Family Spotlight: Snapshot of Our Community

During September, the friends in all of our classes get to know each other by sharing information about themselves and their families, which prompts us to discuss similarities and differences so that we can better appreciate the diversity among us. The “All About Me” projects in the preschool give children and families an opportunity to get to know each other better. You’ll get to see all of these at the Open House events!

This fall, we have 84 families with 86 children at the Children’s School, including 21 only children. Thirty-five of these families are new to the school, including families who recently moved to Pittsburgh from New York City, China, South Korea, Japan, and Germany. Among our families, we have two in which the parent is a Children’s School alum!

Twenty-one of our families have a parent who is a graduate student or faculty member at Carnegie Mellon, and one is a graduate student at Pitt. Twenty-eight of our mothers identified themselves as stay-at-home parents. The other parents listed a wide variety of professions, including Antique Dealer, Artist, Attorney, Audiologist, Banker, Business Owner, Chef, Chiropractor, Computer Engineer, Customer Service Rep., Designer, Entrepreneur, Financial Consultant, Funeral Director, Geologist, Journalist, Librarian, Manager, Mechanical Engineer, Music Composer, Nurse, Physician, Real Estate Developer, Researcher, Social Worker, Software Engineer, Teacher, Therapist, Transportation Company Owner / Operator, Veterinarian, Yoga Instructor, and Visiting Scholar.

About a third of our children are dual language learners (26), and one is trilingual. This year, we have families speaking at least 14 languages besides English: Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, German, Gujarati, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Thai, and Turkish.

We also talk about the school as a community where we are all helping each other to learn. We aim to build community by engaging families in school events, such as this month’s Open Houses and Fall Family Fun, through our Family Social Organization (FSO), and through introductions in our newsletters. Each month hereafter, the Family Spotlight column will introduce one of the Children’s School families in more depth. Please contact Mrs. Rosenblum if you would like to be a featured family. You can see prior family profiles on the Children’s School web site under “For Families”. The Armbruster, Bartlett, Handron, and Sims families introduced themselves last year.