



Trinity Times Newsletter

A Message from the Director:

I have an array of quotes hanging around my house, from the 23rd Psalm to Beatles lyrics and everything between. It's just part of who I am. I often seek quotes that fill me with hope or humor or crystallize a recurrent thought. My newest favorite quote is something I overheard it at a TCNS Gives Back event: "BOO-HOO/YAHOO." For me, the end of the school year is a BOO-HOO/YAHOO moment.

Teaching is a lot like parenting. When children are very young, we do almost everything for them. As they mature, we transition to facilitating, encouraging, and guiding instead. Children begin experiencing the world for themselves, and they often make mistakes. It's a huge, essential part of the learning process. One of our jobs as educators and parents, is to create a loving, accepting environment where children feel secure and free to take risks and make mistakes without fear of ridicule.

We strive to create that environment here at TCNS. We aim to create a supportive, loving, comforting family of the heart, and that is why the staff deeply feels this BOO-HOO/YAHOO moment. We have fallen in love with your kids and worked toward helping them achieve independence. Our job is to help them move on, to cheer their forward movement even as our hearts break just a little bit, to embrace the balance of life and what it means to grow.

It always shocks me that May comes so quickly. The days feel long, but the years keep getting shorter. As this year draws to a close, there are so many people to thank. TCNS runs so smoothly because of the teamwork involved. My heart is filled with gratitude for the many relationships and connections that have enriched my life and the school community this year. I am grateful for the support and guidance of the Parent Advisory Board. All of us are blessed by the hard work and leadership of the

Board guided by Board Chair, Sarah Holcomb. Thank you, Sarah, for your warmth and wisdom. Special thanks also to every member of the Parent Advisory Board for your important contributions and devotion to our school. It is because of your generous donations of time and talent that our staff can focus their energies on the children.

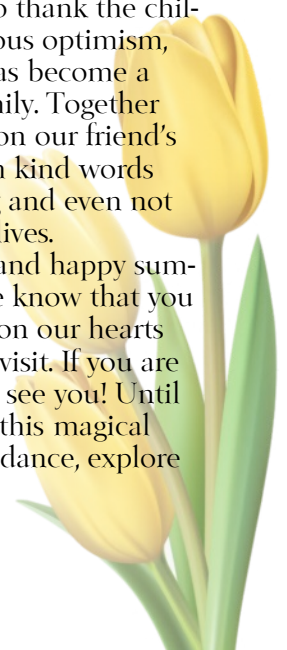
Thank you also to each and every parent for your generous support of our school! Your children reflect your goodness, generosity, compassion, and energy!

Thank you to the entire TCNS staff for your devotion and hard work. It is apparent that the children in your care flourish from all the love you pour into them. It is a pleasure and an honor to work with each of you! Thank you for all that you do! Special thanks to retiring teacher Ginny Lezama, for sharing her many gifts with our TCNS Family through the years.

Last but not least, I need to thank the children for their laughter, love, contagious optimism, and curiosity! Each precious child has become a treasured member of our TCNS Family. Together we've celebrated birthdays, cheered on our friend's successes, comforted each other with kind words and hugs, and shared all the exciting and even not so exciting things happening in our lives.

I wish all our families a safe and happy summer! If you are leaving Trinity, please know that you and your child have left your marks on our hearts and we hope you will come back to visit. If you are returning in the fall, we can't wait to see you! Until then, stay well and be happy. Enjoy this magical time in your child's life! Laugh, sing, dance, explore and discover!

With love and gratitude,
Sue



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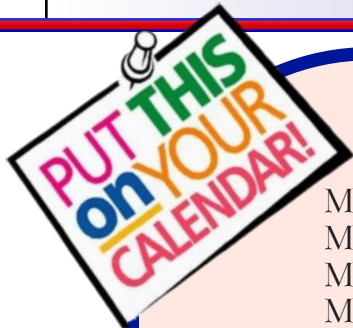
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You know us. You love us.
Help us spread the word about TCNS!

