

The Trinity Times Newsletter

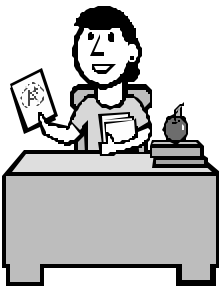
Developing Imaginations and Foundations



October
2009

A Word from our Director

Sue Gaertner



Dear Parents,
Greetings! Our school is off to a great start! I have been part of a nursery school for over 20 years, and yet I still get excited when school begins.

The preschool years are a magical time of life. Your wide-eyed children are experiencing numerous "firsts" now, and the teachers and I always feel blessed to be able to share in their experiences. Each precious and unique child approaches the tasks of development in his/her own unique way. This year's journey will be like none before it. That is why I can still get excited about what lies ahead. The teachers and I thank you for choosing Trinity and trusting us to share in your child's very important beginnings. Hang on — it's going to be an exciting, magical ride!

If you missed Nursery School Sunday then you missed a precious story that a mother called me special just to share. Her 5 year old daughter was in Camp Amigos with

a little 3 year old boy with a very BIG personality. Her daughter recently said that the boy had such big thoughts and big dreams and she wondered how he was able to keep such big dreams inside his little head and little body. What an interesting and profound comment! At TCNS we know that ALL our children have BIG thoughts and BIG dreams! We respect them and know that it is our privilege to nurture their thoughts and dreams.

We work to create an atmosphere where children feel valued and secure so they can stretch their imaginations and try the untried! I want and need your feedback to make certain we are doing ALL that we can do for each child. Please know that I am always available to discuss any questions, comments or concerns. Call me at school (847-251-0479), at home (847-734-7299) or email me at sue@trinitywilmette.org. I look forward to hearing from you!

To Happy Beginnings!

Sue Gaertner

TCNS Helping Hands

Director:

Sue Gaertner
sue@trinitywilmette.org
sue2ga@aol.com

Professional Staff:

Happy Baird
Caroline Cerrone
Bonnie Cobia
Valerie Dashiell
Sue Gaertner
Luanne Hampton
Ginny Lezama
Byrd Matejka
Kim Ross
Kathy Sasso
Betsy Segal
Kathy Stein

Parent Board Chair:

Heather Hester
heathermama3@comcast.net

Mark Your Calendars!

October 10

Oktoberfest Friendraiser

October 12

No School-Columbus Day

October 14

Parent Advisory Board Mtg

October 23

Parent Workshop

October 29 & 30

Halloween Festivities

Ready-TWO-Grow

Bonnie Cobia & Betsy Segal



We welcomed 11 wonderful children to Ready-Two-Grow. They are learning about the room with all of the play areas and about each other. We will grow and learn and experience friendships this year.

We are new to our routine and each other. So we have been thinking about circles -- circle art projects, circle time and the circle of friendship. All of the children love to have a turn at the front of the group singing about something they are wearing. Each child is recognized individually, and it is a wonderful way to learn each others names!

It is amazing that in just a few short school days we have become a group. Each day we have a line leader who has led us outside. We have been so for-

tunate with beautiful days as the children love the sandbox, the "train" and the slides! Inside favorite activities have included the playdough, water table, babies, phone booth and reading -- especially Pinkalicious!

We are off to a great start and now...drum roll, please...come the COLOR DAYS!!! It will be a bright, sunny start with "yellow day". We'll wear yellow and sing and celebrate yellow in all its glory! It will also be interesting because "yellow" is the nickname given to Lauren by Gracie and Luke. We'll let you know about all the color celebrations in next months newsletter and about our first holiday party -- Halloween!

News from the TERRIFIC THREE's

Bonnie Cobia, Sue Gaertner, Byrd Matejka, Luanne Hampton & Betsy Segal



The Three's Are Off to a Great Start!

Wow! The Three Year Old AM and PM classes are having such fun! We've been reacquainting with old friends and meeting wonderful new friends! We've been learning our new friends' names, our teachers' names and getting to learn the ins and outs of the classroom. We've been singing "Make New Friends," "Sticky Sticky Bubblegum," "Wheels on the Bus" and "Walk Old Joe." We've been playing with playdough, the water table, sorting toys, books and lots of cars! We've been movin' and groovin' to "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes," "The Hokey Pokey" and "If You're Happy and You

Know It." We'll be showing our musical talents with shakers, bells and rhythm sticks!

