

Dear Family and Friends,

It does not seem that long ago when we were composing the previous edition, and now it is time for the 2009 edition of the Cheung Chalkboard!



As always, we enjoyed our annual ringing in of the New Year in Aruba in the company of both Agnes and Ed's Moms and siblings and other relatives. A highlight of this year was the STS-125 Space Shuttle mission of the final Servicing Mission of the Hubble Space Telescope. We all joined Ed and his Hubble colleagues at the Kennedy Space Center to participate in the pre-launch festivities and witness the launch. It was an experience the kids and us will remember for the rest of our lives.

Earlier in the year, Christopher had joined his schools' FIRST Lego league, which is a team activity that teaches robotic and engineering principles with a line of Lego bricks and electronic modules. Despite being a rookie team, they garnered one of the Trophies for the presentation of their concept to the judges.

Later in the year, we celebrated Stephanie's 16th birthday, and had a very nice party for her along with her friends. Ed's siblings and cousins came into town for that event, and we had several days of a house full of cousins and great memories.

In addition to her inline freestyle skating, Stephanie has taken a liking to Karate, which she takes as a course at school. At her most recent test, she was judged by the instructors to be the best student to advance to orange belt amongst her class of 20 girls.

In addition to the New Year trip mentioned above, we made several trips to Aruba in the summer months. During one of them, Ed made a public presentation of the Hubble mission in front of a large audience of about 400-500 people. Ed enjoyed the audience interaction, and the lecture prompted a meeting with the Governor of Aruba a few days later.

Stephanie's note:

This past year has been extremely fun, and I'm very optimistic for next year. Although I have no idea of what future adventures lay ahead for me, I'm ready to take on everything that comes my way. I'm looking forward to my senior year in high school and preparing for college, which I'll admit is a little scary for me. I'm one of those kids who never want to grow up, so I'm savoring each day that goes by. I am

looking forward to hanging out with my cousins and seeing us grow closer together more than anything else. It's amazing to look back and see how we've progressed. I still remember the days when we used to hide from each other under the stairs at Ah-Mah's house (ok, so maybe we still do that sometimes). I love you guys! Let's have a great year together!

Christopher's note:

There are a few things to be expected of the coming year. The first of which is that I will be leaving Bowie Montessori and going on to high school (a sort-of scary prospect for me, who has always been on the same campus). Right now there is no telling what lies ahead in that direction. For all of my eleven years on campus, I have been hopping from class to class, but never off campus. It should be quite an experience- and I hope that I enjoy it.

We wish you a wonderful Christmas and a great New Year.

Christopher
Stephanie

See you in 2011.

Ed (Bing)
Agnes



For e-mail addresses and more images: <http://www.edcheung.com>