

# TRINITY TIMES

THE VOICE OF TRINITY REGIONAL STUDENTS



## Welcoming New Students to Trinity Regional School

by Reina Kulewicz, Seamus Monahan, and Adrianna Scarola

New students at Trinity Regional School are warmly welcomed and embraced by everyone at our school. Trinity Regional has seen the addition of many new students this year, and it has quickly become a second home for everyone. Engaging in various class activities helps new students feel comfortable and make lasting friendships. Trinity stands out as the best school for numerous reasons, offering an environment that fosters growth and community spirit, with a focus on Catholic-integrated education. We interviewed some of our new students and here is what they had to say:

### 1) What do you enjoy about Trinity?

- *Max D. (7th Grade)*: "I can bond with more people because it's a small school."
- *Isabella N. (5th Grade)*: "I enjoy how kind and nice everyone is, and how our school follows in God's footsteps."
- *Brianna N. (7th Grade)*: "Seeing my friends and the school is one big family, so it's really fun."
- *Kayla R. (5th Grade)*: "I enjoy the hot lunch, especially the pizza with my friends."

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**2) How has Trinity helped you grow in your faith?**

- *Max D. (7th Grade)*: “Going to church as a Trinity family and experiencing prayer services and relics.”
- *Isabella N. (5th Grade)*: “Trinity has helped me grow my faith by going to Church.”
- *Brianna N. (7th Grade)*: “I feel more connected to God than ever before.”
- *Kayla R. (5th Grade)*: “Trinity has inspired me to go to Sunday Mass and has brought me closer to God.”

**3) Do the students here make you feel welcome and how?**

- *Max D. (7th Grade)*: “Yes, because they have been taught to be friends with everyone.”
- *Isabella N. (5th Grade)*: “Yes! The students here are so kind and helpful. It was so easy to make friends.”
- *Brianna N. (7th Grade)*: “Yes, because they are all fun and very nice.”
- *Kayla R. (5th Grade)*: “Yes, everyone is so kind.”

**4) How did the Trinity family make you feel welcome on the first day?**

- *Max D. (7th Grade)*: “People greeted me as I walked into the classrooms and around the school.”
- *Isabella N. (5th Grade)*: “Trinity welcomed me by including me, supporting me, and helping me with everything.”
- *Brianna N. (7th Grade)*: “Everyone was really kind and welcoming.”
- *Kayla R. (5th Grade)*: “They always help me, and when I ask questions, they are always there for me.”

**5) How have the teachers helped you adapt to the academics?**

- *Max D. (7th Grade)*: “They helped me adapt to the new classes by taking extra time to explain procedures to me and by being kind and patient.”
- *Isabella N. (5th Grade)*: “They took extra time in the beginning to explain things to me and tell me what their expectations were and now after a few months everything comes naturally.”
- *Brianna N. (7th Grade)*: “Whenever I need help, they are always there.”
- *Kayla R. (5th Grade)*: “They always help me, and when I ask questions, they are always there for me.”

**6) What have been your biggest challenges in Trinity?**

- *Max D. (7th Grade)*: “The main challenges I faced was adapting to Trinity's unique work style.”
- *Isabella N. (5th Grade)*: “The main challenge was figuring out the routine and my schedule, but I learned everything quickly.”
- *Brianna N. (7th Grade)*: “Nothing really because it feels like home.”
- *Kayla R. (5th Grade)*: “Adjusting to the academic rigor, but the teachers are so supportive and always willing to help.”

### **New Teacher to Trinity Interviews**

by Alexa Buchbinder, Scarlett Crescenzo, and Victoria Ho

We interviewed new teachers who joined Trinity this year. The new teachers are Mrs. LaRosa (1<sup>st</sup> Grade), Mrs. Mattia (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade), and Miss Blakley (4<sup>th</sup> Grade). We wanted to find out more about them and what brought them to Trinity.

**Q: What made you interested in becoming a teacher at Trinity?**

- Mrs. LaRosa: My mom was a teacher, and taught kindergarten in a Catholic school. I wanted to follow in her footsteps and being familiar with the community from growing up in Elwood, it felt like the right fit.
- Mrs. Mattia: Having attended Catholic school throughout my life, Catholic education is essential to me. I appreciated the welcoming community at Trinity Regional.
- Miss Blakley: After living in California for the past five years, where I always worked in Catholic schools, I needed a new job upon moving back. The Holy Spirit guided me to this opportunity.

**Q: Why did you become an elementary school teacher?**

- Mrs. LaRosa: Mostly because of my mom. I liked the idea of teaching younger kids to read, even though I also taught middle school. I prefer teaching the younger grades.
- Mrs. Mattia: Both my parents were teachers, and I always looked up to them. I used to assist my mom in getting activities and helping my brother with homework.
- Miss Blakley: With my mom and aunt being teachers and having a background in babysitting and working with kids throughout high school, becoming a teacher was a natural choice.

**Q: Where did you teach before joining the Trinity family?**

- Mrs. LaRosa: I taught at St. Joseph's in Garden City.
- Mrs. Mattia: I taught first grade at St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa.
- Miss Blakley: I taught in California at a small Catholic school called St. Gregory the Great in Whittier, Los Angeles, teaching second and third grade in the past.

