



CAMP SHAMROCK NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 40 years 1966 – 2006
www.CampShamrock.org

ISSUE 25 ~ JUNE 2007

Another year has passed and yet again it's time for Camp Shamrock to begin. As all of you who have been there before, camp is no ordinary holiday. Nobody yet has been able to leave it without having been impacted in a positive way by it.



We hope to be able to continue to impact you in a positive way this year by introducing the theme for this year which is 'God Loves Me' Throughout the duration of your stay at camp, we would like to bring out the importance of God's love, the impact it had on the lives of many of the major biblical characters such as Noah, Joshua, the Israelites and Joseph. We then intend to show you how God's love can relate to you personally and the difference it can make to your life.

As always, we intend to have counsellors from USA, England, Ireland and possibly Zimbabwe. We will also have activities such as bouldering, hiking, swimming, competitions, classes etc. so there will be lots of opportunities for you to enjoy the company of your friends and hopefully make lots of new ones while you are there.

For those of you who have not yet sent in your form, there is one attached to this newsletter. If you are intending to be at camp, please complete it and get it in to Bert ASAP to avoid disappointment as we have limited spaces. Full details can be found on page 3 along with a new Child Protection rule regarding the use of mobile phones, which **Parents/Guardians should note.**

We look forward to seeing you very soon!!

THE U IN JES US

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God stuck U in the name of His Son.

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
and this word resUrrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.

" Go into the world and tell them it's true
that I love them all - Just like I love U."

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know,
but it all starts with U.

Supplied by Brenda Penman.



Dates and Information

CAMP SHAMROCK 2007

Boys camp ~ 9th-17th July



Girls camp ~ 19th-27th July

Price £60

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

- ♣ Protecting our children
- ♣ Setting good standards
- ♣ Implementing good practice

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW RULE THIS YEAR REGARDING MOBILE PHONES.



AT THE START OF CAMP ALL MOBILE PHONES MUST BE HANDED IN TO THE DIRECTORS.

A TIME WILL BE SCHEDULED EACH EVENING FOR THE CHILD TO USE HIS/HER PHONE TO CONTACT THEIR PARENTS. IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT YOUR CHILD OUTSIDE OF THESE HOURS PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE DIRECTORS. (NUMBERS IN THE GUIDELINE LEAFLET ENCLOSED)

For further information or if you would like more forms for camp please visit our website at www.campshamrock.org or contact either

Bert Ritchie ~ 028 20731180 or 0771 2548310; ritchie@utvinternet.com
14 Craigaboney Road, Bushmills. Co. Antrim. N. Ireland. BT57 8XD

or

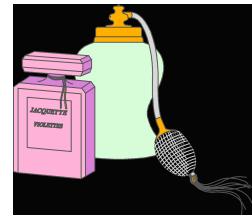
Sheba Clinton ~ 028 70327296 or 07989279103; sheba.clinton@fiscali.co.uk
26 Ashton Drive, Coleraine. Co. Londonderry. N. Ireland BT52 1NW

Application forms should be sent to Bert.

The Perfume

As she stood in front of her 5th grade class on the very first day of school, she told the children an untruth. Like most teachers, she looked at her students and said that she loved them all the same. However, that was impossible, because there in the front row, slumped in his seat, was a little boy named Teddy Stoddard. Mrs. Thompson had watched Teddy the year before and noticed that he did not play well with the other children, that his clothes were messy and that he constantly needed a bath. In addition, Teddy could be unpleasant. It got to the point where Mrs. Thompson would actually take delight in marking his papers with a broad red pen, making bold X's and then putting a big "F" at the top of his papers. At the school where Mrs. Thompson taught, she was required to review each child's past records and she put Teddy's off until last. However, when she reviewed his file, she was in for a surprise.

Teddy's first grade teacher wrote, "Teddy is a bright child with a ready laugh. He does his work neatly and has good manners... he is a joy to be around." His second grade teacher wrote, "Teddy is an excellent student, well liked by his classmates, but he is troubled because his mother has a terminal illness and life at home must be a struggle." His third grade teacher wrote, "His mother's death has been hard on him. He tries to do his best, but his father doesn't show much interest and his home life will soon affect him if some steps aren't taken." Teddy's fourth grade teacher wrote, "Teddy is withdrawn and doesn't show much interest in school. He doesn't have many friends and he sometimes sleeps in class."



By now, Mrs. Thompson realized the problem and she was ashamed of herself. She felt even worse when her students brought her Christmas presents, wrapped in beautiful ribbons and bright paper, except for Teddy's. His present was clumsily wrapped in the heavy, brown paper that he got from a grocery bag. Mrs. Thompson took pains to open it in the middle of the other presents. Some of the children started to laugh when she found a rhinestone bracelet with some of the stones missing, and a bottle that was one-quarter full of perfume. But she stifled the children's laughter when she exclaimed how pretty the bracelet was, putting it on, and dabbing some of the perfume on her wrist. Teddy Stoddard stayed after school that day just long to say, " Mrs. Thompson, today you smelled just like my Mom used to." After the children left, she cried for at least an hour. On that very day, she quit teaching reading, writing and arithmetic. Instead, she began to teach children. Mrs. Thompson paid particular attention to Teddy. As she worked with him, his mind seemed to come alive. The more she encouraged him, the faster he responded. By the end of the year, Teddy had become one of the smartest children in the class and, despite her lie that she would love all the children the same, Teddy became one of her "teacher's pets."

A year later, she found a note under her door, from Teddy, telling her that she was still the best teacher he ever had in his whole life. Six years went by before she got another note from Teddy. He then wrote that he had finished high school, third in his class, and she was still the best teacher he ever had in his whole life. Four years after that, she got another letter, saying that while things had been tough at times, he'd stayed in school, had stuck with it, and would soon graduate from college with the highest of honours. He assured Mrs. Thompson that she was still the best and favourite teacher he had ever had in his whole life.

Then four more years passed and yet another letter came. This time he explained that after he got his bachelor's degree, he decided to go a little further. The letter explained that she was still the best and favourite teacher he ever had. But now his name was a little longer.... the letter was signed, Theodore F. Stoddard, MD.

The story does not end there. You see, there was yet another letter that spring. Teddy said he had met this girl and was going to be married. He explained that his father had died a couple of years ago and he was wondering if Mrs. Thompson might agree to sit at the wedding in the place that was usually reserved for the mother of the groom. Of course, Mrs. Thompson did. And guess what? She wore that bracelet, the one with several rhinestones missing. Moreover, she made sure she was wearing the perfume that Teddy remembered his mother wearing on their last Christmas together.

They hugged each other, and Dr. Stoddard whispered in Mrs. Thompson's ear, "Thank you Mrs. Thompson for believing in me. Thank you so much for making me feel important and showing me that I could make a difference."

Mrs. Thompson, with tears in her eyes, whispered back. She said, "Teddy, you have it all wrong. You were the one who taught me that I could make a difference. I didn't know how to teach until I met you."



Some people do not realise the power of influence they can have on another person's life just by doing the simplest things for them. Random acts of kindness can only have a positive influence on people. Do something nice today to for someone – for no reason at all other than the fact you want to. It doesn't even have to be a friend; it can be somebody you do not know. All it takes is one person to believe in you and the difference it can make can be life changing. It could make all the difference, not only to them but to you too. Kindness is like perfume – you cannot spray some on other people without receiving some yourself.