc)*
  - \*Go to a local park for Physical Education*
  - \*Watch a movie based a book, you've read together. Don't forget the popcorn☺.*
  - \*Cook dinner together*
  - \*Take time each day to meditate on God and refresh your mind.*

- \*Take a field trip/outing related to a school subject (invite another family along)*
  - \*Make a monthly date with your spouse.*
  - \*Have a library or educational game day*
- Let's make memories and relish our time together because it goes by so fast! Deb T*

So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.  
Psalm 90:12 Esv

### Upcoming Events

- MNO – November 14, 2008
- Art Gallery – Jan. 2009
- Recitation – Feb. 2009
- Fine Art's Day – Jan. 16 2009 – Georges Seurat
- Women's Meeting – Jan 2009

### How does your child learn best?



Did you know that each person has his or her own unique way of learning? This is what produces visionary artists, magnificent musicians, and gold medal athletes.

Knowing how your child learns best is like finding hidden gold! Even though it's been there all along, you may have not have realized how valuable it is, or how to help your child use it to generate a lifetime of success.

#### **What is a Personal Learning Style?**

Everyone has an extraordinary capacity to learn in many different ways. To understand what a learning style is, just think of how you prefer to learn new things. Do you like to soak up new information through pictures, sounds, or in some physical way through your feelings or touch?

How about when you remember what you have learned? Do you see images in your mind, hear words, or actually like to re-create the information in a physical way?

A learning style is simply a preference for the method by which you learn and remember what you learned. But make no mistake! Your personal learning style is so powerful, it affects nearly everything you do, from how you think and make decisions, and to whether or not school seems easy or hard.

#### **What are the Three Primary Learning Styles?**

The three primary learning styles are: visual, auditory and kinesthetic.

While your child will have some characteristics of each style, usually there is a preference for one over the others. For example, my son is more kinesthetic or tactile, while my daughter is more auditory/visual. I tend to prefer all three styles just about equally.

#### **What do my Child's Learning Styles Mean?**

Each learning style has its own characteristics. Your child will use his or her preferred learning style in school, at home, on the playground, and virtually everywhere. That's why it is so important to know how your child learns best. Think about your child for a moment and see if you recognize any of the following traits in your child:

#### **Visual Learning Style**

- Learns best by seeing or thinking in pictures
- Neat, orderly
- Speaks quickly, holds head up, shoulders erect
- Good long range planner
- Good speller

Continues on page 2

*Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always give thanks to God the father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Eph 5:19-20*



## Family Fun

Did you ever wonder what it would be like if roles were reversed? We had some unplanned fun recently and I wanted to share it for laughs.

One late afternoon, a couple of weeks ago, I was feeling REALLY tired...too tired to cook. After school I laid on the couch and I could not get up. My husband called me on his way home from work as usual and I shared with him how I felt. He gave me some ideas for an easy dinner, but I really, really did not want to cook. I was hoping for a "Get-Out-of-Jail- Free Dinner" Card to be dealt to me, but I guess he didn't have any money to spare.

So, I made my way to my Mom's upstairs kind of hoping she was planning something good to eat and we could kind of grub some from her for dinner. But, she was feeling the same as me and we both sat on the couch talking and almost wishing dinner into existence.

She finally asked me what the kids were doing and I realized I had been up there for a little while and I had no idea what they were getting into. . So we both went downstairs to check on them. To our surprise, Rob was in the kitchen cooking Rice, beans and chicken cutlets. We were shocked! I didn't even know he was home yet! What a wonderful surprise!

Hannah was helping him cook, telling him how mommy does it. Leah and Robert were setting the table. What a relief! Mom was so shocked she asked Rob how he defrosted the chicken and whether or not he washed the chicken. He said that he used the microwave to defrost it and he thought it looked clean so he didn't need to wash the chicken.

We laughed together and figured we'll just pray extra hard over it and God will take care of us. After all, we're not complaining, we just wished dinner into existence and here it was! Almost ready and we didn't lift a finger to prepare it! Praise God!

So Mom and I went to the living room and rested on the couch until dinner was ready. I played Super Mario Brothers on the Wii while she watched and talked with me. It felt weird, our roles were reversed, Rob in the kitchen and me on the couch. It was fun for the moment. Mom and I were enjoying this rare occasion.

