



Meeting Street



Ethan

Dear Friend,

Visit Meeting Street on any given school day and you may be greeted by Ethan sporting a wide smile and welcoming you with a cheery hello.

Born with Prune Belly Syndrome, a rare condition that affects his kidneys and stomach muscles, Ethan initially had an extremely difficult time walking, sitting and communicating.

When Ethan turned three, his parents researched preschool options. Although they would've liked to have sent him to the same preschool his older sister attended and where his twin sister would be enrolled, the school was not equipped to support his medical and physical needs and challenges.

"As soon as we saw Meeting Street, we knew right away that this is where Ethan needed to be," commented Ethan's mom, Cathy. "At Meeting Street, they stimulate his mind but also provide the physical and occupational therapy that he needs on a daily basis."

When Ethan started at Meeting Street, he could barely crawl but soon his teachers and therapists had him moving with a walker and then within his first year, he was walking on his own.

Using Ethan's love of people and his social nature to their advantage, his physical therapists encouraged him to walk by explaining that the more he explored the halls the more people he would meet. Due to his hard work and credit, Ethan has earned the much-deserved title "Mayor of Meeting Street" which he proudly acknowledges.

"At Meeting Street, they want to and will do anything and everything to make sure that each child succeeds," proclaims Ethan's mom.

As a result of Ethan's determination, his parents' belief in Meeting Street, and his teachers' and therapists' skills and commitment, Ethan is thriving. It is obvious to everyone he comes in contact with that he adores going to Meeting Street. This past September when he found out he could return to school after being out for nine months recovering from a kidney transplant, Ethan did a touchdown dance in his living room.

While fully engaged and excelling in his second grade class in The Grace School at Meeting Street, Ethan is a typical 8-year old boy and an avid sports fan-with a particular interest in baseball and basketball. When he's not watching the Red Sox, Celtics or Boston College basketball, he is out there playing.

(over, please)

Today, as a result of people, like you and all of your past support, Meeting Street is able to offer Ethan and many other children of all abilities an inclusive environment where they can learn, play, and work together.

Each year over 3,000 children, from birth to age 21, benefit from the resources as well as from the talented and dedicated educators and therapists at Meeting Street. Please continue to help these children by making a contribution today. With your continued help, children with challenges can get the help, support, and guidance they need to thrive. Moreover, your gift will ensure that children of all abilities can benefit from these outstanding resources and succeed in a warm and caring environment at Meeting Street.

We wish you all the best in this new year and thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John M. Kelly', with a stylized, cursive script.

John M. Kelly
President

P.S. Your past support has been instrumental in making Ethan's story of success possible. Please continue to support kids like Ethan by making a donation today.