CRANBURY PRESBYTERIAN NURSERY SCHOOL
BIOGRAPHIES: 2017-2018

School Director:	Janice Parker, M.Ed.
Head Teacher:	Vicki Bain
2 ½-Year Old Program:	Teacher: Theresa Vaccaro (M/W AM, T/Th AM) Assistant Teacher: Felicia Halligan, Linda Protinick- M-W Assistant Teacher: Linda Protinick, Renee Spero – T-Th
3-Year Old Program:	Teacher: Kathy Edwards (M-W-F AM) Assistant Teacher: Helen Lazzaro Teacher: Pam Dressel (T-Th AM & T-W-Th PM) Assistant Teacher: Felicia Halligan
4/5-Year Old Program:	Teacher: Francine Coffee (T-W-Th AM) Assistant Teacher: Sandy Price Teacher: Vicki Bain (M-W-F AM) Assistant Teacher: Denise Reilley Teacher: Helen Lazzaro (T-W-Th PM) Teacher: Logan O'Meara (T-W-Th PM)
Kindergarten Skill Builders:	Teachers: Vicki Bain and Kay Scott (M & F PM)
Music Program:	Jenni Collins (Occasional movement class with Noél Kinney)
Alphabet Soup:	Teacher: Denise Reilley Assistant Teacher: Renee Spero
Full Steam Ahead:	Teacher: Helen Lazzaro Assistant Teacher: Denise Reilley and Cyndi Oresto
Let's Pretend:	Teacher: Pam Dressel Assistant Teachers: Cyndi Oresto
Power of Play and Book Nook:	Teacher: Debbie Petro Assistant Teacher: Kathy Iorio
Sing, Dance and Play:	Teacher: Jenni Collins Assistant Teacher: Cyndi Oresto
Mommy and Me:	Teacher: Linda Protinick
Lunch Hour Program:	Teachers: Dorothy Klotzbeacher, Linda Protinick Gretchen Potter, Tannashae Perrine, Jenni Collins Melanie Joseph, Nancy Keitlinski, Stacey Applegate Renee Spero, Cyndi Oresto, Anne Marie Gibson,
Lunch Program Coordinator:	Cyndi Oresto
Developmental Consultant:	Lori Kleppe

Janice Parker: Director

Mrs. Parker is a graduate from Montclair University with a BS Degree in Business Administration. She has a NJ Elementary Education Teaching Certificate and has a Masters in Early Childhood from The College of New Jersey. Her previous work experience includes substitute teacher in Cranford, NJ and gradual positions from Branch Manager to Assistant Vice President at various banking institutions. She came to CPNS in 1994 as an Assistant Teacher in our four-year-old program and then a Teacher in our three-year-old program for four years. She has been Director since 1999. She is an Adjunct Professor at The College of New Jersey teaching graduate level courses in Advanced Child Growth and Development and Teaching Young Children, as well as the P-3, 24 Hour Course for the Preschool alternate route teacher certification. She is a candidate in the Ed.D program in Teacher Leadership (Early Childhood) at Rutgers. Mrs. Parker has been a volunteer room parent in the West Windsor/Plainsboro School district and involved as a Girl Scout Leader. She has participated in the Education Committee and as a Sunday School teacher at the Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church. She participates in various committees here at the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury where she is a member.

Vicki Bain: Head Teacher

Vicki Bain has a B.S. degree from The College of New Jersey, certified both as a Nursery School and Elementary School Teacher. Vicki began her teaching career working with three and four year olds at the Trinity Cathedral Day School in Trenton. After moving to East Windsor several years later, Vicki began teaching in the East Windsor Regional School District working with kindergarten students and later first graders. While teaching in East Windsor, Vicki received the Governor's Teacher Recognition Award for the Walter C. Black School and was recognized in 'Who's Who Among America's Teachers'. She is a member of the Delta Kappa Society International which promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Vicki recently retired after teaching 35 years. She is a member and elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury where she taught Sunday School for many years. Vicki served on the CPNS Board and is currently active on the Christian Education and Youth Ministry committees. Vicki worked in the CPNS pre-summer and summer programs and the Library Adventures Enrichment Program as well as the Pre-K (4/5-year-old class) and Kindergarten Skill Builders. This year Vicki will be teaching the Pre-K class, and Kindergarten Skill Builders. When not teaching, Vicki enjoys reading and spending time with her three granddaughters.