Great!
SCHOOLS



Nextdoor



Dates to Remember:

May 13-3AM Specials Day
 May 14-Ready Two Grow Specials Day
 May 14-4PM Specials Day
 May 14 -Yoga Demonstration KE AM & PM
 May 16-3PM Specials Day
 May 17-4AM Specials Day
 May 22-Old/New Parent Advisory Board Meeting
 May 24-Last Day of Lunch Bunch
 May 27-NO SCHOOL
 May 28-Picnic: Ready Two Grow
 May 29-Picnic: 3AM & PM
 May 30-End of Year Celebration 4PM
 May 30-Graduation AM KE
 May 31-End of year Celebration 4AM
 May 31-Graduation PM KE
 May 31-Last Day of School
 June 3-Prelude to Summer Mini-Camp Begins
 June 5-Parent Advisory Board Luncheon
 June 17-Camp Amigos Begins
 August 1-Camp Amigos Ends
 Sept. 3-TCNS 2019-2020 Begins

Acknowledgements

TCNS Staff

Sue Gaertner – Program Director
Meghan MacKinnon – TCNS Administrator

Teachers:

Deb Bernstein, Dori Boneck, Kristen Bowie, Agata Budzik, Maria Costas, Valerie Dashiell, Sue Gaertner, Luanne Hampton, Sarah Hepner, Ellie Johnson, Yvonne Kelly, Joyce Ladin, Ginny Lazama, Courtney Mackenzie, Meghan MacKinnon, Alessia Odell, Jeni Roderick, Colleen Shean, Lindsey Smithwick, Kathy Stein, Lauren Wasielewski, Kathy Zawacki

TCNS Parent Advisory Board

Chair: Sarah Holcomb
Vice Chair: Carla Benigni
Treasurer: Erika Burkemper
Secretary: Stacy Shedivy
Registrar: Lesley Shifrin
Church Liaison: Tiffany Anderson
Communications Director: Lauren Williams
Newsletter Editor: Jeff Toth
Lunch Bunch Coordinator: Kelsey Davies
Goodwill Liaison: Kim Gilmore
Birthday Books: Erin Ivry

Fundraising Committee:

Benefit Managers:
Christina Farrell & Annie Laughton

Live Auction:
Ali Maute, Maegan O'Neal

Sign-up Parties:
Christina Glisson, Lindsey Maude, Maggie Keller, Jerilyn Smith

Silent Auction:
Stacy Shedivy, Melissa Dahm, Bridget Onarati

Donate-It-Now:

Christina Glisson, Lindsey Maude, Maggie Keller, Jerilyn Smith

Decorations & Invitations:

Beata Brewster, Sophia Robinson, Alisa Zufall

Website, Invite Tracking, and Final Invoicing:

Mikie Hall, Ali Straitiff

Sponsorships:

Rebecca Johnson, Meghan MacKinnon

Communications:

Lauren Williams

Slide Show Creator:

Jeff Toth

Room Parents:

Parent-Tot: Courtney Beagen
Ready Two Grow: Anne Schumacher
3AM: Janet Acosta
3PM: Kate Morrone
4AM: Kelsey Davies
4PM: Erin Heywood
AM KE: Kate Morrone
PM KE: Ann Wegner

TCNS Gives Back:

Rachel Laude, Anne-Marie Kogan, Jen Curchin

What's on Tap!

WE VALUE YOUR INPUT!

You now have the opportunity to rate various aspects of TCNS and provide suggestions for improvement. I hope you will take the time to complete the online survey. Your thoughts and comments are very important to our work. Parents of TCNS know that many great ideas and enhancements have come directly from the surveys in past years. We LOVE to hear your ideas! Thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts! Just use the link below:

<https://trinitywilmette.wufoo.com/forms/z1p4f54j04z3ybd/>



Top 10 Activities to Prepare Your Child for Kindergarten & Have Summertime Fun!

10. Talk About Your Fun Experiences—Promotes expressive and receptive language!
9. Climb, Bike, Swim!—Mastering physical skills promotes confidence!
8. Practice Cutting—Give your child your junk mail and scissors and let them do the shredding for you!
7. Roll the Dice—Count the dots and practice writing the numbers. Our kids LOVE doing this in Centers Day!
6. Have Fun with Rhyming—Rhyming is an important skill that enhances early reading.
5. Count Objects—Have fun counting everything! If your child has trouble, have your child touch the objects as they count to reinforce 1-to-1 correspondence.
4. Practice Writing His/Her Name—Use a spiral notebook and write 3 times a day. Over the course of the summer your child will be thrilled to see the improvement!
3. Play Board Games—Encourages taking turns and helps your child accept how to lose a game.
2. Playdates—Meeting at a park (neutral territory) can sometimes be easier.

...and the number one activity...

1. Read to Your Child—Have fun reading! Read with expression! Read for information. Talk about the story and illustrations. Ask questions.



Mother's Day is right around the corner!

EARN 13% FOR OUR SCHOOL WHEN YOU
SHOP THE LINK BELOW WHEN YOU ORDER FROM
SHUTTERFLY AND TINYPRINTS!

tcns.shutterflystorefront.com

When you shop through our Shutterfly Storefront with the link above, Shutterfly will donate 13% of your purchase back to our school. Order holiday cards, calendars, and photo gifts, and earn money for TCNS! Just follow the simple steps below before you start creating your cards or ordering gifts.

