

The Panther Press

NEWS BY THE STUDENTS FOR THE STUDENTS

March 23, 2023, Volume 3, Issue 5

STAFF SUPER STAR

Ms. Elizabeth Rivard

By Mary Saladin

Ms. Rivard came to Trinity this year to teach the second graders. So far, she has had a great experience.



She said some of her favorite things about teaching here are getting random hugs and sweet notes from her students. Ms. Rivard said that her students might be surprised to learn that she never actually sat in a classroom growing up! She was homeschooled from kindergarten to 12th grade and she loved it.

Ms. Rivard was born in Marquette, Michigan, but has lived in Reed City most of her life. She spent 4 ½ years down in Ann Arbor and when she moved back up here, she had to get used to snowy winters again! When Ms. Rivard was growing up, there were no cellphones and only black-and-white TV. She said, “The *Wizard of Oz* was incredibly scary in black and white when I was six.” As a girl, she had two cats, Bibs and Oreo. In the future, she hopes to get a golden-colored cat and a miniature golden doodle puppy.

As a youngster, Ms. Rivard loved to play Old Maid. She also liked riding her bike. “I’d recklessly race my bicycle up and down hills on our property.” When she was 16, Ms. Rivard learned how to drive her family’s Volare station wagon. She said she always read in the car, so it was hard to figure out where all of the stores were because she wasn’t looking out the car window.

One of Ms. Rivard’s favorite places to go is the beach in Ludington with her daughter, Brianna. She also enjoys “just being out in the sunshine during the summer.”

Someone who has inspired Ms. Rivard is Harriet Tubman because of her bravery and selflessness through hard times. Even though there were many challenges in Tubman’s life, she still helped bring many enslaved people to freedom through the Underground Railroad.

Ms. Rivard says a couple of the best things about present times are the advances in medical care and life-saving surgeries. Because of them, she still has her mom, brother, and nephew.

Some words of wisdom Ms. Rivard offers to the children of today are: “God put you on the earth right now because He has a special plan for your life. He loves you more than you can imagine! Make lots of friends, be humble and kind, play outside, read fun books, and learn a special skill that makes you feel happy.”

CLASS BY CLASS

Preschool 3 and 4-year-old

By Lilly Allen

The preschool classroom is brimming with learning and positivity. Students are everywhere, and the sound of laughter fills the air. Their learning environment is always active. When asked what she is learning about Paislyn Evans was mid-thought when Mrs. Kienitz chimed in, “What color did you make today Paislyn?” “Green!” Paislyn exclaimed.

Milo Wiltshire is learning about the alphabet while Warren Griggs says he’s learning “about flowers.”

March is Reading Month is in progress and almost finished. So far, Warren says he liked Pajama Day while Milo and Paislyn both like reading books. Paislyn says that she especially enjoys reading princess books.

There is always so much to like about school, especially when you are little. When asked what they like best about school, Warren and Paislyn both had similar answers. Paislyn said, “Because we get to play with all these toys,” while Warren simply likes to play. Milo likes school because “we get to have friends.”

Spring break plans for the preschoolers vary from traveling somewhere to a simple break at home. These kids will certainly have a wonderful spring break whatever they do and hopefully, you will too. Happy Spring Break!



Kindergarten/1st Grade

By Claire Miller

During March, the kindergarten and first grade class has been enjoying the fun events of this special reading month. Rowan Cline’s favorite day so far was Flashlight Friday. “I read *Doctor DeSoto*. It’s a book about a mouse dentist.” On the other hand, Bracy said, “I liked Red, White, and Blue Day. I wore a veteran shirt.”



When asked about a day they are looking forward to, Rowan, Ila, and Bracy, simultaneously said, “Pajama Day!” When asked his favorite book, Bracy said the Bible. Ila said she likes books with Barbie in them. Rowan likes books about sharks.

The class is learning about their ABCs, and they love playing outside. Bracy says he enjoys going outside because he likes to make “snowmans.” Ila says, “We play monsters, and Bracy is always the monster.” Bracy added, “I like being the monster.”