The students amaze us with their excitement to start a new year. Many of the students are brand new to Trinity and the transition has been wonderful! They especially like the playground and snack!

We've had lots of birthday readers! Thanks to Amy Koplou, Raquel Klubanoff, Meghan McKinnon, Kelly Epstein and Sarah Thomson.

We've off to a great start and look forward to a terrific year!

Warm Welcomes!

The Nursery School family welcomed Byrd Matejka as a teacher in the 3 Year Old Program. Byrd brings 9 years of teaching experience and TONS of enthusiasm to TCNS. Add her warm smile and nurturing style and you can clearly see why the kids (and staff!) have fallen in love with Miss Byrd!

Please join me in welcoming Kim Ross to TCNS! Kim is a teacher on Wednesdays in Lunch Bunch, but many of your kids already know her since she is a babysitter extraordinaire! We are happy to have Kim at TCNS!

Trinity Songbirds! We LOVE to sing while we learn...

Make New Friends

Make new friends, but keep the old.
One is silver and the other gold.
A circle's round, it has no end.
That's how long I want to be your friend!

Walk Old Joe

Walk Old Joe - Walk Old Joe
You're the best horse in the country-oh!
Walk Old Joe - Walk Old Joe
You're the best horse in the country-oh!
Whoa Joe!!!

Repeat using trot and gallop.
Have your child show you the hand motions!



Getting To Know You

Getting to know you,
Getting to know all about you.
Getting to like you,
Getting to hope you like me.

Getting to know you,
Putting it my way but nicely.
You are precisely,
My cup of tea.

Getting to know you,
Getting to feel free and easy.
When I am with you,
Getting to know what to say.
Haven't you noticed,
Suddenly I'm bright and breezy,
Because of all the beautiful and new

Things I'm learning about you
Day by day.



Observation Days

Please tell your family, friends and neighbors about Trinity Observation Days for prospective parents. They are November 5 & 6. Parents will have the opportunity to meet the Director and teachers, visit the classrooms, tour the building and ask questions. Reservations are necessary and interested families may call the school office at 847-251-0479, or call the Registrar, Besty Crosswhite at 847-256-7817.

Phone Conferences

Fall phone conferences begin mid-October. One of your child's teachers will be calling to discuss your child's adjustment to school. If you have any questions or concerns please be sure to share them with us at this time. The calls will be made during the school day. You will receive a specified calling time and date via your child's mailbox. If you need to change your assigned time please let your teacher know as soon as possible. If you would like to be called at work, please communicate that to your teacher. We look forward to chatting with you!

News from the FABULOUS FOUR's

Happy Baird, Ginny Lezama & Luanne Hampton



Time really does fly when you're having fun! We're enjoying old friends and making new ones as we have all learned to sing "Make New Friends But Keep the Old" and "Getting to Know You." We've already discovered many friends who are willing to come in front of the class and sing a solo. Alexandra Plovanic sang "A Love Story" and C.J. Feldman prefers to make up his own lyrics and tunes!

We are pleased and proud to witness and foster the self confidence of all of the children at every comfort level. We spent a couple of days reading and illustrating the story of Rumpelstiltskin adding some real straw to the picture. When the teachers went to the cabinet to hand the pictures out, they were missing and we were able to follow the messy trail of straw into the kitchen to discover that Rumpelstiltskin had turned the straw into gold!! Lucas Pazen and Will Colvin were especially impressed with that discovery.

Do you know the story of "The Great Gray Bridge and the Little Red Lighthouse?" It's a true story about the lighthouse on the Hudson River under the George Washington Bridge in N.Y. Look for our illustrations on the bulletin board. We'll be starting our Special Days soon

so look forward, during the rest of the year, to your child bringing home a large paper star with their picture attached and many thoughtful things said by their friends and teachers.

By the end of the month we'll have our room ready for Halloween — with orange and black, ghosts, and haunted houses. Our 4's and 5's always love making up eerie stories and hunting through the candlelit hallways to find the special prize that our friend, Spooky Ghost, leaves for us.