Kathleen Cenci

Kathleen is a graduate of Rutgers University with a B A in Economics. Her work experience includes Bloomberg LP, Merrill Lynch and Blackrock where she was a Corporate Action Specialist. She has been working part time for Provident Tax Planning and Business Services since 2013. Kathleen is involved in the Cranbury School PTO as a room parent and a volunteer. Kathleen and her husband have 3 children; all are alumni.

Her family attends St. David's Episcopal Church in Cranbury. Kathleen enjoys dancing, reading and going to the beach.

Francine Coffee

Francine grew up in Cranbury and graduated from Immaculata University with a BA in Psychology and a K-8 Elementary Education Certificate. Her previous work experience includes teaching at the Plainsboro Presbyterian Nursery School and has taught 7th and 5th Grades in East Brunswick for ten years. She is an active member of the Princeton High School PTO, Princeton High School Football Booster Club and Princeton High School Soccer Booster Club. For the past fourteen years she has served as a room parent at the Cranbury School. Francine has three sons-Harrison,19, who is a Sophomore at Villanova University, Connor,16, who is a Junior at Princeton High School and Brendan,14, who is a Freshman at Princeton High School. When her sons attended CPNS, Francine served as a Room Parent Volunteer for eight years and was also a substitute teacher. She and her family are members of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Hightstown. Francine enjoys reading, power walking, going to the beach, attending her sons' football and soccer games, doing ballet yoga and spending time with her family.

Jenni Collins

Jenni attended Westminster Choir College and Temple University, studying both music and Early Childhood Education. Possessing an extensive background and training in classical music, Jenni continues to sing professionally, both as a soloist and with various choral ensembles when time permits. Jenni and her husband, a music teacher with the West Windsor-Plainsboro School District have three daughters, all of whom attended CPNS. This is Jenni's fifth year teaching music with CPNS.

Pam Dressel

Mrs. Dressel is a graduate of Kean University of New Jersey. She has her degree in Early Childhood Education, and a minor in Child Psychology. She worked at CPNS as a teacher in the 3-year-old program from 1993-1996. Mrs. Dressel also worked as a substitute teacher at CPNS for several years. She returned to teach in the Tues/Thurs 3-year-old program at CPNS in 2010. Mrs. Dressel is an active member of the PTA in her child's school. She is a member of Saint James Church in Jamesburg. Mrs. Dressel lives in Monroe Township with her husband Dennis, and her children Patrick and Kyle, who also attended CPNS.

Kathy Edwards

Mrs. Edwards graduated from the College of New Jersey with a BS degree in Elementary Education and English. She has a NJ Teacher Certification in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. Her previous experience includes working as a substitute and long-term substitute teacher in the West Windsor/Plainsboro School District. Mrs. Edwards has been a volunteer in the PTA and president of the Dutch Neck Presbyterian

Nursery School. She is a member of the Queenship of Mary Church in Plainsboro where she has taught CCD in grades 1 through 3. She will be teaching the morning M-W-F 3-year-old class this year.

Anne Marie Gibson

University and Caldwell College while working in the advertising and pharmaceutical market research industries. Anne Marie has worked for several music groups and churches as an instrumentalist, vocalist, and director of worship. Anne Marie, her husband Bill, and their 5 children have been a foster home to 8 children over the last 10 years. All of the Gibson children have attended and loved CPNS!

