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**STUDENTS AT LA PETITE ACADEMY CREATE BIRTHDAY CARDS
TO HELP GRANT WISH OF SPECIAL CHILD**

CHICAGO, June 5, 2007 – Thousands of students from La Petite Academy locations across the country spent time over the last few days helping to make the wish of a very special boy come true. Shane Bernier, who is now eight-years-old, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia three years ago. As he was undergoing treatment, his cancer unfortunately relapsed. One of the small things that he requested was birthday cards – with the hopes of maybe seeing his name in the Guinness Book of World Records.

When La Petite Academy became aware of this request, we immediately contacted our more than 600 early education and child care locations across the country. Our teachers – and students – were excited to participate and headed for the construction paper, glitter, glue and more to create some heartfelt cards with some very special birthday messages.

“Everything we do at La Petite Academy really comes down to the well-being of the children, so it was clear that helping make Shane’s dreams come true was something that our schools would definitely respond to,” said Bill Davis, CEO of La Petite Academy. “Beyond that, activities such as this align perfectly with our Kids of Character program, which helps children of all ages learn important traits such as generosity, honesty, team-work and more.”

Davis went on to say that, “Ultimately, it’s all about making a difference and we’re glad that our students were able to help bring a smile to Shane’s face.”

As of today, it is anticipated that Shane has received more than five million birthday cards from all over the world, including those from a number of celebrities. To learn more, visit his website at www.shaneswish.com.

About La Petite Academy

Headquartered in Chicago, La Petite Academy, Inc. is a leader in early childhood education with over 600 schools in 36 states and the District of Columbia. Included in the La Petite Academy umbrella of brands is Montessori Unlimited, the largest, most consistent chain of preschools offering the Montessori approach to learning. For more information on La Petite Academy or to find a school in your area, please visit www.lapetite.com.

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