Then Rob called us in to dinner, and Mom said quietly, "Hurry up start a new game, make him wait so he knows how it feels when we call him to dinner and he makes us wait." We started laughing hysterically and Rob heard it all and started laughing too.

We all sat down laughing together and ate a good meal prepared by my wonderful husband, and believe it or not no one even got sick. Praise God!

Oh, and by the way, ever since that night, he has been coming to dinner a lot quicker when I call. Funny how things work, isn't it?

Becky Y

**Tip: 1 bag = 5 dinners**  
 Save time and stay on a budget with this easy economical meal plan  
**Check out clever dinner ideas at:**  
<http://www.kraftfoods.com/kf/Dinner/1Bag5Dinners/Pages/1Bag5DinnersLandin.aspx?smid=1003736>

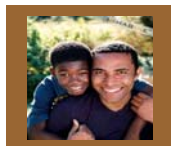
Preparation for learning

- Clear minded
- A good physical environment
- Calm emotions
- An atmosphere of order
- Encouragement to learn
- Background knowledge
- Prayer

The Homeschool Manual

## The Blessing of Dads

continues ... "How does your child learn best?"



"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Deu. 6:5-7

In homeschooling, moms are naturally the focus. However, Dad's are also a valuable part of the homeschool experience.

Our families are as unique as we are and each family has different needs to be met. Each Dad contributes to homeschooling in different ways. But, God is the common thread that unifies us-We are blessed!

Below are a few examples of how Dads bless our families. If this list inspires you – make up your own list and share it with your husbands.

Our husbands are Godly men who work hard to care for our families. This sets a good example of faithfulness and responsibility for our children as they go to work every day. Their hard work gives us the freedom to homeschool.

Our husbands take care of us. Telling us we are wonderful, and that we're doing a good job.



They don't question our abilities but, rather encourage us in what we are trying to do.

They listen to us when we have a bad day or a bad week, and are sympathetic rather than critical.

Our husbands are eager to watch the kids so we can go out with a friend from time to time.

Dads loving spend time with their children. They bond with them through play and talking with them.

They read aloud to the kids and pray with them daily.

Dads impress God's word on our family's hearts and strive to obey God's will.

Our husbands are a support, and a partner in this journey.

Deb T (excerpts- A survivors guide to homeschooling)

- Memorizes by strong visual associations
- Likes to have a full "overview" about a subject before seeing the smaller pieces
- May like to write things down and make lists

### Auditory Learning Style

- Learns best through hearing
- Likes to listen to lectures, music and others talking
- Good story teller
- Talks to self
- Likes talking more than writing
- Is easily distracted by noise — generally can't listen to someone talk on phone and listen to someone else talk to them at same time
- Usually has problems with projects involving visualization
- Likes jokes better than comics

### Kinesthetic — Physical Learning Style

- Learns best by doing and through movement
- Good athlete

- Speaks more slowly
- Responds to physical rewards
- Memorizes by moving around, walking, etc.
- Gestures a lot, may not notice clutter in their room, or think it is okay.
- Can't sit still for long periods of time
- Uses action words when speaking
- Touches others to get their attention
- Wants to act things out and likes to get involved in games

No matter what your child's learning style, be sure to notice and acknowledge their unique talents and special gifts.

**Quick tip:** *If you ever wonder why it is hard to communicate with your child, it may be because you have two, very different types of learning styles. However, you can bridge that gap quickly, by understanding the traits in all three styles.*

Celebrate your children's strengths. Get them involved in hobbies and outside activities that use their learning styles, talents, and abilities to the best advantage. Have fun learning! Submitted by Catherine B (adapted from "How does your child learn best" Pat Wyman, MA 2006)

## Chicken Divan



### Ingredients

- 2 (10-ounce) packages frozen broccoli, chopped
- 6 cups shredded chicken, cooked
- 2 (10 3/4-ounce) cans condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup grated sharp Cheddar
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- Salt and pepper
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan
- 1/2 cup soft bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted

