

Happy New Year to  
all! I hope that 2010  
brings Joy and Peace  
to all!

A New Year is time  
for pause and reflection and I have  
tried to do just that as Director of our  
school. Examining our practices and  
setting goals is an ongoing process.  
However, at this point in time TCNS is  
engaged in the NAEYC re-  
accreditation process, which means  
self study and evaluation is even  
more intense than usual. Your input  
is a crucial component of this proc-  
ess. I will soon be sending home an  
evaluation created by NAEYC which  
will ask you to comment on our poli-  
cies and procedures. Additionally,  
NAEYC requires that I ask you general  
background information, which of  
course will remain anonymous. I  
hope you will take the time to com-  
plete the surveys. I ALWAYS need

# A Word from our Director, continued ...

with you!

? Elizabeth Clemment is joining the TCNS staff as Music Teacher in the 3 Year Old Program. Every other Wednesday, Elizabeth will join circle-time and share her fun style of music at the rug! She will also join the Parent Tot class one Monday a month. Welcome, Elizabeth!

? Cindy Ulrich is a recent addition to the Parent Tot program. One Monday a month Cindy and her guitar bring music, laughter, and smiles to our Parent Tot kids. Welcome, Cindy!

? Val Dashiell will continue to work with our 3's, 4's and 5's as the movement and music instructor. Every other Wednesday she gets our kids hopping

## Ready-TWO-Grow

**Bonnie Cobia & Betsy Segal**

Ready Two Grow enjoyed a lovely December. It was so fun learning about holidays! The cookie party was so sweet – literally and figuratively! The children decorated delicious sugar cookies. They painted on frosting and added sprinkles for the prettiest cookies around. Thanks so much to our own Miss Betsy, the best sugar cookie baker in town! It was heartwarming to see all the happy children busy with all their wonderful family members.

Thanks so much to Deanna Goldman, Gracie's mom, for coming in to talk about Hanukkah. The children loved spinning the dreidels and even holding the menorah candles. The Goldmans also gave each child a special treat. For snack we had latkes. They were delicious! We were eating potatoes, of course, but many children kept asking for more chicken! Must have been that yummy fried coating. They were so good that my family ate them with our Christmas Eve dinner. Thanks again, Deanna! (If you are interested, the latkes came from The Grand.)

Thanks so much to Jennifer Peterson and her mom for coming in to talk about Christmas. It was so special having Jake's mother and grandmother! We

and dancing as she takes out the parachute, instruments & rhythm sticks and introduces the kids to music that ranges from classical to country.

? The FUNdamentals of science are presented by Val Dashiell to our 4/5's and kindergarten kids. Her approach is hands-on and active and the kids always look forward to seeing what kind of fun is coming out of her "Mary Poppins" bag of supplies.

All of the enrichment programming listed above are made possible by the generosity of Trinity parents who support our school and our Annual Benefit. Plus, classroom aides in the 3's and 4's are possible because of fundraising revenue.

Thank you for your support!!



enjoyed a story. Then we looked at different pictures of Santa. Then an amazing thing happened. The children took off their shoes, closed their eyes, and just like the story of St. Nicholas, the children opened their eyes to find candy in their shoes! It was very exciting! Thanks again for coming in and making our day so special.

We had fun with our art projects including a holiday present for our family, a kwanzaa "hug" card and painting a driedel by rolling a golf ball around on it.

Everybody seems so happy to be back! They are really enjoying each other so much.

We have started our music unit so don't be surprised if you hear some great music filling the halls of Trinity. Most of our instruments I am very proud to say are made from recycled materials. Just like our color day parades we'll be parading our instruments. What is Ready-Two-Grow without a parade? This group, I think, loves parades more than any other. We'll keep everything at school and you'll get the instruments at home after our big finale -- The Band.

Welcome back everyone!

# News from the TERRIFIC THREE's

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



Happy New Year was the cry this week as we returned to class in the 3 & 4 year old classroom! All of the teachers missed "their kids" so much!

Reflecting back on December, we were so busy! Our students did so much singing and really know how to get their groove on! Rounding renditions of We Wish You A Merry Christmas, Frosty, Rudolph and Dreidel, Dreidel were heard every day and I've heard many parents say they were heard around the house as well! Love it! We discussed Hannukah and Christmas. A big thank you to Robin Shapo and Shoshanna Miller for coming to class to share their traditions of Hannukah! We made Christmas trees, menorahs and candy cane

ornaments! Our students have made so much progress at the art table. They really hold their focus and find such pride in a job well done!

The highlight of December was our cookie party! Thank you to all guests who attended and got to hear our songs, eat our cookies and see the teachers vie for the Academy Award of Trinity in the annual Holiday play!

