**MESSAGE FROM the PRINCIPAL: 2013-2014**

Dear Yearbook Reader,

A school is not just a building. A school is not just a group of classrooms with children in them. A school is not just reading, writing, and arithmetic. My definition of “school” is more of a concept. It is the interaction of many different people with a common focus: the educating of children to the best of their ability. In addition, the term “education” is not just learning content, facts and processes, but learning what it takes to be successful in life.

The Little Schoolhouse is a building that is home to a special family. We are fortunate and dedicated caretakers of wonderful children year after year, installed in a historic house in the heart of downtown Nassau.

The Little Schoolhouse has thriving classrooms of happy children who love coming to school and are are so happy to be at school with their friends and teachers. They love the activities, from easel painting to play-dough, building with blocks to completing an ABC floor puzzle with friends.

Further to rudimentary skills, the Little Schoolhouse fosters social-emotional and language development as is evident in how well the student body has rehearsed the Spring Performance, ‘Under The Sea.’ Nearly every student has shown a marked improvement in singing ability and stage presence. We are so proud of all of their individual and collective accomplishments.

For the better part of my student and professional life, school has been challenging in a character building way, nurtured by loving parents, and mentored by compassionate educators. While most people “go to work” each day with a sigh, I rise daily eager to “go to school,” not unlike my students and colleagues who share my vision and passion for the foundation for life-long learning.

An integral aspect of each step of education, and something we at The Little Schoolhouse strive to accomplish with every one of our students, is to be successful in life. When I see the kind and helpful nature of older students assisting younger children with a swing or a tricycle, I feel a measure of success in this endeavor. Success begins with positive school experiences that establish a sense of kindness that is necessary in today’s complicated world.

Within the community of The Little Schoolhouse, parents and teachers alike are engaged in effective communication to provide the best opportunities in the classroom as well as at home to for these bright youngsters.

It has been a great year at The Little Schoolhouse and we anticipate continued success as the years unfold.

Most sincerely,

Kara Nottage

Principal