

## **BIRTHDAYS IN THE PRIMARY CLASSES**

Birthdays at The Children's House are very special days. We have a unique ceremony that includes parents (and sometimes grandparents). We'll describe it for you here so that you know why we are requesting the following information.

All of the children sit in a circle on the floor around a candle that represents the sun. The birthday child walks around the circle carrying a small globe. Each trip around the candle represents one year in the child's life. As the child walks, his/her parent or the teacher reads the information that you have provided.

Example: "Joan was born on December 1<sup>st</sup> 1995 in Traverse City, Michigan at 10:00 in the morning. During her first year of life, she learned to crawl and feed herself. She smiled at her sister first, she practiced standing up and on November 22<sup>nd</sup> she took her first steps. At the end of that year, Joan was one year old."

The narrative continues until the child reaches his/her current age. It is a wonderful concrete way for your child to experience his/her growth. It is your input that makes it personal. If your child's birthday falls on a holiday or non-school day, we will celebrate it before or afterwards, according to your wishes. Your child's teacher will let you know how we celebrate a summer birthday during the school year.

**PLEASE COMPLETE AND BRING TO THE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION:**

1<sup>st</sup> year accomplishments (birth to one):

2<sup>nd</sup> year (age 1 to 2):

3<sup>rd</sup> year (age 2 to 3):

4<sup>th</sup> year (age 3 to 4):

5<sup>th</sup> year (age 4 to 5):

6<sup>th</sup> year (age 5 to 6):