

“And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for behold, I bring unto you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'”

If Aimee and Orion could speak something more than “Woof” or “Meow”, they too would say how quickly time flies with big play friends in the kids. They would want to share that we did our fair share of family travel and events over the past year. This included another trip down to Sanibel Island in July with Nicole’s parents for a relaxing week of beach, golf (for Anthony and Kirk), and bridge. Nicole and Alex went up to DC in June for the safety patrol field trip. We also traveled to Daytona Beach for Mother’s Day weekend (and dance competition).



Anthony is now a sophomore and has learned the challenges that come with his AP level Physics and other accelerated classes. He continues to be a part of both the Math Team as well as helping run the Physics Club. He and Kirk continue to unwind by playing golf now and again. This includes Anthony taking control of the golf cart as he starts the process of learning how to drive. Pretty soon he will be testing for his learners permit; that is if he is brave enough to eventually be a part of the family taxi service ☺. Interesting enough, even though he has been working hard, Anthony has said that it has been a fun year, especially with all the Chemistry labs.



Alex is a 6<sup>th</sup> grader and has followed her brother’s footsteps by accepting an invitation to the Cambridge program. She also accepted an invitation to be part of the Chrysalis program at her dance studio, which is a Jr. Dance company that gives her several opportunities to perform throughout the community. Add her involvement in the math team as well as helping with the morning news crew for part of the time, and Alex is learning how important time management can be when you have a revolving door of activities and school work/projects... She loves it though and has been known to say how bored she is when things slow down.



Joshua is now a third grader who loves reading, especially if it has anything to do with Harry Potter. He still loves Cub scouts, or as we call it, the weekly social hour with all of his friends. Kirk has been helping out with the Cub Scout group and has had fun learning how to make derby cars with Josh; their latest design is for speed instead of beauty. Josh also found out that Jazz dance, especially if it is an all boys’ class, could be pretty cool. Of course Alex is already trying to teach him everything she knows; it is fun to hear them talking using different dance terms etc.

Nicole continues to juggle a busy schedule. In addition to keeping the home and kid front going, and selling Close to My Heart scrapbooking supplies, she continues to work part time at the Stepping Stones Preschool as a Music teacher and supervising children in the early morning program, with adoration and hugs from all the 1-5 year olds she deals with on a regular basis. While the needs of the taxi service are great, she still gets a chance to unwind from the challenges of the day with a glass of wine in one hand and her Cricut software in the other.

Kirk continues to stay busy both at work and around the house. He managed to travel to Las Vegas, San Diego, and Chicago in the last year for business. He has enjoyed golfing with Anthony as well as anticipating the upcoming driving lessons he will be giving to Anthony. Yes you can laugh.

Well that about wraps it up for this holiday season. We wish love and joy for you and your family.

Kirk, Nicole, Anthony, Alexandra, and Joshua (and Aimee and Orion )