Felicia Halligan

Mrs. Halligan graduated Raritan Valley Community College in 1995 with an A.A.S. in Business and is currently pursuing her Child Development Associate (CDA). She & her husband Ken live in East Windsor and have 3 children; Cassidy, Kaela, and James; all CPNS graduates. She spent 15 years with the A&P Tea Company and left her position as a Labor Analyst in 2003, after the birth of their first child. She has served for many years as a Room Parent at both CPNS and at the Perry L. Drew Elementary School in East Windsor. Mrs. Halligan has also served on the PTO Board at the Perry L. Drew Elementary School and is excited to begin her 4th year on the PTO Board at the Melvin H. Kreps Middle School in East Windsor. Mrs. Halligan is a Sunday Morning Childcare Provider here at the First Presbyterian Church in Cranbury and her family attend Nativity of Our Lord R.C. Church in Monroe Township.

Kathy Iorio

Mrs. Iorio is a 1976 graduate from St. Anthony High School. Her previous work experience includes working as an Assistant Teacher at Holy Angels Preschool and the Ewing Presbyterian Nursery School. She has been a room parent and member of the PTA in the Hamilton School District. She came to CPNS in 1995 as an Assistant Teacher in our three-year-old and four-year-old programs. In 2008 Mrs. Iorio attended Middlesex County College and received her Child Development Associate Degree (CDA) in 2009 and renewed in 2013. Mrs. Iorio has taught the 4-year-old class in the first CPNS summer program with Mrs. Petro. She also teachers our very successful Power of Play enrichment class with Mrs. Petro and will be teaching our new Book Nook enrichment program with Mrs. Petro. She is a member of St. Raphael church in Yardville.

Melanie Joseph

Mrs. Joseph is a resident of Cranbury, NJ with 3 children that spent a combined 8 years at CPNS. She holds both a B.S. and an M.S. in Marketing from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia and has professional experience in marketing, sales and event planning. Those skills are now put to good use in several different volunteer positions for the

Cranbury School PTO and in managing the Cranbury Education Foundation's Cranbury Craft Show which is a fundraiser for the Cranbury School. She is also actively involved in the charity Big Hearts to Little Hearts which supports research and programs at the Cardiac Center of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Mrs. Joseph and her family are members of St. Paul Church in Princeton, NJ.

Noël Kinney

Noël Kinney received a BA in Dance from Denison University and an MFA in Dance from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. She began teaching Creative Movement to children while in college and continued teaching in NYC while performing with several Modern Dance Companies. Noël and her husband have 6 children - all graduates of CPNS! She is the President of the Cranbury Arts Council and has served as the set designer for the annual Cranbury School Musical and backdrop artist for the Cranbury Arts Council Summer Theater program. Noël enjoys running marathons and competing in triathlons.

Dorothy Klotzbeacher

Mrs. Klotzbeacher (Mrs. K) is a graduate of Cornell University with a BS Degree in Child Development. She was an Assistant Teacher in the Cranbury Public School Kindergarten program for six years and taught Kindergarten in both Cranbury and Monmouth Junction. She led the Task Force that founded CPNS in 1984 and worked as an Assistant Teacher in both our three and four year classes for 8 years. She taught the music program until 2013 and was the teacher of our 2 ½-year old classes from 1992 – 2016. She will share her musical talents during our parent programs this year and is the "Lunch & Fun" teacher. Dorothy is an elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury where she serves on the Christian Education Committee, sings in the Chorale, and teaches at Vacation Bible School. She is the church Librarian and works with our CPNS library. Mrs. "K" has three children, five grandchildren and a 5-year-old great grand-daughter! This is her 33rd year of teaching at CPNS.

Helen Lazzaro

Mrs. Lazzaro is a graduate of Albright College in Reading, PA and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA. Prior to taking on the job of stay-at-home mom, Mrs Lazzaro cultivated her love of science at the American Museum of Natural History. She lives in East Windsor with her three children (all of whom attended CPNS), her husband of 16 plus years and her dogs Jackson and Stella. Mrs. Lazzaro is excited to be co-teaching in our T-W-Th PM 4/5-year-old class, the teacher of Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead and the assistant teacher in the M-W-F AM 3-year-old class.

