

**CRANBURY PRESBYTERIAN NURSERY SCHOOL**  
**BIOGRAPHIES: 2019-2020**

<b>School Director:</b>	Jessica Corriveau
<b>Head Teacher:</b>	Vicki Bain
<b>2 ½-Year Old Program:</b>	Teacher: Theresa Vaccaro Assistant Teacher: Gretchen Potter
<b>3-Year Old Program:</b>	Teacher: Pam Dressel (M-W-F AM) Assistant Teacher: Renee Spero Teacher: Pam Dressel (T-Th AM) Assistant Teacher: Heather Podlesny
<b>4/5-Year Old Program:</b>	Teacher: Francine Coffee (T-W-Th AM) Assistant Teacher: Linda Protinick Teacher: Vicki Bain (M-W-F AM) Assistant Teacher: Denise Reilley
<b>Preschool Extension:</b>	Teacher: Pam Dressel Assistant Teacher: Renee Spero
<b>Kindergarten Skill Builders:</b>	Teachers: Vicki Bain and Kay Scott (M & F PM)
<b>Music Program:</b>	Susan Sumutka
<b>Alphabet Soup:</b>	Teacher: Denise Reilley Assistant Teacher: Vicki Bain
<b>Full Steam Ahead:</b>	Teacher: Denise Reilley Assistant Teacher: Renee Spero
<b>Making Math Count</b>	Teacher: Francine Coffee Assistant Teacher: Linda Protinick
<b>World of Wonder:</b>	Teachers: Vicki Bain and Denise Reilley
<b>Mommy and Me:</b>	Teacher: Linda Protinick
<b>Lunch Hour Program:</b>	Teachers: Dorothy Klotzbeacher, Linda Protinick Gretchen Potter, Heather Podlesny, Pam Dressel, Renee Spero, Annan Thaneermalai, Kyrsten Ramkishun, Sujatha Shanmugam, Lindsay Tremarco. Nancy Kietlinski
<b>Lunch Program Coordinator:</b>	Gretchen Potter

### **Jessica Corriveau: Director**

Mrs. Corriveau lives in Plainsboro with her husband, 6 children and her labradoodle, Penny. She graduated with a degree in Deaf Education from The College of New Jersey. Mrs. Corriveau started her career at Katzenbach School for the Deaf, where she served as a teacher and Lower School Head Teacher/Principal. After the birth of her second child, Mrs. Corriveau decided to stay home during the day to raise her children and began to teach American Sign Language and observe student teachers at The College of New Jersey. During this time, she was President of her local MOMS Club chapter and served as PTA President and room parent at Wicoff Elementary School in Plainsboro. After 9 years, she went back to public education and worked as a Teacher of the Deaf for students in preschool to high school in the West Windsor Plainsboro School District. Although her first child missed out on the CPNS experience, five of her six children attended CPNS! Collin is a first year student at The Young Americans College of the Performing Arts, Caroline is a Junior at WW-P High School North, Claire is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and Caite is in 6<sup>th</sup> at Community Middle School, Charlotte is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade at Wicoff Elementary School and Carter attends CPNS. Mrs. Corriveau has served on the CPNS board for 6 years. CPNS holds a very important place in her heart as well as her children's' hearts and she is so very excited to begin her next adventure as Director of CPNS.

### **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, Kindergarten Skill Builders, Alphabet Soup, and World of Wonder. When not teaching, Vicki enjoys days at the beach, Jazzercise, 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 works part-time at Princeton Satellite Systems in Plainsboro. Kathleen is involved in the Cranbury School PTO as a room parent and the PTO Co-President. 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 7<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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. Francine has three sons-Harrison, 21, who is a Senior at Georgetown, Connor, 18, who is a Freshman at "U" of Miami, Senior and Brendan, 15, who is a Junior 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 son's football and soccer games, doing ballet yoga and spending time with her family.

### **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 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.

### **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 2014 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 7-year-old great granddaughter! This is her 35<sup>th</sup> year of teaching at CPNS.

### **Heather Podlesny**

Mrs. Podlesny went to school at Middlesex County College, where she received an Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education. She also attended Monmouth University, where she studied Special Education. Mrs. Podlesny worked for the Pascataway School District as a substitute and a one-on-one aid for children with Autism. All four of her children went to CPNS for preschool. This year, Mrs. Podlesny is working in the T/Th 3's program as an Assistant Teacher and will continue to work as a Lunch Program teacher.

### **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 three children.

### **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 assisting in childcare here at the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury where she is a member.

### **Kyrsten Ramkishun**

Ms. Ramkishun is a recent college graduate from Rider University, majoring in Global Studies with a minor in Sustainability. CPNS has always held a special place in her heart since her mother has worked at the First Presbyterian Church Office for 20 years and enrolled her into CPNS when she was a young girl. Over the years, Kyrsten has helped with Vacation Bible School and worked the Worship Hour in the nursery on Sundays for five years. She is currently a lunch teacher for the "Lunch and Fun" program. Kyrsten has also worked at UrbanPromise in Trenton, New Jersey as the Hodge Podge teacher where she taught activities designed to be both fun and educational for elementary age students. She also worked with America Reads in Pennsylvania where she helped as a teacher's aide assisting fifth grade students in the classroom. Her hobbies include photography, painting, and being outdoors

### **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 is the teacher for Alphabet Soup, Full STEAM Ahead, and World of Wonder. She is also 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 an active parent volunteer at the Grace N. Rogers Elementary School. 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 3-year-old program (Monday/Wednesday/Friday AM), Preschool

Extension (Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday PM) and, Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead (Friday PM).

### **Susan Sumutka**

During her 37-year teaching career, Susan Sumutka taught vocal general music to Preschool through 8th grade students and directed choruses and select choral ensembles who performed at annual Christmas and Spring concerts and other school-wide events. She was awarded the Superintendent's Award from the Jackson, NJ School District for upholding superior teaching and ethical standards. Susan earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Muskingum University in Ohio and a Master of Education degree from The College of New Jersey. She holds a New Jersey Elementary School Teaching Certificate and attended numerous seminars and workshops at Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ. Since her recent retirement, Susan sings with Princeton Pro Musica, enjoys outdoor activities, quilting and other volunteer activities.

### **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 has been involved with the Cranbury Education Foundation as a board member and president for the last ten years and has been a member of the PTO for the past 19 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.