Family Spotlight:
Urban University Living & Learning

Rubab and Thomas O’Connor, the parents of Shahrzad (Kindergarten) and Nile (AM 4’s), met 8 years ago at Carnegie Mellon’s Heinz School where they were each pursuing a Masters of Public Management degree. Shortly after graduation, Rubab and Thomas married and settled in the burgeoning downtown neighborhood of Pittsburgh where they currently reside. Shahrzad, born on the most beautiful spring day of 2007, quickly revealed an observant curiosity and passion for books (in fact, her first word was book). She typically begins each school-bound morning with "I wonder what we are going to learn today?" and ends each day by recounting her newfound knowledge. Over the past two years, the wonderful teachers and staff of the Children’s School have helped nurture that nature by revealing and encouraging the joyful side of learning. For that, the family is most grateful. Nile was born just 17 months after his sister and, partially owing to their closeness in age, has a deep fondness and admiration for her. His primary love is sports, but his affection for trains follows as a close second. His favorite sports figures are Andrew McCutchen, Ben Roethlisberger, and Marc-Andre Fleury. And, even more than these, he loves his teachers!

Outside of school, the O’Connor family enjoys participating in the many fairs, parades, and festivals in and around downtown. They enjoy attending museums, parks, and libraries, as well as learning tennis. Perhaps most of all, they enjoy quiet evenings at home playing Ludo and Candyland.

January Web Artists

3’s Friends: Sasha C., Elena E., Andres F., Rhiannon G. and Greta R.


Kindergarten Friends: Sasha K., Will N., and Gabrielle W.