

Seasons greetings,

2010

We hope you can find a chance to take time out from the busy times around us and enjoy the holidays. Here's a quick update to our life in 2010.

As with everyone, this year has been a busy one for the Smiths. We started the year by closing on the Ostrander house and it was very good to be down to one house and focus on one. We enjoy being closer to everything and being able to run to the store without committing the whole day.

Nicholas enjoys being around kids his age and knows all the neighbors. Over the year we watched Nicholas blossom as his language developed from a few words and signs to full sentences. His memory is a little too good since he can remember the direction we go anywhere. His love of cleaning has only strengthened as his spray bottle collection grows while he also has learned to use the broom and mop. He now collects the Sunday paper ads and wants to look at the cleaning section to see what is on sale. His big treat is to go to the grocery store and walk around the cleaning aisle. The intense fear of the sweeper still makes it difficult to get the house swept but he has learned to sit next to it to make sure it isn't turned on and say good night.

He has started to take a little interest in TV and is a huge fan of Jim Cramer's Mad Money on CNBC. He requests it first thing each morning and when he gets home from school. We hope he keeps paying attention to his favorite part, the "Lightening Round" and will look to him for stock tips; currently his favorite stock picks are Clo-rox and AT&T Telecom but Daddy wants him to switch to IBM. By the way, Dan's company was bought by IBM so he is "true blue" now. Luckily Nicholas also likes Elmo and Cookie Monster for the water cooler discussions at daycare with his buddies.

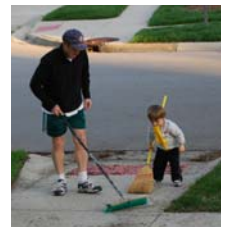
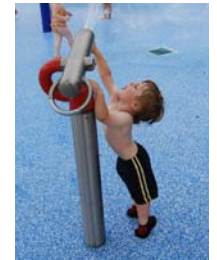
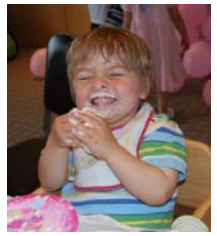
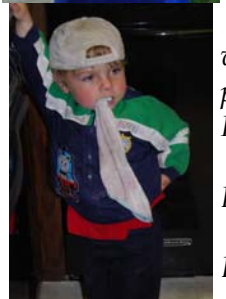
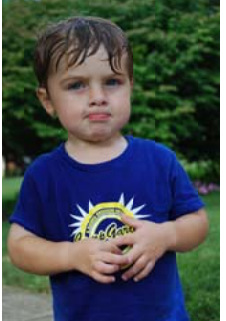
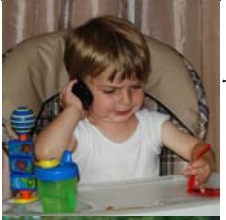
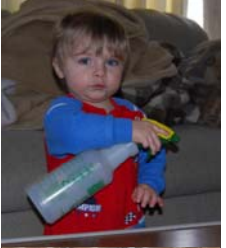
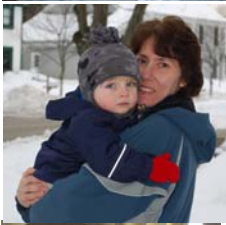
Nicholas learned a little Japanese this summer when we helped out a Japanese student that became sick during her visit. Although Nicholas couldn't speak Japanese and her mother couldn't speak English they had a really good time together. Nicholas still asks where "Soko" is and wants to see her again.

Nicholas is showing his love for music, especially at church. He sits and listens to the organ and is now convinced that all music is "Judy's music".

We spent July 4th weekend near Washington D.C. for a birthday party and were able to go to the Air and Space Museum where Dan enjoyed all the big planes and the shuttle. This December we enjoyed time down in Hilton Head Island, S.C. though the drive back through the snow wasn't as fun.

Best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year in 2010!

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Dan, Janet & Nicholas