



Times of the Odd Family

Burp, Bump, Bup

Notably chubby and chunky at the beginning of the year, Carson now distributes his weight evenly throughout his longer frame. He still maintains his linebacker figure and consumes incredible portions at every meal. His crawling efficiency has postponed his need for walking, but he inches closer to taking more steps each day. Never one to sit still, Carson is an avid dancer, bumping his booty to anything with a beat.

With every snort, giggle, screech, growl, and lip smack, Carson is one noisy boy. Recently, he has found the effectiveness of “duh” to identify dad, dog, Jaden, done, and down. More often, he can be heard muttering “bup-bup-bup” when he wants to be carried.



Oh, Boy

Jaden continually demonstrates how mature he has become, particularly in his role as Big Brother. One year away from kindergarten, he prides himself on buttoning his own shirts and becoming proficient with numbers, reading, and geography. Jaden is eager to help with cooking and projects, where mistakes are followed with, “That’s ok, no harm done!” He was ringbearer at two weddings (see “Family Business”), where he discovered his love of dancing. He has recently taken up soccer; running through the tunnel and eating the snacks seem to be his favorite parts of the sport.



Whoa, Momma!

“Whoa.”

That was Julie’s response after her first encounter teaching eighth-grade students at George’s old school. Julie’s Title I coaching position continues its annual metamorphosis, this time to include middle school students after 12 years of working exclusively in the elementary school sector. Julie has since made adjustments and is alternating her time between elementary and middle school classes. Her 60% position is front-loaded, so her weeks have been quite busy with the added responsibilities of family shuttle service, cooking, and putting the boys to bed. Julie will manage to wedge training for her first triathlon into her schedule.

Creating Momentum

Creekview Ranch Middle School opened its doors to over 700 students in August. George’s 12-16 hour days are long but expected, as systems are constantly being created and adjusted to accommodate school needs and visions. In addition to everyday school functions, Creekview Ranch is midway through its Phase III construction; the library, administration building, and all-weather track are scheduled for completion in April 2009.

With extensive work schedules, George has pushed up his alarm to 3:30 a.m. to exercise and has attempted to devote weekends to family time.

Family Business

John and **Chris** are constantly on the move. John’s health has recently improved as they continue to enjoy Kings games, local concerts, and family life.

It took **Donald** and **Grace** months of searching, but they were finally able to find a house in San Diego to serve their semi-retirement needs. Despite her arthritis, Grandmother **Chen-Yuan** continues to cook for the family.

Two siblings enjoyed their weddings this past summer. Brother **Mark** and Nichole tied the knot and had their wedding published in a local magazine. Sister **Jenn** married Luke before the two rocked with their band at the reception.

Janet was recently promoted at her restaurant and is quickly learning responsibilities of the waitress position.

Reflections

“Hunker down” seemed to be the motto for 2008, as the Tsais worked to accommodate a lifestyle with two kids and added work responsibilities. Three weddings and other celebrations provided opportunities to reunite with friends and family. We look forward to the many children and newlyweds 2009 will provide.



Although busier schedules and our newfound addiction to Facebook have decreased updates to our website, please continue to visit www.thetsais.com for picture galleries of friends and family.