

Trinity Christian School

News

September 15th, 2009 Volume #1

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Trinity Twilight

Trek:

September 18th at

4:30



"Excitement and Anticipation"

School Administrator's Corner

By: Mrs. Nichole Laven

There is never a dull moment at Trinity Christian School! We are well on our way to an excellent school year, crazy weather and all! Trinity Christian School staff, students and families are back in the swing of things. Books and desks are now full of children and the excitement to use the new sharpened pencils and wear new uniforms is apparent. The 87 elementary children and 98 preschool children eagerly come each day to learn all that there is to learn about the Lord and his gifts! Many classrooms have started getting to know each other and their teacher. The children are getting comfortable with the new routine at Trinity.

New for this 2009-2010 school year is our check-in process, registration incentive, parents/student handbook and adoption of Social Studies and Pre-Kindergarten curriculum. As staff, curriculum review and evaluation began last year and continued through the summer. We are extremely excited to share these new things with the students and families of the Trinity Community!

Our School Board has successfully completed the rules, regulations, and roles of Trinity Christian School as a building block recommended through the strategic planning process. That is an awesome

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Early Childhood Coordinator's Corner

By: Mary Grote

Welcome to the start of a new school year, we hope your family had a wonderful summer break!

We are looking forward to a great year and have many fun activities planned, including our new Pre-Kindergarten core curriculum by Houghton-Mifflin-Harcourt Publishers.

This curriculum includes an introduction to several subjects including, beginning reading and writing skills, social skills, as well as

science and art. In addition, all Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten classes will be using a consistent Early Childhood Benchmark Assessment system. Assessments will be given to students three times per year, once in the fall, winter, and spring. Results will be sent home to parents after each assessment; we hope this will be a valuable resource for both parents and teachers. Each class also uses a Bible curriculum with monthly

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Parent Project

Team Members:

Chair:

Technology: Kim Jacobson

Recorder: Hallie Jones

Volunteer Coordinator:

Jessi Guerin

Lunch Duty Coordinator:

Hallie Jones

Lunch Room and Recess

Staff:

George Mix

Lori Tollberg

Classroom Contacts:

******We are looking for a PPT Chair.....**

*******We are looking for one classroom contact for each classroom**

.....*****

School Administrator's Corner (continued from page 1)

accomplishment! For the 2009-2010 school year, Trinity Christian School Board will focus and continue to work on collecting much data analysis and trends of Trinity Christian School over the past years as well as implementing the new Tuition Policy. The board is also exploring and implementing the Excel Energy Center fundraising opportunity.

As we look to 2009-2010 school year we are also busy preparing for several of the other fundraisers Trinity Christian School conducts. Over the past 2008-2009 school year, Trinity Christian School raised over \$20,000 + in fundraisers and received over \$5,000 in grants. This year, Trinity Christian School has two fundraisers coming up already in September and October, Trinity Twilight Trek and Basket Bingo! Mark your calendars for Trinity Twilight Trek on the evening of September 18th, beginning at 4:30 on the Sunrise Trail and Basket Bingo which is scheduled to be on October 24th at 9:30. Basket Bingo will feature many new items including a variety of pottery and will host a raffle as well, so if you are unable to make the event, but would like to participate, please stop down in the office to purchase raffle tickets! You do not need to be present to win. These two fundraisers are excellent

Parent Project Team

By: Hallie Jones

We are looking for new Parent Project Team Members!!! Come and join us at our next meeting on September 18th at 8:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room!

We are busily preparing for Trinity Trek and are looking for volunteers to help with posters and selling concessions. We will have a concession booth this year at the ½ way mark where dinner options of pizza as well as other food items will be available. If you are interested, please let one of the individuals listed under Parent Project Team section of this newsletter know.

We are also still looking for

opportunities to see and meet new people and families within the Trinity Community!

