Dear Parents,

During the first few weeks of school, we have explored getting to know one another. We discussed our similarities and our differences. We have also explored our talents and our feelings. As we continue getting to know one another, we would like to learn more about what each child cares about. To do this, we would like each child to create a **"heart map."**

A **"heart map"** is a visual display of the important people, places and memories in our lives.

We will be using these **"heart maps"** as part of sharing time during morning/afternoon meeting to get to know one another, as well as during writing workshop for generating writing ideas.

Here are the directions for creating a "heart map"

- Draw a large heart on your paper.
- Within the heart, you can create spaces for things that are important to you- people, places, activities, and memories.
- Children should fill the heart with pictures, photos, or drawings. You may even want to include memorabilia such as a stub from a favorite movie or a ticket stub from a Phillies game.
- Heart mapping design is entirely up to your imagination. After all, **it is *your* heart**.
- Feel free to be creative!
- ***Please send the completed "heart map" back to school by <u>October 2nd.</u>*** Your child will keep the "heart map" in a writing folder in the classroom and will be able to refer to it whenever an idea is needed for a Writer's Workshop story.

Here are some questions to think about when adding things to your "heart map"

1. What makes you happy?
2. What do you love?
3. What is the most fun you have ever had?
4. What memory is your favorite?
5. What things or objects are important to you?
6. What things in your heart are sad? Make you cry?
7. What are your favorite things, toys?
8. What activities do you love?

Draw, design, and write.

Please let us know if you have any questions. We look forward to getting to know more about the children in our class.

Thanks,
Mrs. Pender and Ms. Rohrbach (AM only)