

The Panther Press

NEWS BY THE STUDENTS FOR THE STUDENTS

November 30, 2022, Volume 3, Issue 3

STAFF SUPER STAR

Mrs. Melissa Tonn

By Emma Davis

Mrs. Tonn, school librarian and Pastor's wife, is this month's staff super star. Growing up in North Branch, Michigan, Mrs. Tonn played kickball,



basketball, swam, and rode bikes quite frequently. She loved soccer and card games as a child and her favorite books were *Number the Stars* and *The Berenstain Bears*. Like most children, she had to do chores such as

dusting, vacuuming, picking up pine cones, and washing dishes.

Almost nobody stays in the same place all their lives and that applies to Mrs. Tonn as well. She has lived in Mt. Pleasant, and Berkley, Michigan, as well as Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin.

Her favorite historical figure is Rosa Parks because she was courageous and stood up for what was right. (If you aren't familiar with Rosa Parks, check out a nonfiction book about her life!)

Mrs. Tonn moved to Trinity with her family all the way from Wisconsin. Her words of advice to the children of today are to get outside more, spend time in prayer, read the bible, read a lot of different books, and try new things.

She is a blessing to our school and church and we are so happy she's here!

CLASS BY CLASS

Preschool 3 and 4-year-old

By Miriam Hunt

As always, the preschool class has lots of energy and tons of fun while learning. While celebrating Thanksgiving this month, the preschool learned about the first Thanksgiving. They also read *Stone Soup* and even



made their own. "It is the same stone I have used for the past 18 years," Mrs. Kienitz said, "so it's extremely clean."

Mrs. Kienitz is thankful for every day because it is "another day of life."



Dieter Billings is thankful for everyone in his class, and Alma Dorame enjoys sitting with everyone. Evangeline Erler is thankful for the food that God gives us.

Kindergarten/1st Grade

By Claire Miller

The kindergarten and first grade class is lively and filled with

excitement. A short while ago, the school celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week. Ila said she liked the special event because she got to "dress up as a teacher." Rowan Deverman said, "I gave Mr. Jacobson M&M's. And trail mix, too!"



In November, the kids not only like Teacher Appreciation Week, but also look forward to

Thanksgiving. When asked about Thanksgiving, Vivian said, "I like stuffing." Cadence agreed. "Yeah, Thanksgiving means you have to give Thanksgiving stuff."

On the more academic side of things, Bracey said he likes Reading. "My favorite book is *Fly Guy*. I can read at home, too." He was happy to hear that some of the older kids in the 7th and 8th grade class remember reading *Fly Guy* too!



2nd Grade

By Lilly Allen

This year's Thanksgiving found the second grade thankful for many things. Ms. Rivard said, "I am thankful that I get to work with cute kids every day." Millie Gamble-Brown was thankful for school.

Titus Hunt says math is his favorite subject while Millie likes arts and crafts. But, even with favorite subjects there are other subjects to be learned, such as writing.



Writing is a fundamental part of school for every subject. Ms. Rivard said that as students jot down sentences on their paper, they are learning how to write letters.

All the second graders appreciate their teacher and have reasons for it. Titus and Millie agreed that their favorite thing about their teacher was, "She gives us lots of recess."

Clearly, second grade is a fun, yet busy class.

3rd/4th Grade

By Mary Saladin

The third and fourth grade class prepared for Thanksgiving by making woven construction paper placemats with Thanksgiving pictures on them. They also did a step-by-step drawing of pumpkin pie. When asked what he was thankful for, Mr. Rohde said, his students, the snow, and that he "gets to travel for Thanksgiving a little bit." Evelyn Tonn is thankful for her dog, and Percell Skaggs is appreciative of God's Word. Noah Waldman is thankful he gets to play football.

Right now, the third and fourth graders are learning larger multiplication problems and more complicated sentences. The biggest thing they are learning is the Christmas program. They have to learn it now so they will be ready for Christmas!

As you probably know, Teacher Appreciation Week is in November. The third and fourth grade class had a



great time giving gifts to their teacher and thanking him for all he does. Noah and Percell most enjoyed dressing up as Mr. Rohde, while Evelyn liked best "getting to give the teachers food and water." The thing Noah most appreciates about Mr. Rohde is that "he's funny, and he makes school fun." Evelyn likes the stories he tells about when he was little.

5th/6th Grade

By Miriam Hunt

Whether learning or playing, Mr. Keup's fifth and sixth grade class is always busy. In social studies, they just finished learning about the Paleolithic Period, also known as the Old Stone Age. Sixth grade recently took their test on rates and unit rates in math, and fifth grade started algebra. The class also began a new unit in science on matter, which Mr. Keup says "really matters".

The class had a lot of excitement over a mouse that invaded their classroom. The mouse ate apples and cough drops that were found around the class. Rather than diminish, the excitement only grew when Mr. Keup squished the mouse with a lamp. The class decided to write a book entitled *If You Give a Mouse a Cough Drop*.

