



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Achievement Academy's Graduation & Student Spotlight**

(Lakeland, FL – June 6, 2007) On Friday, June 1, 2007 we said goodbye to seventeen of our children as they sail on to new adventures. Dressed in sailor caps, graduates performed songs aboard a ship at the Bartow Civic Center. The highlight of the evening for parents was seeing their child walk down the aisle in their royal blue cap and gown and received their diploma. We will miss each one of them, but they will always be a part of our Achievement Academy family.

Like many of our graduates, Chloe started at the Achievement Academy at a young age. Diagnosed with Down syndrome at birth, her family knew they had many challenges ahead of them. Chloe is the middle of five children, which makes for a very busy household as her mom also home schools Chloe's siblings. Her mom, Daune, knowing that Chloe was going to require extra support, enrolled her in the Achievement Academy's Birth to Three Program at fifteen months old, where she participated in the "Mommy & Me" playgroup. While enrolled in Achievement Academy's Playgroup,

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Chloe learned simple sign language and developed interactive and social play skills.

In 2003, Chloe entered into the Achievement Academy's Pre-Kindergarten Charter School. Since that time, through a team effort with Chloe's supportive family, teachers and therapist she has advanced by leaps and bounds in her developmental skills. While at school Chloe received regular physical, occupational and speech therapy as well as daily instruction in her pre-readiness skills. Through the Achievement Academy, Chloe has benefited from a small class setting which has allowed her to receive the one on one attention she needs. She can now speak in full sentences, which she was not doing over a year ago. Chloe knows all of her ABC's and she can put together over a 100 piece puzzle independently. She has acquired many kindergarten readiness skills that she will take with her as she continues on her journey.

Her teacher, Susan Shipe say's, "Chloe and I hit it off from day one, she's been a real joy to have in the classroom." Susan will miss Chloe's determination and her endearing smile. When asking Daune how the Achievement Academy has helped her family she said, "In a time of real uncertainty God used the Achievement Academy to help point us in the right direction and get Chloe on the right path. I will miss the friendly, open inviting atmosphere that Achievement Academy has and the feeling that Chloe is so loved there. I will also miss tremendously the relationships that have developed over the past four years. The Achievement Academy is not just a school, everyone has become apart of our family."

The Achievement Academy is a Charter School providing education and therapy services to children with developmental delays/disabilities in Polk County.

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The Achievement Academy assists children and their families through education, support, resources and advocacy at each of its three locations - Lakeland, Bartow and Winter Haven.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Stacy Williams at 863/ 683-6504.

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Chloe Wilson, Achievement Academy Graduate



From left to right  
Susan Shipe, teacher, with Chole's family:  
Daune Wilson, mom; Chole Wilson; Jesse  
Wilson, dad; Caitlyn Wilson sister;  
Jinny & Bob Adams, Grandparents; Chandler,  
brother