2nd Grade

By Emma Davis

The month of March is dedicated to reading and the teachers encourage their students through daily reading activities. In the second grade class, even though every day is fun for them, they have favorite days. Chloe Tonn is looking forward to Bring a Friend to School Day while Amelia Nolf and Brendan Watson liked Pajama Day best. Amelia said she liked it the most because, “We



got to read to our stuffed animals.”

Wednesday, March 1, was declared Wow Wednesday. Each student was supposed to bring in a word with an interesting definition or a word with special meaning to them. Titus said his word

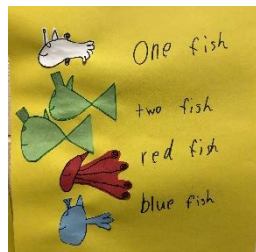
was “defenestrate,” which means to throw something out of a window. Amelia Nolf said her word was “Jesus” and even though it is a name, it is still special.

The Trinity students were all given a reading log to fill out when they read 15 minutes a day. Ms. Rivard is also making a point of reading 15 minutes each day, including online articles.

3rd/4th Grade

By Maddie Miniear

This month is special for the third and fourth graders because it is March is Reading Month (MRM)! One of the things third grader, Percell Skaggs, is looking forward to is Michigan author, Johnathan Rand, coming to Trinity. Third grader, Layla Deverman, said she is looking forward to, “bringing a friend to school, but I don’t know what friend I am bringing, yet.”



Percell said that his favorite thing so far was, “Being a Cowboy!” Lucas Watson, a fourth grader, said his favorite day was Flashlight Friday, which Layla also said was her favorite.

Mr. Rohde, the third and fourth grade teacher, said his favorite day was Flashlight Friday. He also added, “The students did really well on B-I-B-L-E Day.” Looking ahead, Mr. Rohde is excited about Johnathan Rand coming to Trinity.

One of the art projects displayed outside the third and fourth grade is inspired by the Dr. Seuss book, *One Fish,*

Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish. Be sure to stop by and take a look!

Overall, the third and fourth graders are enjoying all the MRM events.

5th/6th Grade

By Miriam Hunt

This year's reading month theme is The Chills and Thrills of Reading. Michigan author Jonathan Rand, creator of the popular Michigan Chillers book series, visited Trinity school and talked to the kids about writing. Sixth grader, Luke Pemberton, said that this was his favorite day

because, “He’s been one of my favorite authors since I’ve been able to read; I’ve read all his books.”



Others in the class had a variety of favorite days. Genevieve Nicklas liked Pajama Day best because she got to wear sweatpants. Last year's pie eating contest winner, Logan Nicklas, liked Pi Day because, “you get to eat whipped cream.” Mr. Keup enjoyed making mini pies with Grandma Saladin on Pi Day.

In social studies, the fifth and sixth graders are studying Israel. They are making books with partners about biblical characters that correlate with what they are learning in social studies. As a class, they are reading a book called *Class Dismissed*. Also, they have started practicing songs for the operetta, *Once Upon a Parable*. In PE, they have been bowling and will finish the unit with a field trip to a bowling alley in Ewart soon.

On the 17th, the class went on a field trip to Wyman’s Backwoods Syrup in Harrison. They got to see the entire process of how syrup is made. They learned about the sugar content of sap and how much sap is required to make maple syrup. Finally, they got to have a lunch of pancakes, sausage, eggs, and fruit.

7th/8th Grade

By Fiona Rohde

The two oldest grades recently began learning art from Mrs. Davis. They are presently making monochromatic gems. They have to capture a gem that is 3D on a 2D sheet of paper. The students are also working hard on the operetta, *Once Upon a Parable*, which is made up of several little stories inside a big story.

In math, both grades are working on geometry; in social studies, they are learning about the government; in science, they are studying volcanoes; and in language arts, they are researching their upcoming class trip.