### Directions

Pre-heat oven to 350 degree

Microwave open broccoli for 2 min until thaw. Drain broccoli and put into a large bowl. Add shredded chicken  
In a medium bowl combine soup, mayonnaise, sour cream, cheddar, lemon juice, curry powder, salt, and pepper to taste, and wine. Whisk together to make a sauce. Pour sauce over broccoli and chicken. Mix with a spatula.  
Place the mixture in an 11 by 7-inch casserole pan or 2 (9 inch) disposable aluminum pans that have been sprayed with vegetable oil cooking spray. Pat down mixture evenly and smooth with a spatula. Combine parmesan, bread crumbs, and butter and sprinkle over the top. Bake for about 30 to 45 mins

Cook's note: Try topping with cheddar or Gruyere cheese

Submitted by LaSonya L (Paula Deen foodnetwork.com)

## Classic Hot Cocoa



For holiday twist, present mugs of cocoa crowned with fluffy white marshmallows and embellished with candy canes.

Start to finish: 15min.

2 ounces unsweetened or semisweet chocolate coarsely chopped or 1/3 cup semisweet chocolate pieces  
1/3 cup sugar  
4 cups milk

1. In medium sauce pan combine chocolate, sugar, and 1/2 cup of the milk. Stir over medium heat until mixture just comes to boiling. Stir in remaining 3/2 cups milk; heat through, but do not boil.
2. Remove from heat. If desired, beat mixture with a rotary beater until frothy.

Makes about six 6-ounce servings.

"100 Best cookies"- Better Homes and Gardens.

## Slow-cooker hearty beef chili



### What you need:

- 1 1/2 lb. lean ground beef
- 1 can (15oz) dark red kidney beans, drained, rinsed
- 1 can (15 oz) light red kidney beans, drained, rinsed
- 1 1/2 cups of your favorite thick' N chunky mild salsa
- 1 can (16 oz) tomato sauce
- 2 tbsp. chili powder
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 cup frozen corn, thawed, drained
- 1 cup Mexican Style shredded four cheese

### Directions:

Brown meat; drain. Add to slow cooker with remaining ingredients except cheese; stir. Cover with lid.

Cook on Low 5 to 6 hours (or on High 3 to 4 hours)

Stir just before serving, serve topped with cheese.

Prep:10 Total:6 hours 10min Makes:8 servings, about 1 cup each.

www.Kraftfood.com

## Mix & match coleslaw



### What you need:

- 1 pkg. (16 oz) coleslaw blend

### Directions:

Toss coleslaw with **one** of the Option (see below)

#### Option 1: Ranch-Style

##### Add to coleslaw:

- 4 slices bacon, crisply cooked, drained and crumbled
- 1/2 cup ranch dressing.

#### Option 2: Asian-Style

##### Add to coleslaw:

- 1/4 cup chopped peanuts
- 1/2 cup Asian toasted sesame dressing

#### Option 3: Italian-Style

##### Add to coleslaw:

- 1 small red pepper, cut into short thin strips
- 1/2 cup Tuscan House Italian dressing

www.Kraftfoods.com

## Apple-bran muffins

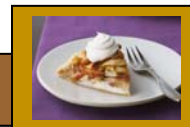


- 1 1/4 cups bran flakes cereal ( I used All Bran cereal instead)
- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 1/4 cups apple juice
- 1/4 cup margarine, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 apple - peeled, cored and chopped

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Grease muffin tins. In a mixing bowl, combine bran flakes, flour, brown sugar, cinnamon and baking powder. Stir in apple juice, margarine, vanilla, and apple. Spoon the mixture into the greased muffin tins.

Bake at 375 degrees F (190 degrees C) for 25 to 30 minutes. Submitted by Catherine B (allrecipes.com)

## Freestyle apple tart



### What you need

1 ready-to-use-refrigerated pie crust (1/2 of 15 oz pkg.)

4 oz (1/2 of 8 oz pkg.) cream cheese, softened

3 red and/or green apples (1 1/4 lb.) thinly sliced

1/4 cup sugar

2 Tbsp flour

1 tsp cinnamon sugar

1 cup thawed Whipped topping

1. Heat oven to 450 degree F. Line 9-inch pie plate with crust. Carefully spread cream cheese in 6-inch circle in center.
2. Toss apples with sugar and flour; spoon over cream cheese.
3. Put apple in pie crust. Fold crust partially over apples. Sprinkle with cinnamon sugar. Bake 25 min., covering loosely with foil for last 5 min. Cool. Serve with whipped topping. Refrigerate leftovers.

www.kraftfoods.com

## Who should be vaccinated against Influenza (The flu)?

In July 2008, the center for Disease Control and prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) issued guidelines for the 2008 Flu seasons.

