

The Panther Press

NEWS BY THE STUDENTS FOR THE STUDENTS

May 13, 2021, Volume I, Issue 4

STAFF SUPERSTAR

By Aaron Allen and MacLean Chatel



Trinity Staff Superstar, Mr. Jim Chatel
Photo by MacLean Chatel

For this month's "Staff Superstar" feature, we interviewed the 7th and 8th grade teacher, Mr. Chatel. We learned some very interesting things about him and we think you will enjoy his answers to our questions, too.

If he won the lottery he said he would, "Start a nonprofit organization that teaches outdoor education like hunting and fishing to kids." Sign us up!

What makes a good day at school for him? He said, "There are a million things, like smiles from kids, great questions, hard work, thoughtful conversations, and students learning." So if you ever want to be part of giving him a great day we suggest doing a few of those things.

The thing that fills him with pride so far this year is, "The seventh and eighth graders' independent work in their math and their thoughtful responses when studying WWII."

If you want to know what inspires him he says, "My family, being a part of a hardworking team, and a sense of responsibility."

The last question we asked was if he had an embarrassing teaching moment. He said, "I feel like I embarrass myself every day! The most embarrassing thing is when you call students the wrong name. There was also another time when I burned the sap to a crisp when making maple syrup. It was completely black!"

Mr. Chatel will be retiring from teaching to pursue a new out-of-doors career as the owner of Shine, a

window cleaning company. He says, "What I'm looking forward to most of all is working outdoors."

We will miss him very much and feel very blessed to have had him for our 7th and 8th grade year.

CLASS BY CLASS

Kindergarten Corner

By Paul Saladin and Macey Vallette

As you may know, the kindergarten class went to the John Ball Zoo recently. Onnabelle Garvon said her favorite animal at the zoo was the penguins. Titus Hunt, on the other hand, really liked the grizzly bears! Mr. Jacobson also liked the zoo field trip. He said, "It was a nice, cool day. The kids got to see a lot of animals and it was fun."

Another field trip coming up soon for Preschool and Kindergarten is an end of the year picnic at Rambadt Park.



S'more time!

Amelia Nolf, Ellie Meiner, and Trinity Murray being assisted by Macey Vallette, Mya Cooter, MacLean Chatel, Taylor Chatel, Aaron Allen, Gus Rohde and Ruger Ranguette (plaid jacket).

Photo by Marilyn Strube

Kindergarten students are learning multiple things this quarter. They just finished a lesson about how tadpoles turn into frogs. The class is also exercising their brains doing lots of math.

The kindergarteners say they really like Mr. Jacobson. Creighton Koetje and Carolena Erler both agree he can be very funny at times. Carolena said that her favorite part of the school year was cooking s'mores on April 30th. Creighton liked when his class got to go to Pompeii's and make their very own pizzas! He said, "I made my pizza my favorite flavor."

When asked if Mr. Jacobson would miss the 8th graders leaving next year, he said he will miss them very much, because they were the first kids he taught at Trinity.

When Onnabelle was asked if she was excited about next year, she said, "I get to be in 1st grade and there is gonna be more math involved!"

Mr. Jacobson says his favorite part of the year is to see the growth and change in the kids, especially in reading. Overall, it sounds like the Kindergarten kids had a great last quarter and school year.

1st/2nd Grade

By Trevor Burgess and Paul Saladin

The 1st/2nd grade class has been making the final push to the end of the year. Miss Eising is happy to announce that her class will soon be going on field trips to both Ludington and Dow Gardens.

Another event on the calendar that the students are looking forward to is Miss Eising's plan to make paper birds with them that will hang from the ceiling.

Many great memories have been made this year in the 1st/2nd classroom. Evelyn Tonn says her favorite part of the school year was "playing in the snow." Laura Trucks says her favorite thing was snack time because "you get to eat and take a break." Addyline Kaverman said the thing she loved most was doing art.



Addyline Kaverman, Noah Waldman, Laura Trucks, Evelyn Tonn.
Photo by: Gus Rohde

Evelyn said that they enjoyed having Miss Eising as a teacher because she "gives us candy, is sweet, and lovely." Noah Waldman agreed saying that he enjoyed her because "She likes things I like," and she enjoys nature.

