## Dear Parents,

Congratulations! Your child has reached a milestone in his or her education. He or she has just completed that first full week of kindergarten! And it's been a busy one.

- \*learning to be part of a class
- \*learning to work together
- \*learning to work independently
- \*learning that it's okay to make a mistake ... that is one way we learn
- \*learning to be a responsible helper (leader, lights/door holder, messenger)
- \*learning to lead class activities as a helper (counter, calendar, letters, straws in the bag)
- \*learning new centers (art, ABC, writing, reading, construction, exploring and investigation, computer skills)
- \*learning about reading (always start on the left, you have to look at the words, a title is the name of a book, the author writes the words, the illustrator draws the pictures, the title page is the first page, exclamation points tell you to say it like you mean it, predict what the text will be by looking at the pictures, checking the letters in a word to see if our prediction was right, listening to stories and discussing our likes/dislikes, even adding our own endings to stories read in class, singing and dancing to learn the rhythm of reading)
- \*learning about writing (writing our names, stretching out words to hear the sounds that make them, finding