**Family Spotlight: A Wonderful Welcome!**

Hello... we are the (Colonna) Lancaster family: Don is a Regulatory Compliance Officer with BNY Mellon, Carolyn is a professional mom (also a graphic designer) and Jackie (who turns 4 in May) is a Blue Room friend at the Children's School.

Don and I met in Boston and later moved to Charlotte, NC. From there, Don was recruited to his current job here in Pittsburgh. The job was originally to be in New York and was changed at the last moment. So we moved here to Pittsburgh sight-unseen to an apartment we found online--our only Pittsburgh experience was "walking" our Shadyside neighborhood via Google Streetview. I was eight months pregnant when we moved, so Jackie was born here in Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh has been an amazing city for Jackie's early years - with so many cultural, educational and inspiring options nearby... museums, theaters, restaurants, a botanical garden, a zoo, an aquarium, an aviary, festivals, a carousel, farms, parks and playgrounds. We have taken full advantage of all of these offerings!

One of our favorite aspects of Pittsburgh has been our experiences with the Children's School. Jackie heads off to school each day with a huge smile on her face and when I come at dismissal time that smile is even bigger. I love knowing that Jackie is truly cared for at school, by her teachers, by the staff and by her classmates. She is always so proud to share with us the art she creates, the songs she sings, the experiences she has and the new things that she learns.

The Children's School has also been wonderful for us adults. We love the level of communication the school offers with the daily blogs, monthly newsletters and open house nights. It allows us to truly feel like part of Jackie's experience. And as relative newcomers to Pittsburgh, it has been wonderful to be welcomed into the Children's School community. We have attended nearly every event put on by the FSO--which has been fun for Jackie and for us (thank you FSO!!). Through the Children's School, we have all made beautiful friendships that I know will last for years to come.