For the upcoming 2021/2022 school year, first grader Laura Trucks is looking forward to being a second grader and is extremely excited to get to read chapter books (none in particular.) Sydney Kage is ready for third grade in Mr. Rohde's class. She says "I'm excited to move on with my life and the school year."

Miss Eising agrees, saying that she is ready for next year, too, but is thankful they got to be together in the

classroom this year and not quarantined. She also says that she will miss the graduating 8th graders.

Overall, it sounds as if it has been a fun and exciting year for the 1st/2nd grade and continues to be as they look forward to the next year and summer vacation!

3rd/4th Grade

By Taylor Chatel

The last month of the school year is a super exciting time in the 3rd and 4th grade classroom. Everyone is looking forward to summer break but there are still some fun activities to do before that time arrives. A field trip to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore is scheduled for May 13th where the students will be able to see the big sand dunes overlooking beautiful Lake Michigan. They'll also get to visit the beach and eat lunch at the national park.



The 3rd/4th Grade enjoying some hillside sunshine!
Photo by Marilyn Strube

In their classroom, they have been learning how to draw animals. Thaddeus Hunt drew an eagle and Porter Trucks drew a grumpy cat.

Austin Miller, Thaddeus, and Porter all said that their favorite part of this year was math because they got to learn new things and Mr. Rohde made it fun. Ethan Hardy said that science was his favorite.

During this last month of school, Porter said that he is looking forward to all the fun activities we get to do as a school like the Whispering Pines Mobile Zoo and our modified Track and Field day!

This summer, both Thaddeus and Austin get to go to Center Lake Bible Camp for a whole week. Austin also gets to attend Camp Concordia and Porter is going to a Vacation Bible School for two weeks.

The fourth graders are looking forward to going into fifth grade in the fall. They're excited to be able to go on more field trips and shoot archery. They are ready to finally be in middle school! Some things that they hope will be different are that they won't have to wear masks, they'll see different faces in the classroom, and they get more Chromebook work.

5th/6th Grade

By Aaron Allen and Gus Rohde

Things are going to be very busy for the 5th and 6th grades for the rest of May, which is indeed the last month of the Trinity school year. They will be studying Roman architecture and building 3D models to replicate some objects. They will also be building model rockets and testing them out.

Additionally, a field trip to S & L Sawmill in Leroy will hopefully happen. If there has been anything that was certain this school year it's that nothing is ever certain!

Another thing that the 5th and 6th graders are excited about is baking bread, along with the 7th and 8th graders.

Currently, the 5th/6th students are studying how wind turbines work and building models of turbines to see how they work for themselves.



L to R: Fiona Rohde, Cam Kage, Emma Davis, Lilly Allen, Mary Saladin, Ben Morneau
Photo by Aaron Keup

When asked if he was excited for the end of the school year, Alex Tower responded with "I'm excited for it so I do not have to come back to school!" We imagine that Mr. Keup feels the same.

7th/8th Grade

By Taylor Chatel

The 7th and 8th grade classes are ready for the summer but there is still some work and fun to be done this last month of school. They have been working with the 5th and 6th grade classes to plant a fruit orchard outside. They planted the trees and spread mulch around their bases to help keep them healthy and looking nice.

They have also been working on some fun science experiments like making boats out of aluminum foil and building bridges to test how much weight they can hold.

Maclean Chatel said that the science experiments were her favorite part of this year. Paul Saladin said that his favorite part was not having to quarantine! They agree that wearing masks has been their least favorite part.



L to R: Caelynn London, Abbey Pollaski, Paul Saladin, Taylor Chatel, Seth Keen, Macey Vallette, and MacLean Chatel.
Photo by Jim Chatel

This summer, Paul is looking forward to their family's trip to Yellowstone National Park, while MacLean is excited to be able to go to the beach and have ice cream!

MacLean is in eighth grade this year so she will be going to Reed City High School in the fall. When asked if she was excited she said, "Yes, because there are new people and more opportunities." MacLean has attended Trinity for 11 years and her favorite memory out of all of them is building and launching rockets in 6th grade.