- Anyone who wishes to reduce risk of becoming ill with influenza or transmitting it to others.
- Children aged 6 months through 18 years.
- Woman who will be pregnant during flu season
- Adults with chronic health conditions such as kidney disease, heart problems, diabetes, sickle cell anemia, thalassemia, HIV, and those on long term aspirin therapy.
- Residents of long-term care facilities

\*\*\*Please note that some of the vaccinations do contain Mercury, which has been controversially linked to some disorders in early childhood development. Please ask your health care worker for further information.



Information gathered by Jacqueline Green

Check out these websites!

- <http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/>
- <http://www.factmonster.com/>
- <http://www.funbrain.com>

Doris.

My library has great educational videos called "Liberty's Kids". There are about a dozen different videos available. They used to be on TV on PBS. These cartoon videos introduce 7-12 year olds to the exciting stories and people behind the birth of a nation. The two teenagers in the show work in Benjamin Franklin's print shop and discover first-hand the great adventures of the American Revolution. These videos are a great learning resource. Check them out!

Catherine B



**Question:** Does anyone feel like you're stifling your child's desire to succeed and do better because there is no competition in your homeschool like there would be in a classroom setting? Catherine B

*It is important to offer opportunities for our children to interact and participate in competitive activities with one another - especially, as they grow older. I think a good option would be a Coop. This would give the children the opportunity to participate in a group setting while maintain the goal of homeschooling. You can also involve your child in sports, Library programs such as: Battle of the books, Bake offs, Teen friends, etc. and community programs. Please feel free to email our sister with any further suggestions.*

Deb T

Every week is different. There are doctor's appointments, sickness, out-of-town visitors, and holidays. There are good days, bad days, and crazy days. Every year it is different. One year it's toddlers and potty training, and in no time it's teenagers and all that goes with them. This year maybe you have money, but maybe next year you won't. Now you may have three kids, but you may be blessed with six. Nothing stays the same except the faithfulness of God. Put your energies into the things that will matter twenty years from now and for eternity. Don't get excited or upset about things that won't matter tomorrow, or next week, or a month from now or even next year. Keep an eternal perspective by looking to the Lord. Read His word and find out what the truly important things are from His point of view, and concentrate on them. *A Survivors Guide to Home Schooling (Luanne Shackelford & Susan White)*

I have two websites that look interesting.

[www.rainforest-alliance.org/programs/education/](http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/programs/education/) this site includes coloring pages, stories and crafts about rainforests and animals.

[www.learningcenter.nsta.org](http://www.learningcenter.nsta.org) this site is apparently for science teachers. Anyone can log on to their site for the free science curricula portion. The actual science lessons appear to be online with video demonstrations of the science experiments and short quizzes that get you thinking about what you just saw. I'm sure the older kids would find this interesting. I registered as a non-member; they only require your name and e-mail.

Love Marie B



If you're looking for a supplemental math website-this is a great site!

<http://nlvm.usu.edu/>

Catherine B

## Teaching with babies and toddlers

1. Getting your baby into some sort of routine during the day will help with teach other kids. Most babies take a morning and an afternoon nap. Try to teach your older kids during this time rather than do housework. Teaching needs quiet, but dishes don't.
2. For preschooler who clamor to "have school too". It is a good idea to sit down and read or does a workbook page with them for ten minutes or so before you begin schoolwork with the big ones. Plan for older children to do chores or have independent reading during this time. This will make younger children feel they are not being left out.
3. Fill a basket and a box with toys for them to dump out and scatter around. Put plastic containers and dishes in a bottom cupboard and drawer for them to unload they will think they are getting into all kinds of mischief but you'll know better.
4. When you child is very steady on his feet, put a chair or chairs (depending one number of kids). Put warm water and bubbles into kitchen sink, give toddler Tupperware, and ask him to please wash dishes. This is usually good for 45 min. The floor and the child will be wet; it's a small price to pay. Plan this activity on a day the floor needs to be mopped. ☺ Be sure that you put soap bottle out of reach, as well as any glass items and check in from time to time to make sure no ones gone for a swim.

