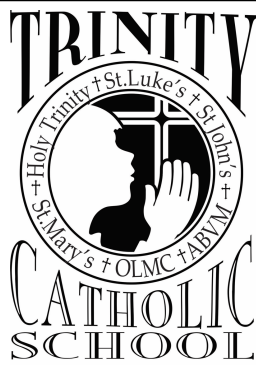


# Trinity In Touch

St. John - St. Luke - Holy Trinity - OLMC - St. Mary's - ABVM

**2023 Fall Newsletter • Trinity Catholic School**



Established 1997  
So in Christ we,  
though many, form  
one body,  
and each member  
belongs to all the  
others.

Romans 12:5  
all.



**Catholic Schools**  
United in Faith and Community

## Important Dates

Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> – 2:00  
Parent-Teacher  
Conferences

Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> – Festival  
of Friends

Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> – Piano  
Recital and  
Christmas Program

Dec. 25 – Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> –  
Christmas Break

Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> – First  
Reconciliation –

## From the Principal's Desk...

Mrs. Fahey

We are off to a great start at Trinity Catholic School! Trinity staff welcomed 53 students on our first day of school. The teaching staff had a busy summer attending workshops for professional development and came back in August excited to share what they learned. We are exploring computer science and will be introducing lessons this year throughout all the grades.

Our spiritual focus this year is Catholicity: The practice of living, learning, and evangelizing the Catholic faith. Weekly Mass and regularly held prayer services serve as reminders that asking God, thanking God and listening to God are very important in our lives. Students and staff also plan one weekend Mass at all six parishes in the cluster during the school year. We are proud of the TCS staff and the daily effort we make to help our young people grow academically as well as spiritually!

As many of you know, the Iowa State Legislature passed a bill allowing for Educational Savings Accounts (ESA) so that tuition to private schools can be paid with state funds. This is great for our schools and our families. The ESA will be phased in over three years starting this year. All kindergarten students qualified this year and other students meeting income guidelines received only a portion of the total ESA funding amount. Along with this change also means we do not receive textbook money anymore from the public school. We are watching closely any other changes that may occur to our funding sources.

Tuition, however, is only part of our school funding. The parishes in our cluster provide financial support as well. Earlier this year, changes were made to the structure of that support. When the schools merged years ago, only the parishes in Protivin, Fort Atkinson, and St. Lucas had formal subsidy agreements, presumably because those were the parishes with schools at the time of the merger. That left three of our parishes not paying formal subsidies. This year, after consulting all six parish finance councils, the cluster council, school board, and the Archdiocese, formal agreements have been established for all six parishes in the cluster. As a result, all six parishes will benefit financially because the parishes who previously weren't paying a school subsidy will get a break on their subsidy to the Archdiocese and the parishes who were doing so will get a break on their subsidy to the school because it will be split six ways instead of three.

In closing, I want to thank all of our parents, alumni, and supporters for enabling Trinity Catholic to be a viable educational institution for our students. We welcome and accept any financial contributions so that we can keep our school the treasure that it is. May God bless you for your generosity in everything you give and do for Trinity Catholic School.

**Hello from the TK/Kindergarten class!**  
Mrs. Engelhardt



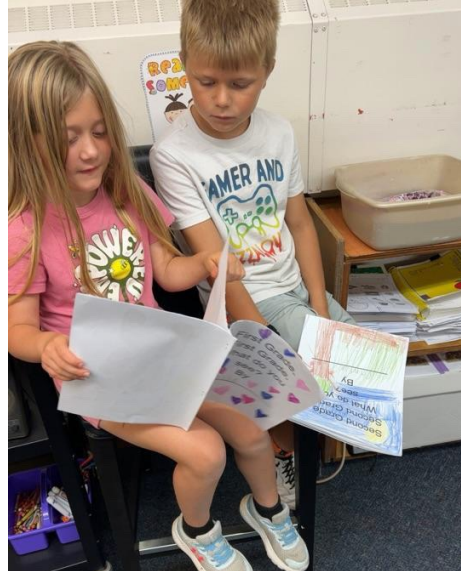
We took advantage of the warm weather in early October to do a fall scavenger hunt. We had fun finding different things on our list and enjoyed being outside to learn more about fall.



