As the school year comes to an end, I am writing this letter to express my extreme gratitude and satisfaction.  This is our first year at ICS, with a son finishing Pre-K 4 with Mrs. Gonzalez and a son finishing Pre-K 2 with Ms. Bonnie.  My sons demonstrate a profound amount of intellectual growth and social development, and I owe all of that to your team of educators.

My son Nickolas will be continuing at ICS, entering Kindergarten for the 2018-2019 academic year.  As parents we recognize we have very difficult choices to make regarding where to send our children to receive the best possible education.  For my husband and I it was easy to choose ICS. Before starting our boys here last September, we went by word of mouth that the school was excellent- children left ICS with a strong academic foundation and a Catholic education.  We are now in June, and we can personally agree. Nickolas had an amazing year with Mrs. Gonzalez and her team of assistants- Mrs. McDermott, Mrs. Napoli, and Ms. Erica. Mrs. Gonzalez’s knowledge of 4 year olds and their needs and child development as a whole, plus her efforts to get to personally know each child (to better assess each child and make them feel comfortable with her), fueled her success. For many, only academics are most important, however for me, a former Early Childhood Educator and Administrator, a well-rounded curriculum and learning environment is most important. Where it is necessary to learn, at 4 and 5 years old, it is also necessary to have fun. In fact, at any age learning can be fun.  Mrs. Gonzalez achieved all of this in her class through out of the box activities and teachable moments. My son and his friends hung onto every moment and ran away with them. My son is writing, spelling, reading, and doing simple math- all before Kindergarten. He has gained confidence, has an affinity for learning more, and has learned to be a good friend and classmate. I often hear Mrs. Gonzalez’s words and phrases intertwined with Nickolas’ day to day language- that is how influential she was on him. The academic foundation he experienced this year will continue to shape him as he continues to grow and excel as a student. I owe this all to Mrs. Gonzalez and her assistants. Everyone worked so well together to deliver just what the students needed.  Their love of children is so evident. What a relief to a parent! As a former ECE Administrator, I can honestly say that teamwork like this is hard to come by and our children are so lucky to benefit from it. My husband and I thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for everything ICS has done for our children. We look forward to the next school year.

My son Daniel and my nephew Christopher will be continuing on to Pre-K 3 for the 2018-2019 school year. Although they only spent a few mornings per week with Ms.Bonnie, Mrs. Napoli, and Mrs. Schiels, they have grown by leaps and bounds. They came in shy with barely a word to be said, and now they are so verbal that they are always excitedly engaged in conversation.  They know colors, shapes, and can recognize their name. They love to sing, and they are potty-trained before 3 years old! I thank Ms. Bonnie, Mrs. Napoli, and Mrs. Schiels for a job well-done.