

PRE-K TESTIMONIALS

(If anyone is interested in submitting a testimonial, please email to fdinezza@yahoo.com)

I have to say that I have never felt so secure with leaving my child under anyone's care such as I did with Ms. Harriette and Ms. Donna, the Pre-K teachers at Merton School. Having switched in mid-year from out of the province to Merton was a serious concern as to how our child would acclimate. The teachers took him under their wing and made him feel welcome and loved. I knew I had found the right place for my child from the get go when Ms. Harriette took notice of my child's individuality with her keen eye and good sense of judgement. Ms. Donna would also let me know if there was something she noticed and tried to assist him with and I will never forget that. I truly appreciate these women and what they do for our kids. They truly love the children and you can tell they are happy teaching there. It's not easy to find that in other schools. My child looked forward to go to school every day and still does now that he is in Kindergarten. He felt really confident going into Kindergarten because he was already familiar and comfortable with "his school", and it really helped that he had made friends from Pre-K that were there going through this new level with him.

Parent of child in Kindergarten 2007-2008 (Pre-K 2007)

Our daughter joined the Merton Pre-K class in November 2006.

Lindsay began showing signs of anxiety while attending a different Pre-K program. She was nervous about having to go to school each day. There were many tears shed and she endured many sleepless nights. As concerned parents, we were faced with the decision to either keep her enrolled in the program and work through the many challenges we were facing or remove her from the setting that caused her so much stress and start fresh in a brand new school.

Given that our older son was already attending Merton School, and that we had heard such wonderful things about the privately-run Pre-K program...it only made sense to make further inquiries.

We had lots of concerns:

- Would she transition well into the program even though was getting a late start?
- Would she easily adapt to her new surroundings?
- Would she get lost in a large school amongst the older children?
- Would she make new friends?

One phone conversation with Linda, and the decision was made. She put our minds at rest and reassured us that Merton's Pre-K program would be the right choice. Without further hesitation, Lindsay was registered and was prepared to begin her new adventure at Merton school the following week.

Harriette and Donna, along with the entire class welcomed Lindsay with open arms. Her anxiety surrounding school disappeared in a short time. She felt safe, independent and confident in her new surroundings. This allowed her to fully enjoy school and the wonderful experiences that come along with it. One of the things that we loved the most about the Pre K program was that it gave Lindsay the opportunity to experience 'school' by utilizing all of the amenities at the school (for example: gym, kitchen for baking, music) while always remaining together (as a class) with their teachers. She quickly became accustomed to the school and felt comfortable in her environment.

I cannot say enough about the care givers in the Pre K program. These women are dedicated, warm, caring individuals who work tremendously well together and who have created a real loving environment for the children in their care. They set boundaries and rules that are respected by all. Their classroom is all about mutual respect. Lindsay was always greeted with a warm friendly smile each morning. She felt comfortable enough to participate in the program and no longer was shy and reserved. It was so wonderful to finally see our daughter's 'true colors' shine in the school setting.

She was a much happier, bright child who learned to love school as opposed to fear it.

She had a great introduction to school...and we cannot thank the Merton Pre K educators enough for making it such a wonderful, positive experience!

Parent of child in Kindergarten 2007-2008 (Pre-K 2006-2007).

My sons experience at Merton's Pre School was Amazing !!! They were the best 2 years of his life !!! Codey started at the age of 3 ½ and it was wonderful to see the Love, Patience and Understanding that Harriette, Donna and Antoinette gives to all of the children. My son grew in every since of the word, his vocabulary flourished, motor skills developed and social skills blossomed. I do believe that the Merton Pre-k program prepared him for kindergarten. Merton Pre-k program is not only educational but also a family affair. I thank you Ladies and wish you a life time of Love and Happiness.

Parent of child in Grade 2 (2007-2008), Pre-K (2003-2004, 2004-2005)



Merton school and the Pre-K program have done wonders for my only son Luca. He started the program with Harriette and Donna when he was 3½ years old. Being his first school program after being home since birth meant he was going to need special attention and a lot of guidance. Harriette, Donna and all the afternoon and after school program educators and parent volunteers have revolutionized my son into a curious, knowing, independent, structured, caring and loving to learn little young learner. The attention, warm, flexible, helpful, expert, family oriented environment that the Merton Pre-K and elementary school has happily enriched our only son and our family. Furthermore, the positive attitude and image Luca has about school has set a positive learning path and enriched his academic ideas for the rest of his school years.

Parent of child in Pre-k 2006-2007, 2007-2008.

My son, Joshua, attended Pre-K with Harriette and Donna.

In my particular case, Joshie wasn't speaking very much at 4 years old, and had flourished in the Pre-K class. I was beginning to feel confident that my son was finally comfortable speaking, and I knew it was the teachers and environment which helped him immensely. I sent Josh to other daycares, and pre-pre-k's in the past but Merton Pre-K was the best choice.