For the 2009-2010 school year, a team at the school is working on obtaining grants to help with the expense and much needed upgrade of a new telephone system. Over the past year, much research has been done and data collected to locate the best opportunities to provide the much needed "Homeland Security" that will also enrich the management to the Church and School system. A system upgrade will be very helpful as it will provide TCS and TLC with direct dial as well as increase forms of direct communication with families. Through the variety of resources for non-profits, the hope is for 2010-2011 grants obtained will fully fund this necessary project and will wait patiently until this occurs. If you are interested in being a part of the grant committee at Trinity Christian School or have additional information, contacts, or resources, please let the office know as soon as possible. As a community, projects like increasing safety and security will help all who participate and use the facility.

May you have a refreshing, relaxing, and colorful fall! Keep sending in those Christian books for the library! Hope to see you at our Trinity Twilight Trek and Basket Bingo!

Lunchroom and Recess assistance!

One final note, it has been brought to the Parent Project Teams attention that often times companies compensate their employees if they volunteer for a non-profit organization. For example, employees who work at Excel Energy and volunteer for Trinity Christian School are given \$5.00 per hour to designate toward a non-profit organization up to \$500 annually. We recommend you check this out with your employer as it is a wonderful way to increase corporate contributions to Trinity Christian School by just reporting your volunteer hours to your employer!

Office Manager's Report

By: Mrs. Julie Morgan

Welcome to school! I am looking forward to the students filling the building after summer break! Each month this section of the newsletter will have important information from the office. Please contact me at 651-674-7042 or at jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org with any questions at any time. I am typically in the office all day Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and until noon on Friday.

Statements and Payments:

We are using a new program for billing and student records. If you have any questions on your statement, have changes to any family information, or have a special billing situation, please contact me. **Automatic withdrawals** are available to all families again this year. This is a great way to ensure your payments are paid on time, without writing the school a check each month. New this year is the option to make payments with a **credit card**. Credit cards may be used to make a one time payment, or may also be used for recurring payments and billed each month. We can accept Visa, Discover, and Mastercard. Forms for both of these options are available in the office. Payments may be left in the mailbox just outside the office door at any time.

Payment due dates: Beginning with the August payment, payments are now **due on the 10th of each month**. The school board recently approved changes in how past due accounts will be handled. Please refer to the student handbook for the full policy.

Handbooks: Please return the last page of your student handbook to the office, complete with your signature and student names as soon as possible.

Student Belongings: Please be sure to **label everything!** There are a lot of red sweaters and lunchboxes that appear in the office throughout the year, and we would love to return them to their rightful owners!

Fundraising: TCS is a part of many "free" fundraising opportunities. Target Visa holders can designate TCS to receive a percentage of purchases. Please save and bring in your used cell phones and ink cartridges, Box Tops for Education, Campbell's soup labels, Nelson's receipts, Kemps and Land o Lakes milk caps, Tyson chicken labels, Shur Fine and Shur Fresh labels. New for this year will be the opportunity to recycle Capri Sun juice pouches. These are all great ways to earn products and funds for our school at no cost! Stay tuned for updates!

Important Dates:

September 10 – Second tuition payment due
September 18 – Trinity Twilight Trek
September 28 – No school for all students
October 7 & 8 – Preschool Pumpkin Patch Field Trips
October 9-14 – Scholastic Book Fair
October 10 – Third tuition payment due
October 14 – Elementary Conferences – No school for all students
October 15 & 16 – Education MN – No school for all students
October 24 – Basket Bingo 9:30 a.m.

TCS Apparel: Families have the option to purchase apparel with the TCS logo. Extra forms are available in the office. New this year is a lined jacket in both child and adult sizes, which is very Minnesota friendly, as well as stocking caps and beanie caps. Orders may be placed at any time throughout the year.

Wish List

Alcohol Free Disinfectant Wipes
Light Bright Bulbs
Sticky Bricks found on childcraft.com
Computer Software (20 Quantity)
Fire Safety and Dinosaur Items
Dinosaur Duplo Set
Rolling Butcher Roll Rack
Hexagon Happening Hollow
Baseline Quiet Dividers
Circle Cycle
Lego Duplo Playwalls
Library Coding System
Sizzix or Ellison Thick Large Die Cuts
Ketchup
Copy Paper
Kleenex
Paper Towels
Napkins
Spoons and Forks
Snacks free of RED #40
Large bags of white rice
Clear contact paper
Stamp Rollers
Shaving Cream
Craft Paper
Sunglasses
Children's CD's
Ziploc Baggies
Paper Plates
Buttons
Batteries
Paper Napkins
Plastic Silverware

A Special Thank

You...