We always love our conversations at the rug, and one day when the subject of pets came up, Beckham Lee remarked "I'm attracted to dogs - but only smaller ones." We assumed he meant to say he is allergic to dogs, but he assured us that the word "attracted" means he likes dogs.

Another day, Daniel Stein had been absent the day before, and when asked why he wasn't at school, he told us he had hives. What are hives, we asked. "Oh, well, that's where bees live!" Of course!

Our energetic fun-filled days always end with a respectful Pledge of Allegiance and singing "God Bless America." PERFECT!

Trinity's Fall Friendraiser



Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 10th

6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Brats, Beer and Live German Music!

Don't miss the fun! Return your RSVP cards today!

KINDERGARTEN Enrichment

Bonnie Cobia, Caroline Cerrone & Kathy Sasso



ABC

We are happy as can be!

DEFG

Back together now are we!

HIJK

We're singing songs-like Down by the Bay!

LMNO

We're moving in the playground or having searches inside-we're on the go!

PQRS

We paint, color and play with toys and we are good at cleaning up our mess!

TU

There is always plenty to do!

VWXYZ

We are having so much fun you see!

WELCOME BACK TO TRINITY!!!!!! And a special welcome to our new friend, Annabel. Make new friends and keep the old and come to Trinity KE for a comfortable, familiar place. We're following the alphabet as the letters provide our fun for the day. We sing about the letter, have an art project about the letter, read, graph, play games -- you get the idea! We are also learning sign language as we go along.

When I was interviewed to go to Africa last year I was asked what I could do with the experience back here. Little did I know then that the children of Moshi, Tanzania would be singing the Trinity "Hello Song," the "Goodbye Song" and that I would be translating our own "Hello Song" into Swahili. The children there go to school to learn English so they always sang in English! So now, the children in KE can sing the "Hello Song" in Swahili, can say "thank you" and sing "goodbye!" We play a game called "we're going on safari" and each child pretends to be an animal.

Most importantly, what we can do this year is to build kind, caring relationships. This was evidenced already when Lila didn't have a lunch. Peyton gave her pumpkin bread, Michael shared his grapes, Lindsey shared her strawberries -- everyone offered her food. She was full, everyone else was full and it made everyone feel connected.

In addition to our curriculum plans and activities, free play has been very creative. They have been performing a bell choir and "reading" the music with color coded cards, playing chess, playing Mickey Mouse Yahtzee, playing with blocks and legos and more.

Watch the year unfold with us -- we're already to the letter "C"!

Kids Say the Darndest Things...

Three year old Lindsay Johnson has beautiful, captivating eyes. They certainly captured the attention of her classmate, Noah Shapo. He was awestruck and stared into Lindsay's eyes. Unfortunately, he stared a little too close for Lindsay, who made a face to indicate she was not pleased. Noah replied, "But I NEED to hear your eyes!"

The Pumpkins Are Here!



Each year, Trinity United Methodist Church sponsors a pumpkin patch as a fundraiser for the church. It's hard to miss--starting Sunday, Oct. 4, the church lawn on Lake Avenue will be filled with pumpkins of all sizes, as well as corn stalks, fall corn, and any number of other fall decoration items for sale. If you're in need of pumpkins, want to support a good cause, or are just looking for a great place to snap a few fall pictures of the kids, please stop by. Profits from this year's Pumpkin Patch will be used to fund mission projects in the Chicago area and in Africa. Thanks for your support!



The CHAIR's Corner

Heather Hester

Each year I approach September with mixed feelings of dread and excitement.

My kids' enthusiasm for the new school year is contagious, and I love the weather and the feeling of new beginnings. The flip side of this joy is the complete craziness that I know will ensue; the new schedules, the early morning alarms, the avalanche of paperwork and the new regimen of homework - yikes! I'm sure many of you echo my relief that the craziness of September is almost over!

That being said, I want to welcome you all to a new year at Trinity! This is my sixth year here and I can't imagine a place I would rather have my children spend these important first years of school. We are blessed with an amazing, caring staff that makes TCNS a unique and special place.

Many thanks to Betsey Frank, Tena Bonaguidi and the fundraising committee for all of their hard work over the summer laying the foundation for what is sure to be a very fun and successful benefit in February. Thank you also to the room parents for their diligent efforts in setting up the August play dates, communicating the many messages that have already gone out to their classes and being a general support to the parents and teachers alike. And last, but certainly not least, a huge thank you to Sue Gaertner and her staff for all of the work they did to prepare for the arrival of our little ones!