Happy New Year to all of you! 2010 will be a great year and we are so thankful to share it with your wonderful children!

**Save the Date and Book Your Sitters Now!**

**The Annual Trinity Benefit**

**That's Amore!**

**Celebrating 40 years of the nursery school we all love**

**Saturday, February 20th, 2010**



This year TCNS is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary! We are so excited to be a part of this significant milestone of our incredible school. To honor the occasion, we are planning a number of celebrations at the Annual Benefit, such as inviting parents of alums, presenting a special video of the school and topping off the evening with a performance by the T-Byrdz, featuring our multi-talented and much-loved Trinity teacher, Byrd Matejka.

We've also expanded our guest list to include **friends, family and alums of Trinity**, and anyone else who wants to come out and support our amazing school! In addition, we are creating a special Grandparents Fund for those grandparents that would like to support their grandchildren's early childhood education. They will be specially acknowledged in this year's bid book. We have extended the deadline to January 15 for you to submit the names and addresses of those friends, family and grandparents you would like to include in this year's special event. Send contact info to Tena Bonaguidi at [tenabonaguidi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tenabonaguidi@sbcglobal.net) or Betsey Frank at [betseyfrank@hotmail.com](mailto:betseyfrank@hotmail.com).

# News from the FABULOUS FOUR's

## Happy Baird, Ginny Lezama & Luanne Hampton



We all enjoyed the December holidays at home and at school, and we want to thank you parents again for being with us for our festive cookie parties where we appreciated the gifts of song and tasty cookies the children prepared for everyone.

Happy New Year to all. It's hard to believe it is 2010 - where did the decade go?!!

The cold weather and snow make it easier to imagine living in the Antarctic (dreadful!) with the penguins. Thank goodness we don't have days and nights like their winters of darkness. Wait, some of our winters do resemble that! The free form penguins the children painted were very inspiring, and they had fun learning about and labeling their penguin as a Macaroni, Emperor, King, Chinstrap, Gento or an Adelie. Kayla painted a Macaroni penguin and when I asked her what penguin she painted, she said "A mac and cheese penguin!"

Whales really come to life after we watch a video of them in their habitat. During the children's book time, we will enjoy listening to a tape of them singing to each other under the sea. We will walk off 100 feet to see how big a blue whale can be.

After we've filled our brains with so much information, we'll be ready for Mrs. Lezama's, tomten to

come to school for a visit. He lives under a chair at the house and only comes out at night. He's very shy because animals are his only friends. He's scared of humans except for me! We'll see what we can do to bribe him!

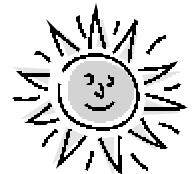
In February, we'll be reading the classic tale of Beauty and the Beast and spend time reading about medieval times, listening to Camelot and getting ready for our "Trinity Ball."

Thank you to Caroline Cerrone for reading the book Help! to Samantha's class. Tommy could understand why Samantha liked it so much. He said "Read it again, read it again." Beth Beeler read a story for Blake's 1/2 birthday celebration at school as well.

We know we don't have to tell you how much we enjoy your children. Every day they bring such joy. We laugh together and share good times (especially rug time!) and we are so grateful to be a part of their lives. After winter break Tommy was a bit concerned that Mary might forget him. When she arrived at school, Mary brought paper that she had colored, glued letters on and taped and taped and taped for him. She gave it to him with a bright smile and a hug. Tommy's eyes lit up. Later, he said to his mom, "Mommy, Mary didn't quit me!"

### Kids Say The Darndest Things...

This gem was told to the 4's teachers by Kim Stanton, mother of Riley in 4pm. Riley was telling her mom that things have changed in her class...the boys are playing together in the block area and are no longer playing in the housekeeping center. Riley is not thrilled by this change. Why, you ask? Well...the other day she had to marry Charlotte!!!



### Our Trinity Family is Growing!



Congratulations to proud parents Nancy Dolan and Dan Levine on the birth of Baby Daniel!!! Big Brother Robert and Big Sister Clare are VERY excited!!!

# KINDERGARTEN Enrichment

Bonnie Cobia, Caroline Cerrone & Kathy Sasso



Some staff members of Trinity Church tell me one of the highlights of the year for them is the KE holiday luncheon. It isn't as well known as other events since parents don't attend, but this was our eighth annual luncheon. It is a very special time with the children providing food, cooking the food and attending to their "guest." The staffs of the church and nursery school are invited along with church leaders, my mother, and this year, the adults who went to Africa. The children even decorated and delivered the invitations during "I" week in keeping with our letter of the week theme. Pastor Kirk even mentioned the luncheon in his Christmas Eve 11:00pm service. He was very moved by the conversations with the children.

