**MESSAGE FROM the PRINCIPAL: 2014-2015**

Dear Yearbook Reader,

Let Me Paint You A Picture

In preschool we do many activities, and one of the favorites, any student will tell you, is painting. Ask your child what they liked doing at school today and they are likely to describe the painting they made just for you! As the year progresses, your little one will talk about the colors and what the markings represent and you will simultaneously marvel at their improving ability to verbally express themself and beam with pride at the budding artistic expression.

As principal of The Little Schoolhouse, I would like to paint a picture for you as well. The picture I paint is of happy engaged students who are inspired to do well and excited about learning. They love coming to school every day and their teachers are dedicated to guiding each of them through the learning process. As captured on the pages of this beautiful memory book, we see a group happily engaged in a MAT MAN activity, one of our new curriculum resources from the wonderful Handwriting Without Tears curriculum program. We see parents cheering for their children at Family Sports Day!

In this painting analogy my palette is the group of caring and well-qualified teachers with whom I collaborate who take pride in seeing children reach their developmental milestones and do so with a warm and tender approach. Our collective experience shines through when parents express their peace of mind and security in knowing our health and safety policies are steeped in the knowledge of best school practices.

A parent who recently volunteered to read to her son’s class each week was so inspired by the children and talked about having discovered a new joy. These examples of early, frequent, and clear positive influence in our nurturing and supportive environment makes the picture I paint inspired by joy and happiness.

We know that children develop best when they are in a community that knows them and where they feel connected. In our small school students are indeed known, and known well, by their schoolmates and their teachers. We encourage them to be their best self and support them every step of the way. Since 2000, our primary purpose has been to instill in our preschool children a love for learning that will carry them through their lifetime.

As most fine paintings grow in value over time, so, too, does The Little Schoolhouse; in its quality and integrity, its vibrant color and warm glow.

What was true at the turn of the last century is true today and will forever be true as we move ahead with confidence at The Little Schoolhouse.

Most sincerely,

Kara Nottage

Principal