Step 1: Go to tcns.shutterflystorefront.com.

Step 2: Click through to create cards and shop.

Step 3: At checkout use ANY valid coupon. (Simply Google "Shutterfly discounts" and choose a code.)

Step 4: Forward the storefront link on to family and friends to earn more money for our school.

Thank you for being a loyal member of the
Trinity Church Nursery School family!

We value your support!

Chair's Corner

Sarah Holcomb, TCNS Parent Advisory Board Chair

So, I blinked and May is here. This means my middle son, Connor, is going to "graduate" from Trinity at the end of this month. Which means my youngest, Leah, is my only child left at Trinity. Wow. It's hard to believe another year just went by in a flash. It's bittersweet sending Connor off and away from Trinity. Sad because it seems like the end of an era. (My boys are both full-time elementary kids now.) But also exciting, because he's so ready. For this social and emotional preparation, I will be forever grateful to Trinity. And thankfully, I have a few more years to watch Leah continue to blossom in the care and creativity of this special school.

There are countless moments and people who have made these years special for my children. For starters: the Trinity teachers. You all are awesome! Your ability to greet all of our children everyday with smiles, hugs and love - no matter what - is amazing. You explore the world with our children with wonder and excitement. You help our children grow and develop into kind and confident learners. We look for-

ward to celebrating you during Teacher Appreciation Week to show you how much we love and respect what you do day after day. A special thank you to Mrs. Lezama for her love and dedication to generations of Trinity children. We appreciate everything you have done for our kids and wish you many adventures in your retirement!

There are also countless people who have made these years special for me and my family. First, I want to thank the TCNS Parent Advisory Board from the bottom of my heart for making this school year such a fun and productive one. You rock! You keep all the special things we love about Trinity running smoothly and don't think twice about it. You make calls, send emails, ask people for donations, coordinate activities, plan parties, bring in guest speakers, take pictures, collect pictures, write newsletters, write articles, encourage volunteerism, give to the community, set up many sign up geniuses, deliver meals, communicate school news, promote the school and

constantly think outside the box. A special shout out to Jeff Toth for wrapping up another year of amazingly crafted newsletters!* I was so grateful to have the opportunity to work with all of you this year and I truly appreciate all the time and effort you put into the board on behalf of the school, the teachers, our children. Serving this great little school with you has been an honor and a privilege.

Next, Miss Sue. Sue, you are the BEST! I'm not sure how you do all that you do with such joy and appreciation. Not only are you the ultimate fearless leader, you are the ultimate bucket-filler (to borrow a popular TCNS metaphor from our children). Your warmth and enthusiasm shows no bounds. I am so grateful to know and work with you during my years on the board.

Lastly, Trinity parents: thank you for sharing your children with us. It is a privilege that we do not take lightly. This is the *best* community. Thank you all for contributing to it. It's been my pleasure to serve as your Board Chair this year. You are in WON-

DERFUL hands next year with Carla Benigni at the helm. Have a wonderful summer!

Sarah Holcomb
Chair, TCNS Parent Advisory Board
Email: steenholcomb@gmail.com



**Editors Note: This statement was all Sarah. I didn't just throw that in there. I swear. Thank YOU, Sarah! -JT*

TCNS Gives Back:



Little Hands Making a BIG Difference



shareourspace™

TURN extra INTO extraordinary

"One of the most important things you can do on this earth is to let people know they are not alone."

-Shannon L. Alder



THANK YOU!

To Rachel Laude, Jen Curchin, Anne-Marie Kogan,
And all the parents, teachers, and children
Who helped spread joy and kindness to the community
Through another successful year of
TCNS Gives Back!





Classroom Updates



Parent Tot



It's hard to believe we are already coming down to our last classes in Parent Tot! These sweet children have grown and changed so much this year. Ms. Kathy, Ms. Agata, Mrs. Ladin and myself have enjoyed the time we've spent together so very much.

Over the last weeks of school we will be busy painting, flying, drawing, reading, gardening, playing, singing and dancing together. They recently finished a sand art project with flower pots, which encouraged them to name and choose colors, pour and sift.

We are looking forward to planting pansies in them soon. Many friendships are blossoming in the classroom and it's amazing to look back at pictures from the beginning of the year and see how much everyone has grown up in nine short months.

Happy Spring!