The class is very enthusiastic about their plans for Thanksgiving break. Thaddeus Hunt says he is going to listen to *Gobble Gobble*, a song by Matthew West. Thinking about Thanksgiving, Mackenzie Bergman and Lachlan Koetje are thankful for friends and family. Mr. Keup plans to spend time with his family and root for Michigan when they play against Ohio.



7th/8th Grade

By Fiona Rohde

The seventh and eighth grade class went on a field trip, Monday, November 14th. They first went to the



Quad Café, and afterwards visited the Card/ Riley Conservation Center on Ferris State University grounds. Besides being just down the road from Trinity, Mr. Genthner liked how the museum went hand-in-hand with the *Life Science* lessons the students learned last year at the Legends Ranch. “The curator was very

knowledgeable and went in depth about several Michigan animals and their habitats.”

Besides animals, the students have been learning many other interesting lessons. In *Earth Science* they are learning about various types of maps, and Global Positioning Systems (GPS), and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).



In history, the topic is Colonial America. In math, the eighth grade students are learning about slope-intercept, while the seventh grade is working with linear equations.

VETERANS DAY CHAPEL

By Maddie Miniear

When I see the word “Veteran” the first thing that comes to mind is “serve.” I think about all the men and women who served our country during times of



war and peace. To thank these special people in our lives, Trinity Lutheran recently held a

Veterans Day chapel. One of the veterans who came was Mr. Brian Erler. He has two granddaughters

that attend Trinity, Carolena and Evangeline Erler. Mr. Erler served in the army for two years.



Another veteran who came to the November 9th chapel service was Mr. Mark Miniear, who served in the Air Force for 20 years. Mr. Miniear was invited by his daughter, Maddie. Several other veterans attended the service representing almost 200 years of service amongst them. Thank you veterans!



TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

By Claire Miller & Maddie Miniear

A few weeks ago, the school celebrated its teachers and staff with Teacher Appreciation Week.

In the 7th and 8th grade classroom, Mr. Genthner got many treats and gifts from the students and PTL. Mr. G said his favorite day that week was Monday when he and all the other staff were served a breakfast provided



by the PTL. He appreciated, too, “the life-like display of teachers” in the narthex the PTL created. For “Dress Up like Your Teacher Day” Mr. Genthner thought the best-dressed impersonator of himself was sixth-grader, Briggs.

All the teachers enjoyed Teacher Appreciation

Week. Mr. Keup said his favorite gift from the PTL was the cheese curds and the meat sticks. Mrs. Miniear, who heads up the PTL, was pleased with this year’s event. “I think it went really well and the teachers seemed to enjoy their special week.”



SAFETY DAY

By Emma Davis

In many rural area Michigan school districts, including Trinity, November 15th is “Safety Day” or the first day of deer hunting season with a firearm. Sixth grader, Thaddeus Hunt, was the only Trinity student this year to bag a deer on opening day. Thaddeus said he shot a 9 point buck in the afternoon of opening day. “It had a broken off drop tine but Dad let me call it a 9 point.” This was his first deer of the year and third deer he’s ever gotten.



TRINITY NONFICTION BOOK CONTEST

By Mary Saladin

This month, Mrs. Tonn started a nonfiction reading contest called “Nonfiction November”. Mrs. Tonn began the contest “because we had to move where some of the non-fiction books were, and I didn’t want kids to forget about all the good nonfiction books.” Some people who are participating in the contest are Maddie Miniar, Noah Waldman, and Evelyn Tonn. Maddie read *The Dog Who Could Fly* by Damien Lewis. She likes nonfiction because “it’s more realistic.” Noah read *Sleep, Bear!* by Shelby Alinsky. When asked if he enjoyed nonfiction, Noah said, “Nope! You can’t really make non-fiction good like fiction.” Evelyn read *Texas: The Lone Star State* by Encyclopedia Britannica. She liked it because “it tells about Houston, Texas, where my dad was born.” Mrs. Tonn said she would like to do more contests in the future, so be on the lookout!



NOVEMBER COLORING CONTEST

By Staff

It was really difficult to pick the top three in each group, but we finally agreed upon these nine entries. Congratulations to all!

Group 1

1st place:
2nd place:
3rd place:

Preschool to 1st Grade:

Bracy Lee (K)
Evangeline Erler (PS-4 yr.)
Ila Johnson (K)

Group 2

1st place:
2nd place:
3rd place:

2nd to 4th Grade:

Josephine Wiltshire (3rd grade)
Lucas Watson (4th grade)
Addy Kaverman (3rd grade)

Group 3

1st place:
2nd place:
3rd place:

5th to 8th Grade:

Ellie Davis (5th grade)
Vieve Nicklas (6th grade)
Lachlan Koetje (5th grade)

FROM US TO YOU

By Mrs. Strube

Whew! Our school year seems to be flying by! So many lessons have been learned and memories made since we first started school in August.

Being that December is such a busy month with

church, school, and family activities, this will be the last issue of The Panther Press for this calendar year. We will be back, though, in January rested and ready to report on all your events and accomplishments!

We wish you a blessed and holy Christmas season. See you next year!

