Thank you to BC student, Rachel NewMiller, who initiated a request to Home Depot for replacement of the planters in our outside play/leisure area. Campus School student, Caroline assisted with the initial plantings. We are looking forward to the Spring for our new flowers.

THANK YOU SO MUCH to Rachel & Home Depot for all your efforts.

Our Mission....
Campus School is committed to providing quality education to learners ages 3-21 with multiple challenges, including complex health care needs. Our program provides a holistic, student-centered approach in a school based setting as well as support to families.

Sensory Integration to Reduce Hand Stereotypies in Children with Rett Syndrome

Campus School occupational therapists, in collaboration with classroom teachers, are engaged in a research study. Rett Syndrome (RTT) is a disorder that usually affects girls and is associated with hand stereotypies (repetitious hand movements that appear to serve no purpose). This study applied a Sensory Integration (SI) intervention to decrease these stereotypies. During SI sessions, the children were assisted to engage multiple senses while playing on a variety of adaptive swings and other movable and suspended equipment. The researchers guide these sensory experiences to modulate level of arousal, increase attentiveness and heighten body awareness. This input targeted the development of postural control, balance and motor planning while promoting visually guided reaching and grasping. Six children with diagnosis of RTT/MECP2-Related Disorders were videotaped each school day for 30 minutes during a prescribed classroom routine for 8 weeks before the intervention, 12--15 weeks during the intervention, and 8 weeks after the interventions stopped. The purpose of these long observation periods is to systematically measure the number of hand stereotypies in order to determine whether the intervention effectively reduced the behaviors. The children’s hand skills were assessed weekly throughout the study period using an adaptation of an assessment specifically designed for individuals with RTT. We believe this intervention will ultimately result in a decrease in hand stereotypies, leading to an increase in functional hand use. We will report our findings after the coding is complete. In the meantime all students in the school are utilizing the new sensory integration equipment in the multi-purpose room, and we are seeing benefits for all.

Speaker DeLeo visits Campus School

Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Robert DeLeo, visited the Campus School in May. Speaker DeLeo was invited by a Campus School family in his district to see the array of responsive services needed for our students to make effective progress. The Speaker commented that he was very impressed with the commitment of the staff in ensuring that every student had an individualized program that allowed them to develop to their full potential. It is hoped that we provided the knowledge he needs in order to be an effective advocate for students with special needs.

If you would like to support the mission of the Campus School, donations continue to augment the services provided. To make a gift please send your check to: Boston College Campus School, 140 Commonwealth Avenue, Campion Hall 197, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. Thank you for your support.
The Boston College Community Celebrates Spirit Day

The Campus School Volunteers of Boston College, BC student athletes, and the Campus School community gathered together for another successful Spirit Day! The volunteer organization, composed of more than 300 BC students who participate in various activities to support the mission of the Campus School and its students. Dean Maureen Kenny from the Lynch School of Education thanked the many volunteers for their time and generosity. In addition to classroom involvement and outreach, one goal of the organization is fundraising. Fundraising events include the annual broom hockey tournament and Campus School Classic golf tournament, as well as the efforts of hundreds of students who ran the Boston Marathon this past spring in support of the school. This year the group presented a check to the Campus School for $111,000.00 which is used to enhance the many services that are provided to the students.

Thanks to everyone who made this day so special!

The Camera Mouse and EagleEyes technologies were developed at Boston College by Professor Jim Gips, Ph.D. and Professor Peter Olivieri, Ph.D.. These assistive technologies allow a person with very limited voluntary muscle control to utilize the computer through eye gaze or head control. The EagleEyes program at the Campus School services many students at the campus school and also provides outreach to schools and adult locations, both locally and internationally. The Gore Foundation has recently provided a grant to enable the Broward Children’s Center in Florida to provide these technologies to their students with disabilities. The Boston College EagleEyes teacher will be traveling to different locations in Broward County to provide training and support for this program. If you would like more information on the EagleEyes program, please email odonnesn@bc.edu.

What is Happening around Campus School……

Campus School students and families attended the BC Football game against the University of Maryland. Tailgating, camaraderie and refreshments were enjoyed by all.

The “Fun Run, Walk and Roll” occurred on October 21st, 2012. Students, families and Campus School volunteers enjoyed the beautiful fall weather as they did a lap around the Chestnut Hill reservoir. Participants made donations to support the Campus School, and afterwards gathered for refreshments and some fun activities.

The John Thomas and Special Friends Fund donated an Ipad as part of their “I-Pads for Special Kids” program. The Ipad provides a communication tool for the students at the Campus School.

Campus School student, Daniel, uses the Ipad during his music therapy.

Thank you to the employees at Deloitte Financial Advisory Services for volunteering as part of their companies “Impact Day.” For the second year; they joined us in cleaning up the outside play/leisure area as well as creating instructional materials for our summer curriculum Olympic theme.

Campus School students and staff pose in front of an Olympic mural.