Logan O'Meara

Logan O'Meara is a recent graduate of Salisbury University with a BA in Communications and Marketing Management. At Salisbury, Ms. O'Meara devoted her time to playing varsity soccer while carrying a full academic schedule, volunteering for underprivileged children and was an active member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Ms. O'Meara was born and raised in Cranbury, New Jersey. Her previous experience includes working the Lunch Bunch Program at CPNS along with subbing and working as a full-time care giver to children of all ages. Ms. O'Meara is looking into furthering her education in Early Childhood as she is extremely passionate for children. In her free time, Ms. O'Meara enjoys traveling, photography, outdoor activities, and spending time with her family and friends.

Cyndi Oresto

Mrs. Oresto is the Lunch Program Coordinator and an Assistant Teacher in Let's Pretend, STEAM and Music. A graduate of the School of Visual Arts in New York City with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, and has completed the 24 hour Pre-Service Program to the NJ Alternate Route Teacher Certification Program. Previous work experience includes working for prop and model companies, national art shows, and painting children's murals. She has been married to her husband Frank for 20 years and is a mother of 4 children, (9, 12, 14 and 16 years old) each of which attended CPNS. Living in Monroe Twp, involved in the PTA, a room mother, and has been an assistant soccer coach, Pioneers Club leader and attends Calvary Chapel.

Tannashae Perrine

Tannashae Perrine is a graduate of Lehigh University with a BS in Business. She has also worked towards her master's degree in elementary education at Queens College. Her work experience includes Newsweek, Massapequa Public Schools and The Cambridge School. She also currently runs a photography business called Sunflower Snapshots. Tannashae is involved in the Cranbury School PTO as a room parent and volunteer. She and her husband have two sons, both of whom attended CPNS. She enjoys photography, cooking and spending time with her family.

Debbie Petro

Mrs. Petro attended Morris County Community College. She worked for five years at Sentry Insurance and two years at Fireman's Fund as an underwriter. She has been a class mother and volunteer teacher's helper for several years in the West Windsor/Plainsboro School District. Both her children are CPNS graduates. Mrs. Petro was a substitute teacher at CPNS prior to joining our staff in 1996. Since then she has been an Assistant Teacher in our three and four year old programs. In 2009 Mrs. Petro attended Middlesex County College and received her Child Development Associates Degree (CDA) in 2009. She taught the 4-year-old class in the first CPNS summer

program with Mrs. Iorio. Mrs. Petro also teaches our very successful Power of Play enrichment class. She is a member of St. David the King in West Windsor.

Gretchen Potter

Mrs. Potter grew up in Lancaster County, PA and graduated from Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, VA with degrees in German and Religious Studies. She served as Director of Children and Youth Ministry at Chester United Methodist Church in Chester, VA for almost 12 years, before her husband was transferred here to NJ, to Montreal, and back to NJ. She lives in East Windsor with her husband and 3 children and is very excited to be joining the CPNS team this year.

Sandy Price

Sandy lives in Cranbury and is a graduate of Rider University. She holds an undergraduate degree in Political Science along with a Masters Degree in Legal Administration from the University of Denver. She received her K-5 Teaching Certification from Kean University in 2010. She did her student teaching in the 3rd Grade at Matthew Jago Elementary School in Woodbridge. She is also a member of the PTO and room parent volunteer at Cranbury School. Sandy and her family are members of the Cranbury United Methodist Church. She has two children, both CPNS graduates.

Linda Protinick

Mrs. Protinick graduated from East Brunswick High School and has taken classes at Salem College in Salem, West Virginia and classes at Rutgers in Elementary Education. She recently renewed her CDA, Child Development Associates Degree. Her previous work experience includes working as an aide in the Wicoff School in Plainsboro and conducting her own childcare service. Three of her four children are CPNS graduates. She has been an Assistant Teacher in our three and four-year-old programs and currently is an assistant teacher in our 2 ½-year-old program, one of our lunch program teachers, as well as the teacher of our Mommy and Me program. Mrs. Protinick is the child care coordinator for our Sunday morning child care here at the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury where she is a member.

