



THE HELEN G. MUIR CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

“Love is the rule in our school!”

June 2009

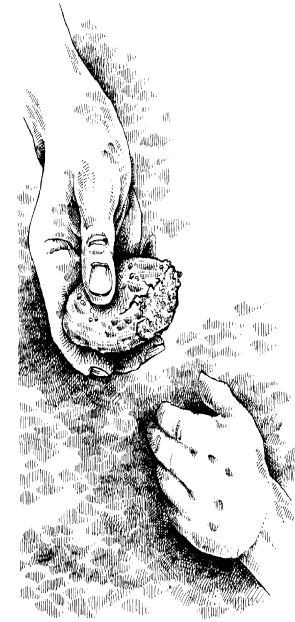
Whose Child Is This?

Author unknown

“Whose child is this?” I asked one day
Seeing a little one out at play
“Mine”, said the parent with a tender smile
“Mine to keep a little while
To bathe his hands and comb his hair
To tell him what he is to wear
To prepare him that he may always be good
And each day do the things he should.”

“Whose child is this?” I asked again
As the door opened and someone came in
“Mine”, said the teacher with the same tender smile
“Mine, to keep just for a little while
To teach him how to be gentle and kind
To train and direct his little mind
To help him live by every rule
And get the best he can from school”

“Whose child is this?” I ask once more
Just as the little one entered the door
“Ours” said the parent and the teacher as they smiled
And each took the hand of the little child
“Ours to love and train together
Ours this blessed task forever.”



Thank you for a wonderful school year!! We have enjoyed getting to know our students and their families. Good luck to our rising kindergarteners as they begin a new learning adventure this fall. We'll miss you!

Have a splendid summer! See you in September!
Norma Topping, Director

TERRIFIC TWO & ½'S

It's hard to believe that the end of the school year has come so quickly! Our truly terrific 2 ½'s have grown so much in the past year. You can see it clearly in the way they work together and how they have learned what sharing is all about. It's amazing how that at the beginning of school most couldn't touch the pedals on the tricycles and now they can pedal themselves really, really fast!

We've learned our basic colors and shapes, but have experienced so much more, including mixing liquids to make slime and measuring flour and oil to make play dough. We've cracked eggs and colored them green and painted the beautiful flowers that we've seen. We have watched as our tadpoles grew into frogs and as our caterpillars emerged as butterflies.

Building blocks and the dress-up box stimulated their imaginations, while the rice table proved that their hand-eye-coordination needs more work!

Our trip to Bluebird Gap Farm was lots of fun! The children got to see many of the farm animals that we sing and talk about. They even were able to feed and touch a few! Thank you to the parents who accompanied us and made this trip possible!

It is always hard to say goodbye to a class full of special children, but it has been a wonderful year and we thank you for sharing your children with us. It's always a joy to see the world through their eyes.

Have a safe and happy summer!
Mrs. Debbie Wheelless
Mrs. Chandra Washington- Palmer

THRILLING THREE'S

*Good-bye, friends, good-bye, friends, Time to go, time to go,
Thank you, friends, for helping, Thank you, friends, for sharing,
Love you so, love you so.*

We end each day with this song, and now it really is time to say good-bye. It's been a year of discovery, of laughing, learning and playing. Remember, learning is a process, a journey, not a destination. And each journey we have taken this school year, whether to the land of letters, numbers, colors, shapes, sizes or "Oz" has been an adventure. One of our final class journey's, Pink and Purple Piggy Placemats, which came about quite unexpectedly after reading "The Piggy in the Puddle", by Charlotte Pomerantz, is nearly complete. We will take our pink and purple placemats on a picnic of peaches, pickles, peanut butter and potato chip sandwiches. Maybe some pears and plums and pumpkin pie, too. Oh no, the pantry is empty! We'll have to order pizza instead! How's that for alliteration?! And that was our journey to the land of the letter "P".

Thank you for all you have done this year; holiday celebrations, classroom parties, goody bags, field trips, carnivals, etc. You've always been there for us. But most especially, thank you for sharing your children with us. They have each left a permanent imprint on me, and I will remember them always.

With much love,
Mrs. Aravich
Mrs. Carnes



FANTASTIC FOURS

The flowers are blooming and the sun shines bright this time of year. Our children are excited that spring has sprung. We have been enjoying this time of year through our crafts, lessons and science experiments.

Tabby Tiger took us on one final adventure – Water Wonderland! We discussed the water cycle, the many uses for water and of course having fun with water.

Our daily lessons have continued as the students are learning to blend sounds and read words. Everyone is very excited about their new academic challenge. They are also busy reviewing their numbers, counting, adding and subtracting. Finally, we cannot forget those writing skills.....they are learning how to write their last names!

After a slight delay, we were finally able to go on our field trip to the Virginia Living Museum. The children had a great time as they experienced all sorts of wildlife.

As our group heads off to a new adventure in their lives, we want to say what a pleasure it has been working with all of them. We hope we have been able to give them the self-confidence and foundation needed for a successful transition into kindergarten.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!
Mrs. Kate Radermacher
Mrs. Nicole Kelly

MAGNIFICENT FOUR'S

It's hard to believe our school year is coming to an end! This has been an exciting year for us with many new adventures.

We completed our Doors to Discovery curriculum and our visits with Al, Ty, and Kisha. Our caterpillars arrived and transformed into beautiful butterflies. We loved watching them take flight on our playground,

We finished our month with a field trip to the Virginia Living Museum. What an exciting day we had. Please come by and see the pictures in our hallway.

Mrs. Secrist and I would like to thank our parents for their wonderful support and generosity this school year with our class parties and all other school events. You helped to make this school year a big success.

In closing we would like to wish all of our students success next year in kindergarten. We are very proud of you! You have accomplished much in a short period of time. We will miss all of you.

Have a great summer!
Mrs. Susan Minter
Mrs. Heather Secrist