Remember to be flexible. You will not have the same schedule everyday. Every day is different, so expect it, accept and even plan for it. Don't waste energy trying to change the unchangeable. Look at your situation; be realistic about it, and the work with it.

*A Survivors Guide to Home Schooling (Luanne Shackelford & Susan White)*



## The Camel's nose – Aesop's fable



*A man who lived in the desert bought a favorite pet camel. The camel carried spices, wood, and tents from place to place for the man. Sometimes the man rode on the camel. They made many journeys together.*

*Every night, the man cooked his supper over a fire, and then set up his tent nearby. The tent was warm and the desert nights were very cold. One night, the camel stuck his nose in the opening of the tent. "Master," said the camel, "my nose is a little bit cold. If I could put just my nose inside your tent, I would sleep better." "Yes," said the man, "the tent is large enough for your nose. You may put your nose into the tent." So the camel stuck his nose under the front flap of the tent.*

*Not long after, the camel said, "Good master, thank you for letting me put my nose into the tent. My nose is beautifully warm! But the rest of my head would like to be near you, too." The man thought, "My camel is too large to come into this tent. But his head is small! He can put his head into my tent." So he said, "Of course." You may put your whole head into my tent." The camel wriggled his head into the tent. But, very soon, the camel said, "Kind Master, I may catch cold if my head is warm and my body is cold. May I please put my neck inside, too?" The camel's request seemed reasonable, so the man said, "You may put your neck into tent, too."*

*After a little while, the camel said, "Generous master, I am tired of standing here. May I kneel with my front legs in the tent?" The master did not want his animal exhasuted in the morning, so he moved over and allowed the camel to put his nose, his head, his neck and his front legs inside the tent.*

*The man was beginning to fall asleep when he heard, "Wonderful master, I do not want you to be uncomfortable in the night and I worry that when I kneel this way, half-in and half-out of the tent, cold air rushes into your tent. Perhaps I should come all the way in, so that you can close the front flaps behind me."*

*The man agreed, and he opened the tent flaps for the camel to come inside. But when the camel was in the tent all the way, the camel said, "We have a problem. The tent is too small for us both to lie down and sleep. I think it would be better if you went outside to sleep." And with that, the camel pushed his master out of the tent and would not let him back in.*

*While shivering outside in the cold, the man thought to himself, "I should never have let the camel put his nose into the tent! I didn't think his nose was a bad thing-but if I had stopped his nose from coming in, the rest of him would not have followed! And I would still be in my warm bed."*

Stop Bad habits before they crowd out Godly habits.

Deb T

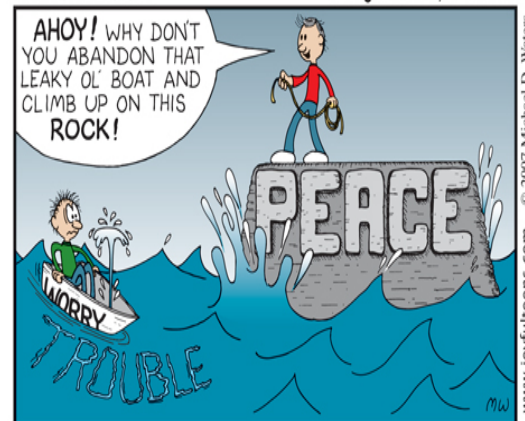


Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

PHL 4:8

## PEACE ROCK

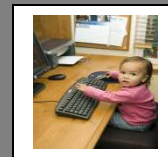
A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

- JOHN 16:33 NIV

Cartoonist's Comment: Even in the midst of a stormy sea of trouble we can have peace in Jesus, a peace as solid as a rock. But if we give way to worry and fear, we will be in danger of sinking. Joyful toons.



The newsletter can also be viewed at:  
[Yahoogroups.com](http://Yahoogroups.com)  
[LIChurchofChristHomeschoolingGroup](http://LIChurchofChristHomeschoolingGroup)

If you would like to make a submission to the spring newsletter contact Catherine B.

We pray this newsletter encourages and refreshes your souls. It has been a pleasure and an honor to put it together.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the newsletter - helping us bring glory God. Praise God for his love, mercy and grace.

Deb T and Catherine B