Denise Reilley

Mrs. Reilley grew up in Cranbury and attended West Virginia University, majoring in Animal Science. She worked for 14 years in the Pharmaceutical Industry doing Pre-Clinical and Clinical work. She was a member of the Cranbury First Aid Squad and was an EMT for several years. She also is the supervisor of the Cranbury School Crossing Guards and you will often see her on the corner of Main St. and Station Rd as a guard. She has been a room parent for CPNS for her children Sean and Devon, as well as a room parent for Cranbury School. She was very active in the PTO and the Cranbury Education Foundation while her children were there. She was a substitute teacher for CPNS starting in 2005 and worked the lunch program as an assistant teacher for many years. She will be

the teacher for Alphabet Soup, and the assistant teacher in Full STEAM Ahead. She will also be an assistant teacher in the 4-year-old program.

Kay Scott

Kay graduated from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in 1970. Following graduation, she taught for two years in the Muscogee County schools in Columbus, Georgia. She next taught first grade for three and a half years in the Nuremberg American Elementary School. After moving to Plainsboro in 1977, Kay joined the East Windsor Regional School District. She worked with kindergarten students as well as first and 2nd graders. While teaching in East Windsor, Kay received the Governor's Teacher Recognition Award for the Walter C. Black School. Kay retired in 2012.

After retiring Kay and her husband have enjoyed traveling. They often travel to Atlanta to visit their son. Kay also enjoys Jazzercise and participates in the Grand Pals reading program in four Princeton elementary schools.

Renee Spero

Mrs. Spero grew up in New York and graduated from New York University in 2001, majoring in Computer Science and Anthropology. She spent seven years as a financial analyst in both the book publishing and banking industry, during which time she and her husband enjoyed a three-year relocation to Colorado. Since moving to New Jersey in 2008 and starting a family, she has held part-time positions as an administrative assistant in the area, most recently at the Princeton Neuroscience Institute. Mrs. Spero and her family live in East Windsor, where she is on the board of the Walter C. Black Elementary School PTO and is an active volunteer in the classroom whenever possible. She has two children, both CPNS graduates, and is a member of St. David's Episcopal Church in Cranbury. In 2016, she joined CPNS as a substitute teacher and as an assistant teacher for the lunch program. She is currently an assistant teacher in the 2 ½-year-old program (Tuesday/Thursday AM) and Alphabet Soup (Wednesday PM).

Theresa Vaccaro

Theresa Vaccaro graduated from the University of Virginia School of Engineering with a double major in Computer Science and Psychology. She went on to get an MS from Johns Hopkins University in Computer Science. From TCNJ she earned her P-3 Teaching Certificate. She has been progressively involved with the CPNS community since 1999 as a parent, substitute teacher, lunch teacher, assistant teacher and, now, teacher of the 2 ½-year-olds. Mrs. Vaccaro is also active elsewhere in the community. At Cranbury School, she is currently a board member and President of the Cranbury Education Foundation; and has been a member of the PTO for the past 17 years and, for most of those years, has been a room parent. She led the Cranbury Craft Show for over 5 years. Within the town of Cranbury, she is a member of the Township Environmental Commission. She has been a Girl Scout leader, a hospice volunteer, and an assistant CCD teacher. She enjoys reading, traveling, and trying new things like making stain

glass, quilting, and Aikido. She has 3 children who have all attended CPNS. She and her family currently attend St. Paul's in Princeton.

Lori Kleppe

Lori Kleppe is a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a BS in speech pathology. She has an MS in Speech/Language therapy from Montclair State University. She holds a certificate in both Teacher of the Handicapped and Administration from the College of New Jersey. Lori has been a speech/language specialist in Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and New Jersey. She has also worked in a private practice setting for many years. She worked in the Verona Public school system for 10 years prior to moving to the Cranbury area. She has been a Speech /Language Specialist in the West Windsor/Plainsboro School District since 1995. She has worked in all grade levels while in the WW-P school district. Lori and her family have been members of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury since 1998 and previously a deacon. Her two children attended CPNS. She has been a member of the CPNS board for many years.