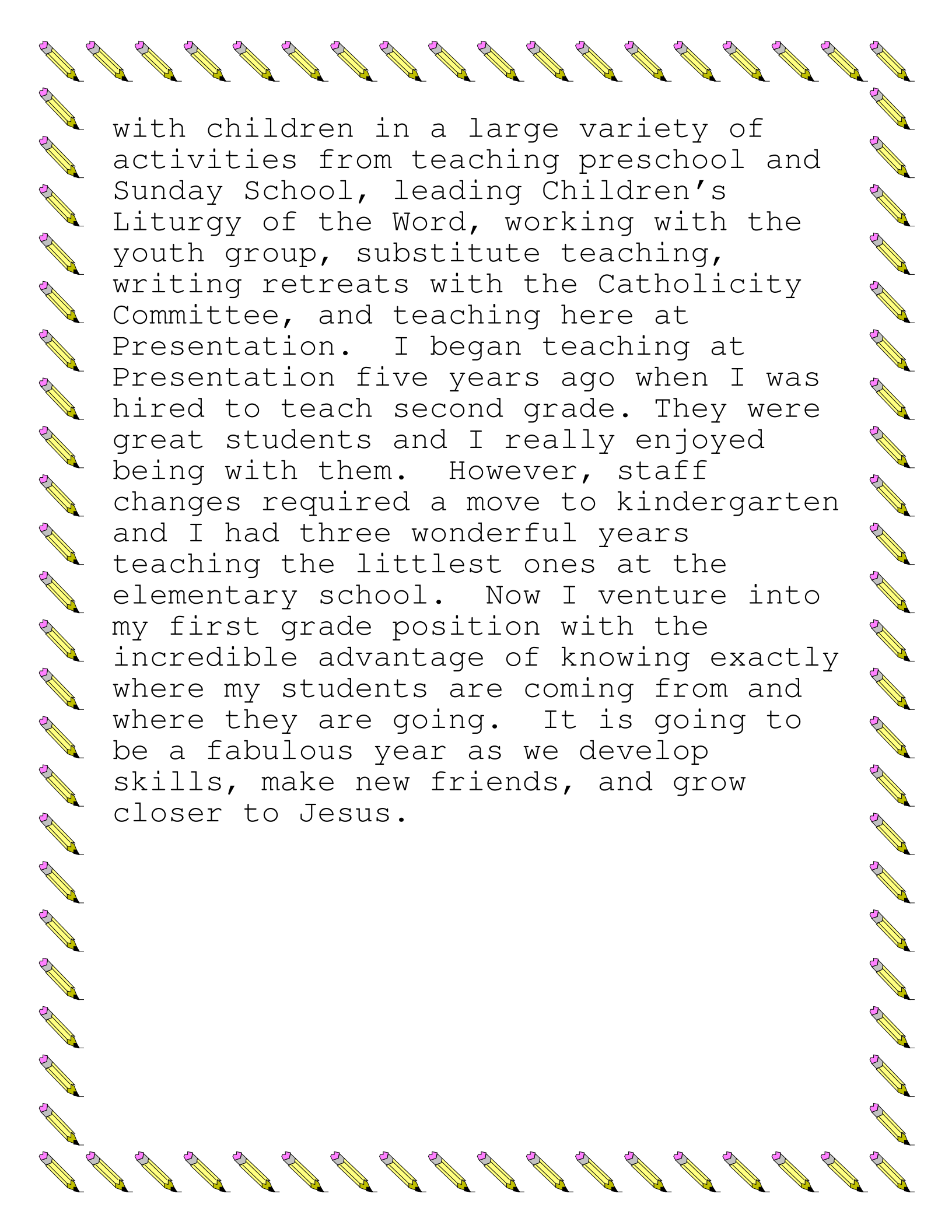


Hi,

My name is Dawn Surmeier and I am really excited about teaching first grade this year. Originally from the Washington D.C. area, my family moved to Missouri 15 years ago. My husband, Ken, works for the Small Business Administration and loves to play with computers. Our son, Joseph, is attending Southeast Missouri University and our daughter, Kathryn, is a junior at Sion. We have attended Presentation Parish for most of the fourteen years we have lived in Lee's Summit. When not working; I love being with my family, taking care of my dog, walking, reading, doing crafts, and playing games.

I studied education at George Mason University in Virginia and graduated with a degree in early education. I have also attended CMSU and Longview to continue my studies and received a certificate in MO for grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>.

Teaching first grade this year is an exciting opportunity for me as I began my career 20 years ago teaching first grade at a private school in Maryland. Since that time I have been involved



with children in a large variety of activities from teaching preschool and Sunday School, leading Children's Liturgy of the Word, working with the youth group, substitute teaching, writing retreats with the Catholicity Committee, and teaching here at Presentation. I began teaching at Presentation five years ago when I was hired to teach second grade. They were great students and I really enjoyed being with them. However, staff changes required a move to kindergarten and I had three wonderful years teaching the littlest ones at the elementary school. Now I venture into my first grade position with the incredible advantage of knowing exactly where my students are coming from and where they are going. It is going to be a fabulous year as we develop skills, make new friends, and grow closer to Jesus.