Tara Rafferty
Allen Schulte
Brenda Schulte
Stacy Binger
Julie Anderson
Stacy Hogan
Strohmayr Family
Darrell Goebel
Dave Reider
LuAnn Settler
Steven Settler
Dave Potter
Dominic Carchedi
Shay Carchedi
Jim Kanig
Jason Kilmartin
Lori Tollberg
Kim Jacobson
Jessi Guerin
Kim Nelson
Brain Abler
JoEllen Abler
Jodi Knapper
Megan Bonach
Tamara Hink

Early Childhood Coordinator's Corner

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themes including stories, group discussions, art projects and take-home versions of each story. Specialized classes will be part of your students learning experience including; Music, Computer Lab, Phy Ed, Library, Outdoor Playground, and Spanish (Pre-K classes only). We hope it will be a fun and successful year for your student and family.

Remember to mark your calendars for the annual TCS Trinity Trek fundraiser, on Friday, September 18th from 4:30 PM until dusk at the North Branch walking path. We hope to see you there! Looking ahead to October, Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten classes will have their annual Field Trip to Pinehaven Pumpkin Patch in Wyoming, MN. Dates for the field trip will be October 7th and 8th, details to be sent home later this month.

Please remember there is no school on Monday, September 28th due to Teacher Workshop Day.

Blessings to you and your family as we begin the new school year!

Stewardship Coordinator and Librarian

By: Jessi Guerin

It is hard to believe that we are back to school. I hope that you all had a wonderful summer! I am looking forward to working with many of you this year as you work to fulfill your stewardship hours. As of July, any volunteer hours that you put in for our school will count towards your hours. We had many volunteers working at the State Fair this year at the Thrivent Builds Habitat for Humanity Booth. Our school fulfilled 4 shifts which will earn \$2000 for our school and our families will have fulfilled 160 stewardship hours. It is such a blessing to be given this opportunity to earn these funds to maintain our Specialist positions.

On September 18th from 4:30 to dusk, we will be holding our Trinity Twilight Trek. We will be looking for volunteers to help make and put up signs, sell concessions and help hand out prizes to the kids. Also, we are in need of supervisors for lunch and recess. Every time that you supervise lunch you will earn anywhere from 1.25-1.50 hours toward your stewardship hours. Last, but not least, we are looking for a person willing to be the Chairperson for Parent Project Team and members. The time will count toward your stewardship hours! If you are interested in volunteering in your child's classroom, please let the teacher know so she/he can plan accordingly.

Please remember to sign in and out and put on a visitors badge when you come in to volunteer or visit your child. PLEASE remember so you don't miss out on credit for any of your hours! I will be in the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9-11:30, if you have any questions or would like to sign up to help with any of our events. Please also remember to check the PPT board located to the right when you walk into the Atrium.

Have a blessed and wonderful year!

Trinity Christian School

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My name is Katie Potter. I have been a member of the TCS School Board for about two years. I spent my entire school career in Catholic Schools, from kindergarten through college graduation and I am happy to have TCS as an option for my kids. I believe they benefit from the small class atmosphere, caring staff and religious background.

My husband Dave and I have two children, both of whom are current students at Trinity Christian School. Lucia is 9 years old and is in 4th grade. Grayson is 6 years old and in morning kindergarten. We have lived in Stacy since 1998.

I have a degree in Occupational Therapy from the College Of St Catherine. I currently work on-call so that I am able to stay home with my kids. I enjoy reading, sewing, crocheting and knitting. In the summer I like beekeeping. In the winter, my husband, kids and I spend most weekends skiing at Wild Mountain.