Message from the Director

Dear Parents and Guardians

This has been a year like none we have ever experienced prior.

We usually end our year on a high note with celebrations at each of our sites, wishing everyone a safe and happy summer, goodbye hugs, congratulations and well wishes to our graduates. However, when we left our programs in March never did we anticipate it would be for the rest of the school year.

The Covid Pandemic followed by the mass demonstrations for racial justice has stirred the world and has most certainly had the children asking questions with some that are not easy to answer. We are all being affected in different ways by these impactful recent events. Hopefully and optimistically we will be resuming in the fall and will continue to work together embracing challenges in an honest, positive manner to support our children and each other.

We were looking forward to our annual multicultural event that was a huge success last year. This year would have again showcased our children sharing similarities, celebrating differences, embodying respect for diversity, culture, customs and race. The students were exploring different forms of art, traditions, music, dance, food, history, sports, language, fashion and much more. Our families and staff all add to the richness of learning and growing together.

Possibilities are endless where unity in diversity exists.

Good byes are difficult and this year more so without the usual celebrations and closure. Some of our students are with us for a short time and many are with us from kindergarten to the end of 6th grade. Friendships are formed and very often continue beyond the program. It is a privilege to be part of their journey through kindergarten, elementary and intermediate school. To witness them grow physically, intellectually, socially, and emotionally. To see them discover strengths, talents and tackle challenges with confidence. When they leave we have mixed feelings of sadness and excitement watching them move on to the next chapter of their school journey and their future. They leave us with many fond memories and we hope that one day they will walk back in the door just to visit or share their journey and reminisce of some unforgettable stories or escapades. The kindergartner from 15 years ago returns as a 6 foot 3 young man and says “Do you remember me Miss Carol?” The reply was “How would I ever forget you?” We want to build on their strengths and tell them what we appreciate and admire in them. In Miss Tanya’s words “They are the cream of the crop “.

In celebration of our children “the cream of the Crop “ and of course all of CYS dedicated staff, Miss Christine has put together this video (https://youtu.be/ZHAvU0011Po) of memories made and memories treasured from this short year.

Thank you for entrusting your children to our care.

Warmest regards for a safe and healthy and fun filled summer.

Warm Regards,

Carol James