Ms. Kristen, Ms. Kathy, Ms. Agata, Ms. Sarah, and Ms. Ladin



Ready Two Grow

April was a fantastic month in Ready Two Grow. The children enjoyed learning about shapes and springtime through songs, stories, art, music, and play. Some of our favorite songs this month were Get Small Like a Chicken, Five Little Bunnies, Peter Rabbit, and Twinkle, Twinkle. The children enjoy listening to songs and singing along. We also played the triangle and the tambourine while learning about shapes.

We read lots of fine children's literature this month such as Harold and the Purple Crayon, I am a Bunny, Shapes, and a series of stories in which the main characters are shapes. The children enjoy a good story, and they have become super listeners at rug-time. We enjoyed celebrating Passover and Easter this month, as well, during rug-time. The children were delighted to find an Easter egg in their cubbies at the end of the day.



Each day at the art table, the children have an invitation to create. This month, we made variations of googly-eyed triangle creatures and watercolor coffee filters using pipettes. We also made circular wood discs, dot collages, and watercolor prints. We made a beautiful watercolor banner as a class for Ms. Yvonne, and we showered her with good wishes on her last day. Then we made a beautiful watercolor banner as a class to welcome back Ms. Courtney to Ready Two Grow. Our team of teachers is tightly knit!

The children enjoyed a new sensory experience with the flippy board. The children made broad arm movements and changed the board from rainbow colored to silver and then back again. We also practiced drawing shapes on the flippy board.

Lastly, the weather brought us outdoors to play on the playground. The children looked for shapes all around them in nature. We found square wood chips and triangular leaves. Fun shapes are all around us!

Next month our theme is Metamorphosis, a truly fitting closing theme for our children in Ready Two Grow!

Happy Spring!

Ms. Colleen, Ms. Courtney, Ms. Kathy, Ms. Katie and Mrs. Z



3-Year (AM & PM)

We are thrilled with how much your kids have grown this year! We make certain to challenge their thinking and nurture their natural curiosity each day. We try to present topics that are interesting to them and present lessons that are filled with fascinating information. However, we also make certain our units culminate with a whimsical adventure!

Together we learned about apples and autumn, penguins and polar bears, nutrition and dinosaurs, and so much MORE! We celebrated holidays, visited the North Pole and the South Pole, went to a magical restaurant and will soon become paleontologists on a magical dinosaur dig. We danced and sang, painted and created, climbed and biked, acted out stories, and played and played! We learned responsibility and how to read letters and names from the Helper Chart and counting skills from counting our friends each day. But in reality, the children have learned so much more.

Your children became treasured members of our little, loving community. Within this community they learned how



to make friends and how to be a friend. They learned skills to resolve conflicts and how to advocate for themselves. They learned to share, to care for and respect one another. They learned self help skills and self control. They grew in self confidence. Of course, they have not mastered these skills. Life is a journey, and theirs is just beginning.

During May, we will learn about plants as we try to grow corn and grass. We will also follow the transformation of live caterpillars! We will talk about the end of the school year and prepare them for the next step by playing in the 4's classroom and inviting the 4's teachers to join us at the rug. We hope to spend lots of time outside enjoying the spring weather. We will laugh and play and say goodbye to your kids with hugs and smiles, even as our hearts break just a little bit as we say goodbye to "our" kids.

Thank you so very much for sharing your precious children with us and allowing us to take this magical journey with them. We have fallen in love with each and every one of them. We wish all our families a safe and happy summer filled with laughter and love!

Miss Alessia, Miss Deb, Miss Dori, Miss Ellie, Miss Meghan, & Miss Sue

4-Year (AM & PM)



It seems that this time of year always sneaks up on us! How time flies when you are having fun! We are finishing the school year strong, and we cannot believe just how quickly this year has gone by. Sometimes growth happens when you least expect it. Our wildflowers have grown even through the occasional springtime winter storm! The children, just like the wildflowers they planted, have grown this year, and even with an occasional bump in the road they have persevered, and Spring has finally arrived!

The sun is shining at Trinity, and with the sun comes the “Sunflowers!” The children are in the midst of learning about Van Gogh and Picasso’s works of art. Up next is Monet, Matisse, and we will also be introducing a new surprise “artista” (artist)! The children will proudly present to you all of their creativity through their portfolios. We are looking forward to continuing our Art Unit and the children can’t wait to showcase their paintings at the Trinity Art Institute.

Spring is in the air, the End of the Year the Ceremony is just around the corner, and soon it will be time to hang up the art smocks and take out the maps for our Countries Unit. The 4s class will be traveling to Greece, Poland, and Russia! Get ready 4s explorers!

