

Dear Families and Friends of GCS,

2013 will mark the 85th year of Grace Church School. When the school was launched in 1928, the doors opened to children from fewer than 30 Parish families who wanted a communal place for their children to play together. In 2011, over 350 children applied to Grace Church School with more than 150 children from many backgrounds enrolled in the School. The School's appeal lies in the tender, gentle way children are taught in their classroom. In this busy city, where parents are challenged in so many ways, they trust Grace Church School to nourish their child while providing an excellent academic foundation for their education after Grace.

We have achieved much since our last annual giving campaign. We undertook a significant strategic planning exercise to look at the structure of the School and our priorities. Though fewer children stayed this year for our Kindergarten program, the demand for our 2s and 3s classes has increased more than 5 fold since 2007.. As a result, we are adding a new PM 3s class to our program beginning in the fall of 2013, which will in turn expand our 4s program. We also undertook, for the first time, a survey of our parent community with 97 of our 120 families responding enthusiastically. We are actively looking at ways to implement a number of the suggestions.

We made improvements to our classroom facilities. We dedicated more funds to teacher development and acquired more books for The Hope library. We continued to invest in our website using it to communicate with parents as well as to manage the admissions process.

This year's annual campaign will go towards:

1. Computers for each head teacher allowing teachers to communicate with parents and giving them an additional tool to prepare the day's activities,
2. Technology support to develop a password protected area of the website for communicating with parents and an alumni news section,
3. Architectural support to look at ways to expand classroom space

I hope that you will consider making a contribution to this year's campaign at the level at which you feel comfortable. We are grateful for every gift. While the School is changing in some aspects, our core values and traditions remain lovingly in place. As always, our ultimate goal is for our parents and staff to "grow" our children and watch them bloom! I have no doubt that Grace Church School will "bloom" for another 85 years. Thank you for your trust and your support.

Warm regards,



Hope N. Prosky
Director, Grace Church School