

## **Celebrating Our Learning**

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**Head of the Primary School**

*"At this moment  
Experience the previous now.*

*Look at what you have developed.  
Each moment fits you well.*

*Give yourself permission to  
Invent that which you need,  
But which you do not have.*

*Depend on your resources.  
Also, give yourself permission to risk  
Something new.*

*Give yourself permission to  
Daily, weekly, monthly,  
Enter into the sorting process.*

*This can be called  
Learning or growing or rejoicing."  
- Virginia Satir*

Those of us working in an educational environment are reminded daily about the fact that we never stop learning about our students, ourselves, new strategies for teaching, or the latest educational research. Modeling our awareness of this new knowledge is another important part of interacting with our students. As of this writing, we have been in session for 75 days. I thought it would be illuminating to take a pulse of our learning throughout the community. I hope you enjoy reading about the heartbeat of discovery in the Primary School.

*Question: What new knowledge or skill have you learned during this school year?*

### *PreSchool 3's*

Jillian: "I learned how to cut out a Christmas tree."

Alex: "I learned how to name and match colors."

Brecklyn: "I learned how to look at pictures to tell what words say."

### *PreSchool 4's*

Charlotte: "The candles on the calendar are making a pattern. I know what comes next."

Connor: "I liked to sort the gingerbread men in the gingerbread game."

Macy: "Words like make and cake rhyme."

### *JrK*

Musa: "I learned how to bounce the ball with my right and left hands."

Molly: "I was counting in my head to four, and I used my fingers, too. Do you know what? Two and two make four."

Liya: "I've been learning that some things come in pairs – like two eyes and two hands."

### *Kindergarten*

Jacob: "I learned how to tie my shoes."

Reid: "I learned about our bones and how to have healthy bodies."

### *First Grade*

Jude: "I learned about space and that there are stars, planets, asteroids and meteors in space."

Joci: "I learned that there are many different tribes of Plains Indians."

### *Second Grade*

Matthew: "I learned that bats are nocturnal, and they eat insects."

Tyler: "I've really learned how to spell better."

### *Third Grade*

Elizabeth: "I've learned how to develop ideas, draft, edit and publish my writing ideas. I'm a better writer."

Clinton: "I've learned how to read at the right pace – like I'm having a conversation. And I make a movie

in my mind to understand what's happening in the story."

Emily: "I've learned in science that pressure or salt will help melt ice faster."

Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Patterson have been thinking about fine motor development and appropriate skills for their students.

"We realized that we want to help our parents understand that three-year-olds need to be encouraged if they want to try something new, but they will become quickly discouraged if we over-teach them, and they're not developmentally ready."

Mr. Christian: "I've learned that a new environment can provide us with an interesting challenge as we discover how to adjust to new possibilities."

Mrs. Holt: "I've been reminded that our writing workshop process is continually evolving, and our students experience the progression of skills with such ease as they naturally use the strategies we are teaching to express their thoughts."

As we wind down 2009 and enter into 2010, I wish you and your family the best. Take a moment to reflect with each other about what you've learned this year, celebrate how you've grown, and rejoice in discovering something new about each other. Happy Holidays!