SPORTS CORNER

Track

By MacLean Chatel and Caelynn London

Track season has started! The team's first meet was at Newaygo high school. MacLean Chatel, Mya Cooter, Caelynn London, and Abbey Pollaski are all participating in track, and representing Trinity. 7th grader Abbey Pollaski placed 3rd in the 55 meter hurdles, with a time of 13.25 seconds. Abbey says, "It's a great learning experience."

The second meet was at the Tri County Middle School. This time Trevor Burgess and Alex Tower participated and represented Trinity as well. 8th grader MacLean Chatel took home 3rd place in the 100 meter run with a time of 16.54 seconds. Taking home 1st place, was Trevor Burgess with a time of 2:49.0 seconds in the 800 meter run. Also, Caelynn London, with a time of 1:18.14 seconds, got 3rd in the 400 meter dash.

Thank you to all who came out and cheered us on!

Trinity Girls

By Mrs. Susan Saladin, guest reporter

Trinity Girls is a club for girls in grades 3-6. It replaces our Girls on the Run program which is no longer available in our area. The girls and their coaches, (Mrs. Chatel, Miss Eising, Mrs. Saladin) get together 3:20-4:30pm on Mondays & Thursdays in April and May. Meetings begin in the school basement but then move outdoors for most activities.

The girls' nickname for the group is TriG! Each team member has chosen a unique TriG name for herself. Some examples include MadDog Maddie, Antsy Ava, Cheetah Ellie and Rockin' Rachel.



Back row: Alaine Harrison, Ellie Davis, Vieve Nicklas, Heidi Pollaski, Lilly Allen, Fiona Rohde, Mary Saladin, Ava Keup, Emy Patterson
Front Row: Maddie Miniear, Rachel Saladin, Maddy Kage, Mackenzie Bergman, Savannah London, Calah Keup, Addi Harrison, and Tabi Saladin
Photo by Susan Saladin

A typical TriG meeting begins with snack, prayer and warm up exercises. Then there is an activity related to the "theme of the day." For instance, when the theme was Team Work, the girls created skits. When the theme was Earth Day, the girls went on a nature scavenger hunt and also planted lilies. After the activities, the team walks/jogs for 15 minutes before stretching. Finally the team ends the session by recording the day's theme and coloring on their individual "identity cards."

The Trinity Girls club has 17 members. Eleven of the girls attend Trinity during the day and six of the girls are homeschooled. Every girl has contributed answers, ideas, energy and motivational encouragement at every meeting. Trinity Girls are on the move and having fun!

FROM US TO YOU

By Mrs. Marilyn Strube

Working on this final issue of the Panther Press has been bittersweet. I have grown fond of this hardworking team of pioneering reporters and admire greatly their willingness to sacrifice their free time to cover stories. Although they have different interests, views, and personalities, they worked as a team these last several

months to publish a middle school newspaper that, in my opinion, is first rate. Okay, I may be biased, but I believe these students did an amazing thing here. They created a newspaper that never existed before. With no template, they came up with the newspaper name, the masthead design, and the articles they would cover. They even designed their cool Panther Press "Staff" hoodies!



L to R: Macey Vallette, Taylor Chatel, MacLean Chatel, Mrs. Strube, Gus Rohde, Paul Saladin, Caelynn London, Aaron Allen, Trevor Burgess.
Photo by Jacquie London

The ordering of those hoodies is one of my sweetest memories of this first Panther Press group. I had decided not to get one because I felt the school was already being so generous with paper, ink, and printer for this new venture. When the students learned I hadn't ordered one they insisted I do so. "We will pay for it," they offered, "and have "Boss" or "Leader" printed on the back!" Still makes me laugh and cry all at the same time. Principal Saladin generously added an "Editor" hoodie to the order.

I will miss the 8th graders terribly but wish them all the best as they start their high school careers. I hope the soon-to-be 8th grade Panther Press staff members will join me again this fall in putting out Volume 2 of the paper, and mentoring the incoming 7th graders. I look forward to watching the students grow in their reporting skills and making some great memories along the way!

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