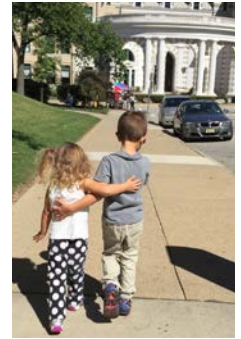


## Family Spotlight: We had a good day!

Lisa and Jono (Jonathan) Fortier met in 1<sup>st</sup> grade at elementary school in Hampton, north of the city. In their 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom, Lisa's desk was behind Jono's desk, and she would often stretch her long legs out, while he usually tucked his feet under his chair. She didn't know it at the time, but every time she'd "bump" his feet, that made his day! They became best friends in their later high school years and dated throughout college - Lisa at Slippery Rock and Jono at Duquesne. They are excited to be celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in early November.



Before Eli (4 years old, afternoon Green room) and Lucy (soon to be 3, afternoon Blue room) were born, Lisa and Jono enjoyed traveling and trying new restaurants – but times have changed! One of their most memorable explorations was in 2008, when they both took a leave from their careers and travelled around the world, while working onboard a ship for the Semester at Sea program. They had memorable adventures in 10 different countries for 4 months.



Lisa has been with the Wilkinsburg School District for 14 years where she is a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher. She was able to take the last 3 years off from teaching, to be at home with the children but is happy to be back in the classroom where she positively impacts the lives of many students. Jono worked for Deloitte Consulting for a few years after college, but has been with UPMC in various roles over the last 11 years. His favorite position was being part of the new hospital project team where he managed the physical move of the Children's Hospital from Oakland to Lawrenceville. He currently works part-time for the UPMC Enterprises division. Jono is extremely grateful for his current work situation, which allows him to be with Eli and Lucy when they aren't at their favorite place – the Children's School!

The Fortier Family lives in Regent Square and they enjoy walks around the neighborhood and frequent hikes in Frick Park. Their travels have tamed down for sure, but they enjoy visiting friends in Chicago or New York City when possible. They love all that Pittsburgh has to offer and frequently visit the museums, zoo, and as many festivals and outdoor concerts as they can.

One fun fact about Eli and Lucy's paternal great-grandparents is that they met and fell in love on CMU's campus (then Carnegie Tech). Jono's grandfather was the proprietor of the Skibo Inn, a popular campus eatery, and his grandmother was taking classes on campus (while still in high school). He closed the Skibo in 1943 to join the Volunteer Officer Corp for the Army during World War II. Pictured here is Charlie taking the sign down. The original sign now hangs on the wall at Wheelfish – a neighborhood BBQ restaurant / live music venue in Ross Township - a venture that Jono and his younger brother are partners in. The namesake for the original Skibo still exists on campus in the union as the Skibo Café – recently re-done and now operated by Au Bon Pain.



Most evenings Eli and Lucy can be heard playing instruments in the family room and singing “*We had a good day, we had a good day, we had a good day, at the Children's School.....[high pitched and louder].....OOOOLLL*” Lisa and Jono are grateful to be part of the Children's School Family.