I would come to get him after work, and he rarely wanted to leave. He had so much fun, made so many friends, and learned a lot. It was the perfect introductory program for Kindergarten.

Harriette and Donna are extremely nurturing, and the environment of this pre-k makes any child feel at home.

I loved to hear stories from Harriette and Donna at the end of the day, telling me how funny my son was and what he learned that day. They were always there to speak to me and added in their own input.

I truly recommend Merton Daycare to any and every child. My son loved it so much, he attended for 2 years.

Parent of child in Kindergarten 2007-2008 (Pre-K 2005-2006, 2006-2007)

I would highly recommend the Merton Pre-K program to any parent. Harriet and Donna always provided a safe, stimulating and nurturing environment full of warmth. Thanks to the amazing staff and Home and School we had access to tons of services like the hot lunch program, after-school activities and extended daycare. Alex never wanted to leave the computer lab! We all had a great year participating in school activities just like the big kids, and this year Alex transitioned easily into French Immersion kindergarten.

Parent of child in Kindergarten 2007-2008 (Pre-K 2006-2007).

A neighborhood school is a fundamental decision maker for parents who choose to settle down in a municipality.

We have certain expectations, stemming from proper educational ethics and programs which will nurture and plant the seed for learning and success in our children.

Our experience with Merton Elementary school has proved to us that success starts from the first class your child attends.

In our case, it has started with Pre-Kindergarten and to date we can acknowledge that all has been positive from the on set.

We saw our child blossom in confidence and self esteem and her will to learn was enriched daily with the various interactive programs and activities set forth by the Pre-Kindergarten program through out that year.

The experience, dedication, and undivided attention given from the teachers (Harriet and Donna) to all children in that beginner's class have only added to our positive perception of Merton Elementary and the Pre-Kindergarten program being offered.

For us it was the right introduction to the school system for our child and we intend to continue with our second child when the time comes.

Parent of child in Grade 1 2007-2008 (Pre-K 2005-2006)

We have nothing but positive things to say about the pre-k program at Merton. Our son loves to go to school, and he tells us so frequently. He has made tremendous strides academically and socially. Harriette and her team do a fantastic job of bringing the right balance of nurture and challenge into our children's day. Best of all, we feel that our son will be ready for kindergarten, he is confident in his abilities and keen to learn.

Parent of child in Pre-K 2007-2008

I would like to share my experience with Pre-Kindergarten at Merton School. I had two children attend the Pre-K class for 2 years each. My children's education is very important to me and I find that Pre-K has really prepared them for kindergarten. They learned to develop social skills and build up confidence. They learned how to count, write and say the alphabets and also how to write their name. They were also introduced to some French language speaking.

Their educators Harriette Klein & Donna Arciero are fantastic with the children. They are very loving, caring and not shy to show affection towards all the children. I must add they are also very patient and understanding about any situations that can arise.

You will not regret your choice for your child.....

Parent of child in Pre-K (2007, 2007-2008)

"The Merton Pre-K program was exactly what we had hoped for. Not only did Harriette treat each child as if they were her own, she, Donna and Antoinette were able to sneak some learning into all the fun. Our daughter thoroughly enjoyed herself while, at the same time, learning what a formal school environment is all about."

Parent of child in Pre-k (2007-2008) and currently again in Pre-K 2008-2009

My son seems to love each and everyone of you. Thank-you for what you're doing for my son. In less than 1 month, my son is speaking more clearly, counting, saying the days of the week and best of all he is so proud of himself. Pre-K at Merton was the best decision I have made yet for

my son. I do not know how to thank you but I feel very grateful to all of you. What an incredible team of teachers.

Parent of child currently in Pre-K (2008-2009)

There are a million words to express my gratitude and admiration for the wonderful team at Merton pre -k program, but I will try to keep it brief.

My daughter Adriana Mancuso had the privilege of being part of this exceptional Pre -k in 2008.

Firstly the educators Harriette and Donna welcomed her as one of their own , with a ton of love, hugs and warmth; something that is so crucial at this very young age.

Secondly, they were extraordinarily encouraging towards my child, all of which is a perfect ground for learning and building self- confidence all while having a ton of fun.

Lastly and definitely not least, each day was exceptional with a multitude of activities resulting in a **very very happy child**---- as my daughter would say at the end of each day:

" I love it a hundred million zillion"- and we all know kids speak the truth. The fondness will last forever!

A HUGE thank you to all the team at Merton - Pre-k
and keep up your beautiful work and your EXCEPTIONAL SPIRIT!!

kindest regards

Parent of child in Pre-K January 2008