Even with all of the traveling and preparations we have always found time for fun and learning! A special thank you to parents, Miss Sue, Mrs. Dashiell, Miss Maria,

and Miss Lindsey for including their special talents into our 4s program! The end of the school year is finishing up fast, yet we have so much more that we would like to accomplish! Many of us have kept our dear old friends close to our hearts, and we have had many laughs with our new friends too! Our Trinity teachers will smile at the thought of all of the memories made this past year with the hope that we have formed friendships that will continue on for many years to come!

Mrs. Hampton, Mrs. Lezama, Ms. Ellie and Ms. Agata



Kindergarten Enrichment (AM & PM)

It's been a colorful month in K.E., as the Kindergarten scientists have been investigating all things color and light! We started off exploring with primary colors and using paint to do some color math, finding the formulas for mixing secondary colors. Using Hervé Tullet's Mix it Up!, we learned that black can be mixed with colors to create darker shades, and adding white creates lighter tints. Each of us used the primary colors, black, and white to create 12 new paint colors, shades, and tints that we displayed on color grids. There was such rich discussion happening as our artists were working on these, from assigning names to their colors to sharing formulas for mixing a certain shade.

After getting our feet wet with color, we dove into learning about how our eyes work and how we see color. We realized that in order to see anything, light must be present, which kicked off all sorts of discovery about light sources, reflections, opacity, and more! We practiced the scientific method by testing different objects around the room to see whether or not light rays could pass through them. Outside, we used the sunlight to play shadow tag, cast colored light onto the sidewalk through MagnaTile creations, and traced our shadows onto the ground. Inside, we



had "Dark Day" with the overhead lights turned off, and lots of experimentation happening by flashlight and at our light table. We worked on special translucent coloring sheets, mixed colored lights using color paddles, and designed our own shadow puppets and shadow puppet theatre!

Our upcoming "Rainbow Day" will bring all of our learning together as we finally find the answer to the question *how does a rainbow form?* Looking ahead, we can't believe there are only a few weeks left before our Kindergarten Enrichment graduation! We'll be hard at work preparing to celebrate our growth and all we have learned over the course of the year. We welcome families to join in our celebration by attending our K.E. Yoga Demonstration (5/14) and Graduation Ceremonies (5/30 AM, 5/31 PM). Hope to see you there!

Ms. Lauren, Mrs. Dashiell, Ms. Jeni, and Ms. Christina



DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!



Have you turned in next year's forms?
All paperwork for students returning for the
2019-2020 school year is due by

May 31, 2019

We know the end of the year is a battle.
Don't be left outside The Wall!

Fill out your child's forms today!

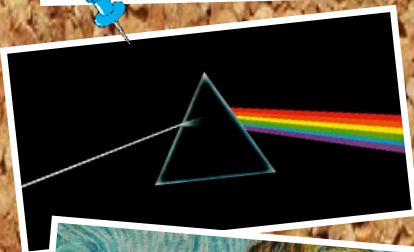
Community Corkboard

OUR TRINITY FAMILY IS GROWING!

Congratulations to the Boren Family on the birth of Baby Isabella! Big Sister Maddie (3AM) is super-excited!

The Ritchell Family welcomes Baby Bowen to their family! Big Sister Neve (3PM) and Big Brother Lawson are thrilled! Congratulations to all!!

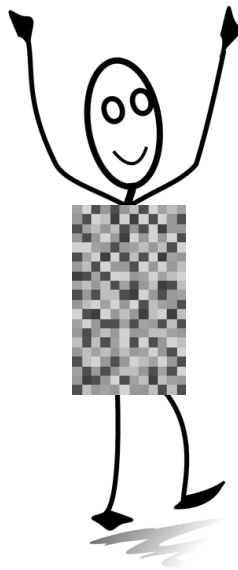
Congratulations to the Williams family, who welcomed Wyatt Joseph to the world! Big sister Kyleigh (PM KE) and Big brother Logy (3AM) are so excited to Welcome him home!



Trinity Kids Say the Darndest Things!



The 4AM class was deep into their study of art and artists when Mrs. Hampton asked the children if they can recall what Claude Monet is known for. Fin L. eagerly answered, "Enthusiasm!" While we love his response, he meant to say, "Impressionism."



Charles B. (AM KE) was busy making a card. He wrote, "I LOVE YOU" and made a stick figure. Miss Jeni asked if that was a picture of his mom, to which he quickly replied, "Don't look yet! She's naked!" He then proceeded to draw an orange rectangle around the stick figure.

A friendly older church member was peering through the window of the upstairs classroom and captured the attention of Logy W. (3AM). He smiled at her and shouted, "Grandma's at the front door!"



It was a Monday morning and when we asked Bree V. (3AM) how her weekend was. She reluctantly confessed, "Well, I didn't listen in a fancy store called "Lordstom."