There are a few exciting events coming up that I hope you will consider attending. This year's Friendraiser on October 10 is an Oktoberfest party hosted by the Bonaguidi family. It promises to be fabulous party and will be a great time to meet new parents to Trinity and re-connect with old friends. Jennifer Campolieto and Amy Koplow have been hard at work planning the 3rd Annual Trinity Trunk Show on Wednesday, November 11. They have some fabulous vendors lined up, and it is a great place to get your Holiday shopping started while supporting TCNS.

New this year is a fundraising partnership with Hen and Barley Press. HBP is co-founded by a former Trinity mom and creates personalized note cards, notepaper, wine bags, holiday cards etc. The fundraiser will last the entire school year and 40% of every purchase will be donated back to Trinity. It is another wonderful way to purchase gifts and everyday items while supporting our wonderful school. E-mails and flyers will periodically go out to remind you, and you can always log on to their website at www.shophbp.com.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that the parent advisory board meetings are the second Wednesday of each month, and parents are always invited to attend. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me if you have any questions or concerns.

Trinity Gear Available

Did you know that Trinity has great T-shirts and sweatshirts? Trinity gear is available in white, blue and, by popular request, PINK! Long-sleeved shirts are \$12.00 and sweatshirts are \$15.00. Stop by Sue's office to purchase your Trinity gear today!



Help Needed!



Next week we will begin to mail our fundraising solicitation letters.

Join us for envelope stuffing in the church parlor on Friday, October 9th from 9:15 to 12:00.

Bagels, coffee and babysitting will be provided!

Please RSVP to:

Betsey Frank (betseyfrank@hotmail.com) or
Tena Bonaguidi (tenabonaguidi@sbcglobal.net)

Other Trinity News...

The Great Trinity Trunk Show

Wednesday, November 11th



The 3rd Annual Trinity Trunk Show will be November 11. We are still in need of a few vendors!

If you know of anyone please forward their info to Amy Koplow at apeades@aol.com or Jennifer Campolieto at jencamp@microsoft.com This is always a fun event!

Mark your calendars now for ...

The Annual Trinity Benefit

Saturday, February 20th, 2010

Save the date! Secure your babysitters! The Annual Trinity Benefit will be here before you know it!

Our theme is *That's Amore – Celebrating 40 Years of the Nursery School We All Love!*

Spread the word because this year the benefit is open to alums, friends and family of Trinity.

Save the Date

1st Annual Bowling/Babysitting for BUCK\$

Sunday, November 8th, 5-6:30 p.m.

At Pinstripes in Northbrook

This event is hosted by Trinity Church's High School Youth. Children ages 3 and up are invited to come for bowling and pizza. The cost is \$30 per child. Parents are encouraged to mingle in the Bistro with friends during this event. Look for more information in your child's cubby in late October!



Nanny Available

With our youngest starting middle school this year, sadly, it is time for us to find a new family for our nanny, Dana. She is a wonderful, smart, loving, thoughtful, responsible hard worker and is looking for a full-time position.



Contact Trinity members Beverly and Mitchell Peterson at 847-446-3874 for more information.

A Good Cause

Making a Target run soon? Please consider supporting **Make a Difference Day** at Highcrest Middle School. This service project is sponsored by the New Trier Township Volunteer Center. They are in need of diapers and formula. A collection box will be in the Trinity lobby until October 22.

Contact Molly Sullivan 847-256-9957 with any questions. Thanks for your support!



EXTRA! EXTRA!

Looking for a babysitter? Have one to share? Selling something? Let the **Trinity Times Newsletter** help you get the word out!

Contact Christina Mulligan, Newsletter Editor at: christinamulligan@sbcglobal.net to place a Classified Ad.



Home Repair

Do you need help with home repair or renovation projects? Want to spruce up your house before the holidays? We have the guy for you. Trinity Dad Rudy Cerrone is a general contractor and carpenter who specializes in kitchen and bathroom remodeling, outdoor decks, and stone and brick work. Call him at 847-338-4849 for a free estimate on your project.