

# Newsletter

"Smile Stars Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics is committed to you and your needs. This commitment is founded in a "faith and value centric" purpose through services and trust. We are truly blessed by the opportunity to be a positive influence in the lives of you and your children.



At Smile Stars, your child's first dental visit will not only consist of establishing a dental home, a cleaning and an exam, but a time to educate the parents on proper oral hygiene habits for your little one. The dental professionals will provide information and parents will have the opportunity to ask questions. A common topic of discussion is use of the sippy cup and how it may affect a child's oral health.

The ADA explains that only water should be used in a sippy cup or the cavity risk will increase. "Most parents are well aware of the importance of taking care of their children's teeth, so it comes as a shock when they learn their toddlers have cavities during a checkup. Tooth decay among young children is on the rise—and many experts believe that sippy cups containing sugary beverages are responsible. Since sippy cups prevent spills, they're often used by children for long periods of time over months and years—rather than as a transitional drinking device, a purpose for which they were intended (AAPD)."

"Sippy cups were created to help children transition from a bottle to drinking from a regular cup, but they're too often used for convenience," says American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) President Philip H. Hunke, D.D.S., M.S.D. "When kids sip for extended periods on sugared beverages, they're exposed to a higher risk of decay. Sippy cups should only contain water unless it's mealtime." In fact, a report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) comparing the dental health of Americans in 1988-1994 and 1999-2002 found that while cavities decreased among older children, cavities in two- to five-year-olds actually increased 15.2 percent. By taking the time to educate parents, we can help to decrease the number of children presenting to their dental visit with cavities. We are here to serve you and answer any questions or concerns you may have!

<http://www.mychildrensteeth.org/education/sippycup/>

St. Patrick's Day – March 17<sup>th</sup>

We will be dressing up for St. Patrick's Day! Tag us on Facebook/Instagram so we can see your cool St. Patrick's Day attire!

# Jeremiah's Travels



# Mardi Gras!



★ Star Patient ★

Jacob

Favorite Animal: Fox

Hobby: Loves to play outside



Mudbug Academy serves families who seek a more structured early learning experience that's heavily focused on physical development, preparatory academics and character-shaping values, delivered professionally and compassionately in a safe, welcoming environment. We prepare little learners for a successful life ahead on a solid foundation of physical education, functional skills and faith-based values.

### Crawfish Swim School

Swimming, especially for younger swimmers, is not like riding a bike. Swimmers will not hop back in after many months of not swimming and remember their skills. Even more concerning, the possibility of a water emergency is not isolated to the summer months, so it is important to maintain regular practice! Don't start from square one each summer or let these life-saving skills fizzle out with the summer months. Water Safety Matters, No Matter the Season!

[www.crawfishswimschool.com](http://www.crawfishswimschool.com)



Grab a coffee while you wait!

PJ's Coffee on Hwy 73 in Prairieville!



@PJSBAYOUOAKS

#### Stay Connected!



Smile Stars-Prairieville  
Smile Stars Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics



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## Meeting Your Needs, Not Ours!

