

# THE MATICES' CHRISTMAS MESSAGE — 2008

Happy holidays to all our family and friends!

In honor of Jack starting to learn to read this year, we proudly present the annual Matics Christmas Message in the immortal style of some of his favorite books....

## Curious George

This is Jack. He is a good little boy, and always very curious. He lives with Lisa and Gerry, the parents with the yellow hats.

In January, Lisa flew in a big airplane to Orlando, Fla., for work. Lisa had never seen such a big airplane! She was a little scared at first, but she had lots of fun once she got to Orlando.

Jack turned five in February and had a big party with all his friends. Jack was happy to see all of his friends. They were glad to see Jack, too. There were lots of superhero decorations and noisemakers and games. "What great decorations," Gerry said. "What a lot of presents!" said Lisa. But Lisa and Gerry were curious. What was Jack's birthday wish? He wouldn't tell them. Maybe he wished for more presents!



## Dick and Jane

It is March. See Jack in the karate studio. Kick, Jack! What a nice white belt. He will get different colored belts later. Lisa said, "Nice punch, Jack."

Look at Gerry with his new book. He wrote the book. Now people can buy it. Jack asked, "What is it about?" Lisa said, "Scary things." Jack asked, "May I read it?" Gerry and Lisa said, "No!" Write, Gerry, write!

Gerry left grade school 25 years ago. Now see him with his friends from grade school. It's a party. Wow, they look old! Gerry looks old, too. Grade school was a long time ago.



## Froggy's Best Christmas

It was April, and the weather was finally nice.

"JAAA-AACK!" called Lisa.

"Whaa-aat?"

"Come and run a 5K race in Collegeville with Daddy."

"Oh pleeeaaasse," cried Jack. "I want to run all by myself!"

So Jack flopped into the house — *flop flop flop* — and got his shoes on to get ready for the kids' race.

At the race, Gerry won the grown-ups' part. In the kids' part, one older girl finished in front of Jack. "Oops!" cried Jack, looking more red in the face than white.

"That's okay, Jack," said Lisa. "You were the first boy in."

"Just like Daddy!" said Jack.

And they went home with their medals together — *flop flop flop*.



## Dr. Seuss

Summer was fun. It sure was a blast.

It was time for making memories that last.

Jack spent three whole weeks at the beach with his great aunts and grandparents. He spent time with each.

And Lisa got in on the fun, that is true.

She didn't spend three weeks, though — she hardly spent two.

Gerry spent no time there, but it wasn't boring.

He broke down a wall and put in some new flooring.

Not having Jack and Lisa there wasn't fun.

But, boy! Let me tell you, he got a LOT done!

In September, Jack started kindergarten — what a good, good, GOOD time!

He's learning to put letters together in rhymes.

To read words, to write words, to spell them out, too.

Why, he spells just as well as Cindy Lu Who!

Not only that happened, oh no. Something more.

Something that never had happened before.

Lisa and Gerry hit ten years together, through sun, through rain, through all KINDS of weather.

Some people were amazed, and they said, "Who knew?"

But Lisa and Gerry knew, yes they did. Did you?



## Winnie the Pooh

"Oh, bother!" said Lisa in November. "I don't like my job."

"Would you like a different one?" asked Gerry and Jack.

"Yes, very much, please," said Lisa. She went on an interview to be a finance manager at Wyeth. The man who interviewed her made exploring noises and considering noises and what-have-we-got-*here* noises. Then he said in a very decided voice: "I want you to work for me."

"Oh!" said Lisa. "Thank you *ever* so much! Do you have any honey?"

And that was how Lisa got a new job and never had to leave the House at Arcola Road.

*So that was 2008. We had our ups, we had our downs, but we went through it all together, and that made it a good year.*

*We look forward to an even better 2009, when we hope to see as many of you as possible. In the meantime, enjoy yourselves and each other this holiday season!*

Love,

*Lisa Gerry Jack*