A couple of months ago, each of the eighth-grade students entered the statewide America and Me Essay Contest with an essay about their personal Michigan hero. Mr. Daniel Lee, from Farm Bureau, which

sponsors the yearly contest, presented certificates to the top three Trinity winners last week. Congratulations to



Emma Davis, 3rd place; Alaine Harrison, 2nd place; and Ashlyn Chatel, 1st place. The first place essay from each school automatically advances to the statewide competition from which the finalist judges choose the top

ten essays. Those winners each receive \$1,000 and gather in Lansing for an honors banquet and awards day. We wish Ashlyn the best of luck!

This month is called March is Reading Month, and each day the students can dress up a certain way or do something special. Ashlyn Chatel and Lizzy Calabrese both said their favorite day so far was Pajama Day because they got to wear comfortable clothes. This year has been very eventful so far, and it will be for the rest of the year.

SPECIAL FEATURE

An Interview with Jennie and Eva Williamson By Claire Miller and Fiona Rohde

On Friday, November 18, 2022, we had a special guest, Jennie Williamson. She came and sang some of the songs she wrote to the students at Trinity, and she does the same at other schools as well. This year, she brought her 14-year-old daughter, Eva Jane, with her.

Jennie says that being a songwriter is “like taking black and white words, and putting color to them.” Eva Jane says, “that one of the best parts of being in the family of a songwriter is seeing how God works through the music and how it evolves.” They also both love the traveling that comes with being in a songwriter’s family.



An Interview with Johnathan Rand By Emma Davis and Staff

Jonathan Rand, well-known author of children and young adult books, came to our school on the 15th of March. He spoke to the students for about two hours, educating them on the joys of reading. Some of the students may have had questions for Johnathan Rand and this article may answer some of their inquiries.

This author’s favorite book of his own is *Drummond Island Dog Man*. If he had chosen a favorite book from another author it would be *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead George. Johnathan Rand started writing books in March of 2000 and his first book was *St. Helena*, a horror-fiction book. In Michigan, his most popular series is the Michigan Chillers, but in other states, the American Chillers are more popular. Fans of

his work appreciate his heart-racing and well-plotted stories.

For some of you who wonder about the secret symbols on the cover of the Chillers series, they represent the two lowercase letters, “d” and “h”, which are the initials of his book cover illustrator.

Like most authors, Johnathan Rand visits the places he writes about while writing the books.

He has been to almost every state except for a few faraway ones such as Alaska and Hawaii. While traveling, he visits many schools, and speaks about the love of reading and writing, and how it changed his life for the better.



TLS Happenings **Eighth Grade Remembers**

By Mrs. Strube

Who can believe that in just two short months our eighth graders will graduate? Here are some memories from past years that they shared with me. Enjoy!

Sam Battle: Sam began school here as a 4-year-old preschooler. “One of my first memories is of my friend, Kale, (McKale). He had a ring pop and he proposed to Ashlyn.”

Elizabeth Calabrese: Lizzy has been at Trinity for 10 years now and came as a 4-year-old preschooler. “I remember meeting Ashlyn in preschool at the old Trinity school. We played “family” together in the kitchen. One day we caught Sam spying on us through a wall of building blocks. I said, ‘What are you doing?’ and then we ran!”

Ashlyn Chatel: Ashlyn has been at Trinity longer than the other eighth graders, starting as a 3-year-old preschooler at the old school on Church Street. “I liked Mrs. Latin’s field trips, especially the Anderson Girls’ Apple Orchard. There was a petting zoo there; I liked the goats best. And we had freshly made cider and cinnamon donuts. They were really good!”

Emma Davis: Emma started kindergarten here when it first opened. “Our classroom was in the conference room. The preschool met in what are now Mrs. London’s office, and the library. We had to walk through them to get to our classroom. I also remember Mrs. Latin and the M&M challenge. She would throw an M&M in the air and catch it in her mouth. She never missed.”

Alaine Harrison: Laine first came to Trinity in first grade after spring break. “The 1st/2nd grade classroom was where our present day 7th/8th grade classroom is. One day after lunch, Mrs. Latin had to have her picture taken. She asked, ‘Can you carry me for the picture?’ The boys tried to pick her up but they dropped her! She got a bruise on her leg from the fall.”