We ended our Fire Safety Week by making fire trucks as a snack! It was an exciting way to end Fire Safety Week.

*Festival of Friends*  
**Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:00 PM Social**  
**6:30 PM Prime Rib Dinner**  
**Tickets are available here at School or**  
**Bank 1<sup>st</sup>, St. Lucas; Citizens Savings**  
**Bank in Ft. Atkinson or Protivin**

**First and Second Grade**  
Mrs. Riehle



To start out the year the first and second graders created books called either “First Graders, First Graders, What do you see?” or “Second Graders, Second Graders, What do you see?” They got to read their books to their classmates and to the kindergarteners.



The first and second graders observed two different habitats looking at the diversity of the plants and animals.





Walk to school day was a great start for the beginning of October. It was a beautiful morning and as we walked the students shared out all of the things that they could see that were blessings from God. I am blessed to teach a great group of first and second graders!!!

**Third and Fourth Grade**  
Mrs. Pecinovsky



Students were given a group challenge so they could practice their communication skills. They had to try and complete a puzzle of the United States, the trick was there were pieces missing.



In science 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> graders were learning about flower reproduction. Students with the help of the Winneshiek County Conservation office dissected flowers to name and find all of the parts.



Students were working on a group research project. They had to work together to find nutrition information.





**The 5th and 6th Grade Classroom**  
Mrs. Mahr



5th & 6th graders love Book Clubs. It is a great time to relax and enjoy a good book!



How high can we build it? Inquiring minds want to know! We have been studying the scientific method and gravity. How high can they stack the books before gravity

topples them? Pretty high was their answer!

**Math and Music**  
Mrs. Karels



Students in second grade math have learned how to break apart numbers into tens and ones. Sometimes they use place value blocks to do this.

First grade math students are learning to add using a number line.



Music students in first and second grade are learning the pitches on the treble clef staff. They practice by playing Simon Says. In this picture they are trying to decide where A is on the floor staff.



Students in third and fourth grade are memorizing the lyrics to the Star-Spangled Banner. They are also practicing proper flag etiquette.

**PE Activities**  
Ms. Schuster



Grades K-2nd have been working on their locomotor movement skills as well as under tossing and overhand throwing. We have been playing a variety of games to incorporate all of those skills! K-2nd has also been learning about My Plate. At dinner time, challenge students and ask if they have a balanced meal! We will be moving into kicking skills in the next week.

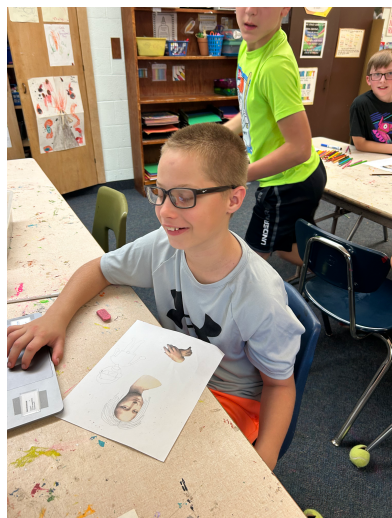




Grades 3rd-6th have continued to work on their throwing skills in game play to learn the concept of open space. We recently finished our handball unit. During this game students are working in teams, throwing and catching a ball down the field and are encouraged to find open space. We have also been learning about My Plate. Grades 3rd-6th grade researched information about a food category on My Plate with a group and created a poster to share with the rest of their class. We recently have moved onto our football unit.

### Art

Mrs. Stika and the classroom teacher



The fifth and sixth graders worked on Mona Lisa parodies.



The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Graders worked on their Monsters In My Closet poster.



The Kindergarteners worked on drawing all different kinds of lines.



The 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Graders painted birch trees.