The children were amazing. You would have been so proud of them acting as hosts. They also put on a program. As the connection between Africa and Wilmette, they acted out the "porridge" story – a real event. We had three different bell ringing groups performing three different songs. We also acted out a safari and the guests got to be amazed by the animal they saw!

We performed some holiday songs and participated in a group singalong. We always tie light into the celebration as candles and light are a part of most holidays. This year we lit seven candles for the seven continents. The children decided what they wished for for each continent and we took a mo-

ment to think of the children all over the world.

Thank you to the two Mrs. Knudson's – Jack's mother and grandmother who came to help. You were such a great help. We couldn't have done it without you. Traci also took pictures that help capture this special event. Thanks again so much!

Thanks to all the families for bringing in all the food – it was all delicious and eaten up!

Between the luncheon and preparing gifts for the families we were very busy in December. One fun thing that has come about during "free" time, which might be better referred to as unstructured time is book writing. Jack dictated some pictures which inspired him to write a book, then Stefan wrote a book at home as did Paden. The books were read to the group and, seriously, the children loved them! Sam read Paden's book aloud to the class, which was all about Africa. Other children have been enjoying making books in class.

We are excited to be back and enjoying the letter "K". We didn't come back quietly – they knew we were back when they heard our wonderful kazoo band parade! We are also going to see some video of Kilimanjaro – from my actual trip.

We hope you all had a great holiday break!

## Nursery School Registration for 2010 -2011

**Just a reminder that all 2010-2011 Registration Applications are due with a postmark deadline of January 15.** The Lottery will be conducted on January 22 and contracts will be mailed out on January 25. Signed contracts and tuition deposits are due back on February 2.



If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's placement for next year please call Sue at 847-251-0479.

Questions about registration? Contact our registrar, Betsy Crosswhite at [thecrosswhites@yahoo.com](mailto:thecrosswhites@yahoo.com) or 847-256-7817.



## The CHAIR's Corner

Heather Hester

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season that was filled with love, laughter and (a little!) rest!

A few reminders: applications for the TCNS 10-11 school year and Camp Amigos program are due NOW, so get them in if you haven't already. The benefit this year is on *Saturday, February 20* so mark your calendars and get your sitters. The theme this year is *That's Amore: Celebrating 40 Years of TCNS!* Tena Bonaguidi, Betsey Frank and their committee have been working tirelessly to make this a very fun event that you do not want to miss. Remember, this is our one big fund-

raiser, which supports so many of our special programs, so please come and show your support!

Our parent advisory board meetings are the second Wednesday of the month at 9:15am and anyone is welcome!

Warmly,

Heather Hester

Parent Advisory Board Chair

### Two Easy Ways to Support the Trinity Benefit!

#### Take Out a Personal Ad in the Bid Book



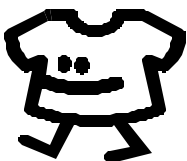
Create your own personal ad in this year's Bid Book. You can include a photo or artwork to celebrate your child and their class, moving on to kindergarten next year, a special moment at home, etc. Ads range from \$30 - \$120. Contact Robin Shapo at [robinfs@yahoo.com](mailto:robinfs@yahoo.com) with any questions.

#### Donate a Bottle of Wine to the TCNS Wine Cellar

Drop by the Bottle Shop in downtown Wilmette or call them at (847) 256-7777 to purchase a bottle for the TCNS Wine Cellar. The wine cellar will be up for auction at the benefit and you could end up going home with a fantastic selection of premium wines if your bid wins! If you have wine in your own collection you would like to donate, please call Betsey Frank at (847) 251-0141 and she will pick it up at your house.



### 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!

# Other News...

## Remember Your Birthday Books

Just a friendly reminder that you can purchase a book for the TCNS library in honor of your son's or daughter's birthday. All you need to do is fill out this form, and I will send you an email reminder during the month of your child's birthday. During their birthday month, you can go to Sue Gaertner's office with your child and pick out a new book to be labeled with your child's name and then placed in the TCNS library. It is a wonderful way to honor your child's birthday, and the children love to see their name in the book.



Any questions? Contact Lara Waechtler, TCNS Librarian, 847-728-0244 or [lara.waechtler@gmail.com](mailto:lara.waechtler@gmail.com)

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Child's Name:

Birthday:

Home phone:

Email:

Please fill out this form and \$15 (cash or check made out to TCNS) in an envelope labeled "Birthday Book" and place it in the fundraising basket in your child's classroom.

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### Home Repair

Do you need help with a home repair or renovation project? Trinity Dad Rudy Cerrone is a general contractor and carpenter specializing 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.

### Babysitter Available

Trinity mom Heather Martello has a wonderful babysitter, Dorothy, available for work on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our kids love her and she is a huge help to me, as well.

Contact Heather at 847-721-9357 for more information.