Miriam Hunt: Miriam transferred from Norman Elementary to Trinity in the 5th grade. “I remember that I was a little scared of Mr. Keup because he was the first male teacher I ever had, but I ended up liking him a lot. When I was in the third grade at Norman, we got to attend the Trinity operetta. The show they did was *The Old Testament - Fast Forward*. I knew the story and I thought it was cool that the kids acted out the parts. I knew some of the Trinity kids, Mya Cooter, Draven Davis and Claire Miller.”

Claire Miller: Claire came to Trinity in the 1st grade. “I remember earlier this year when we performed a play in the basement, our curtain kept falling down because the duct tape wouldn’t hold. Also, in 5th grade, I remember Mya keeping her hand raised throughout the morning till lunch.”

Madeline Miniear: Maddie came to the old Trinity school in 4 year old preschool. “I remember in Mrs. Latin’s class that one month into the school year we were putting toys away when a can of spray paint fell from the shelf. It began spraying all over the new carpet and we jumped back! They must have changed out the carpeting because there is no trace of that paint stain now.”

Girls Basketball

By Miriam Hunt

The girls’ basketball team recently finished their season with a tournament in Big Rapids. They all had a



lot of fun and improved individually, and as a team. During the season they won a game, 15-13, against Trinity in Traverse City!

The Trinity Girls Basketball team consists of 5th graders Rachel and Tabitha Saladin, 6th graders Mackenzie Bergman and Savannah London, 7th graders Fiona Rohde and Mary Saladin, and 8th graders Miriam Hunt and Ava Keup. We also recognize 4th grader, Sydney Kage, for coming to each practice and game, and supporting the team.

MARCH CONTEST

Thank you to all who participated in this month’s contest. Congratulations to these winners!

- Group 1 Preschool to 1st Grade:**
- 3rd Place: Paislyn Evans (PS 4 yr.)
- 2nd Place: Philip Pemberton (K)
- 1st Place: Cadence Warner (K)
- Group 2 2nd to 4th Grade:**
- 3rd Place: Kelsey Snider (2nd grade)
- 2nd Place: Onnabelle Garvon (2nd grade)
- 1st Place: Chloe Tonn (2nd grade)
- Group 3 5th to 8th Grade**
- 2nd Place: Alaine Harrison
- 1st Place: Mary Saladin

“HOW OLD WILL MR. SALADIN BE?” CONTEST

Most every Trinity student (and some adults!) entered the “How Old Will Mr. Saladin Be?” contest. The entries had to include the correct answer and math equation used to solve the problem. Here is the information that was provided: “Next year, 2024, Mr. Saladin will celebrate his 13th official birthday on Leap Day, February 29, which only comes once every four years. How old will he really be?” Most contestants multiplied 13 by 4 giving them the correct answer of 52-years-old.

At chapel on March 1st, Mr. Saladin drew two names from the bag of entries. The winners were: Shannon Zimmerman and Millie Gamble-Brown, both second graders. Shannon chose the McDonald’s gift card, leaving Millie with the Taco Bell gift card. We hope you all enjoyed using your math skills for this fun contest, and, “Happy Early 13th (52nd) Birthday, Mr. Saladin!”



FROM US TO YOU

By Mrs. Strube

I can’t believe this is our last paper for the 2022-2023 school year! You’ll see in this issue that *The Panther Press* staff gave it their all in writing not only the typical assigned Class by Class articles, but also some interviews with Jenny and Eva Jane Williamson and Johnathan Rand. These were non-assigned articles that they ASKED if they could do. Talk about being proactive!

It truly has been a joy working with my co-editor, Emma Davis, and all the staff including, Lilly Allen, Fiona Rohde, Mary Saladin, Miriam Hunt, Claire Miller, and Maddie Miniear. We will celebrate our last issue with lunch at Taco Bell soon.

Thank you to all the teachers for supporting our contests and letting us interrupt you for interviews and pictures. Thanks most of all to Jacquie London for helping us to copyedit and publish *The Panther Press* every month.

