

May 31, 2020

Dear Parents,

This week brings our school year together to an end. The time always seems to sneak up on us and come too quickly regardless of how prepared we are. This year is ending in a way that no one could have predicted or expected. Many challenges and uncertainties, not just in the context of school. The impact has touched every aspect of our lives and continues to do so. What I hold onto tightly is the community we formed this year together and how I have seen it continue, challenged but strong. This is one of the many things I am very grateful for.

The Teachers have started talking about the end of the school year with the children and shared the language they are using with you. We know that in preparing children for any change, we need to let them know what may be different while giving them the security of knowing what will be the same. This unique school year has already asked all of us to be together in different ways - little zoom boxes on a screen. Videos where their teachers are singing and reading stories on a screen, rather than in person. What has stayed the same is their sense of belonging to a Family Center classroom community; of their teachers; of their friends. To tell them they will always be part of our community is too abstract, but that they have learned to be friends and will always be friends is real and understandable to them.

We will all be together for a **Good-Bye Day Sing** for the first time ever. Here is one aspect of our virtual school that has been a plus - we will all fit together on Zoom when we didn't have that much space in the Family Center. I hope everyone will be able to join and gather together on **Thursday, June 4 at 9:30am**.

Join Zoom Meeting (please see your email for link)

Sing with NANCY Sing, 'I'm Glad I'm Me' with Nancy :)

In friendship, Sara