March 27, 2009

To Mr. Hazegh & RHS Staff 9488 19th Street Alta Loma, CA 91701

To Mr. Hazegh & staff,

Our son, Nicholas, has been attending RHS for about a year now and doing great. Because of the exceptional care that he's received this past year, you wouldn't know what a rocky start he had.

Our son is two years old (nearly three), an only child, and until we brought him to RHS, had very limited contact with other children and adults aside from my mother, my husband and myself. As a first-time mom, I had already been worried about how long it would take Nick to adjust to going to RHS, even if he was on a part-time schedule. I worried about how well the staff would anticipate his needs, how much individual attention he would get, how many times they would change his diaper and how he would feel about a stranger doing it—I was surprised how much I worried. I also knew how he felt about strangers and that was by far my biggest worry.

My fears quickly melted away, not because Nick adapted quickly to his new environment—quite the opposite—but because each day that we went in, I was assured he would get there, that they knew what to do, that they would give him as much attention and hugs as he needed to get through the day. The staff seemed to have endless patience for the seemingly endless tears at drop-off, the stubbornness he displayed month after month after month as he showed me how much he didn't want to be there and that he absolutely wanted to go home.

At one point, we really thought Nick would be the exception and that he was just not going to adjust. But he did. The staff never stopped giving him that attention until he adjusted. Today, he actually looks forward to coming to school or "eating breakfast," as he calls it.

I'm impressed with the individual attention RHS gave our son (whom we know was an exception as it pertains to how long it took him to adjust), the unflagging persistence and patience they demonstrated, and the relentless energy each staff member put into caring for our son.

We wouldn't think of going anywhere else. We hope this letter helps other parents decide to place their children at RHS.

Sincerely,

The Pattersons