**Q: What grade level do you teach, and what is your favorite thing about teaching that grade level?**

- Mrs. LaRosa: I teach 1st grade, and this is my first year doing so. I love their excitement about coming to school and the growth I've seen in their learning experience.
- Mrs. Mattia: Currently, I teach third grade. I appreciate their constant curiosity and the ability to engage with them in a more mature way than with the first graders.
- Miss. Blakley: I teach 4th and 5th grade. I love the surprises of how much they know and do. Their curiosity and excitement to learn something new, along with their amazing questions, make this grade level special.

**Q: What subject is your favorite to teach?**

- Mrs. LaRosa: Reading is my favorite subject because I love to read myself. It lays a good foundation for learning in other subjects.
- Mrs. Mattia: Probably science. I enjoy the experiments and hands-on activities that the children engage in.
- Miss Blakley: Religion is my favorite subject to teach because it sets us apart from other schools and allows us to practice our faith.

After interviewing them we learned a lot about these teachers. They have been such a nice addition to our Trinity family. We appreciate their hard work and the things they do for Trinity.

## Clay Club

by Patricia Freivald and Alexandra Zabniak

Over the past two years, our art teacher, Mrs. Rahner, has been running a delightful after-school Clay Club. In this club, we utilize polymer clay to create charming handmade decorations that can be placed around the house. After we finish our creations, Mrs. Rahner takes them home, bakes them, and then returns them to us.

The focus of the Clay Club often revolves around creating items associated with the current season. For instance, during the fall session, Alex crafted a cookie monster that doubled as a Halloween decoration.

As the spring season arrives, so does a corresponding session in the Clay Club. During this time, we craft items inspired by spring and summer, such as a crab standing on the beach and ducks in a pond. While the primary theme aligns with the season, we occasionally venture into creating items unrelated to the current time of year, such as mini food items and beads for necklaces or bracelets. One memorable creation from the fall session was a turtle brought home by my brother, Finn.

Similarly, there's a winter session dedicated to the winter season. Here, you might find candy canes, Christmas trees, and snowflakes. However, creativity knows no bounds, and we've also fashioned clams with pearls and flowers with bugs during this winter session.

Over time, the Clay Club has evolved into an outstanding after-school activity. Mrs. Rahner has not only taught us the art of crafting cute decorations from clay but has also expanded our imaginations and creativity. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Rahner!



## Interview with Miss Cotter

by Alina Acosta, Annette Bridgemanhel, and Charlotte Joseph

We recently had the pleasure of interviewing Miss Cotter, a teacher at Trinity who always supports her students. Here are some insights into her teaching journey:

### Annette's Questions:

- How long have you been teaching at Trinity?
  - *Answer:* I have been teaching at Trinity for 7 years.
- What's your favorite thing about being a teacher?
  - *Answer:* My favorite thing is watching kids learn and grow.
- What made you decide to become a teacher at Trinity?
  - *Answer:* I chose Trinity because of the value we place on our Catholic faith.

### Alina's Questions:

- How do you start your day before coming to work?
  - *Answer:* I start my day by getting coffee and making sure I have everything ready.
- Why did you decide to teach math out of every subject?
  - *Answer:* I believe math is an important skill in life.
- What are your goals for this year?
  - *Answer:* My goal is to ensure everyone is learning to their best ability.

### Charlotte's Questions:

- Do you enjoy teaching Religion, Science, and math?
  - *Answer:* Yes, I do. They are important concepts to teach, and religion is my favorite subject to teach.
- How did teaching change your perspective on life?
  - *Answer:* Teaching opened my eyes to see what my students need to learn.
- What are you most thankful for in your life of teaching?
  - *Answer:* I am thankful that all my students continue to grow even after they leave my class.

We enjoyed learning more about Miss Cotter and her teaching journey. Thank you, Miss Cotter!

### **Interview with Mrs. Lipton**

by Sophia Boffa, Stephan Cine, and Samantha Fiumaro

Mrs. Lipton serves as the dedicated 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade social studies teacher at Trinity Regional School, with many years of teaching experience. Known for her kindness and respect towards her students, she continues to find joy in teaching social studies.

Q: What sparked your interest in social studies?

A: *"I always enjoyed learning about history, but since I started teaching social studies, I just love sharing my passion for history with my students."*

Q: How did your PEZ collection start, and what contributed to its growth?

A: *"It began when I was younger; my brother would give them to me for Christmas. From there, I just kept collecting them, and now I have over 430."*

Q: What's your favorite social studies topic?

A: *"I love teaching the American Revolution, not only because it's how our country was started, but also due to the rich history here on Long Island and because Boston is one of my favorite cities."*

Q: What's your favorite aspect of teaching social studies?

A: *"Witnessing students who weren't initially interested in social studies develop a liking for it."*

Q: When you started your teaching career, did you intend to teach 6th, 7th, and 8th grade?

A: *"No, I initially wanted to teach second or third grade, but God led me on a different path, and I love it."*

Q: Do you have a liking for any other subjects besides social studies?

A: *"Besides social studies, I enjoy science and ELA."*

In conclusion, this interview has revealed intriguing aspects of Mrs. Lipton's life. We enjoyed learning about how Mrs. Lipton's PEZ collection was started and her love for teaching about the American Revolution.





### **Trinity Regional Honors Chorus**

by Natalie Sipel and Angelica Dugboe

Every year, Trinity gathers a group of student volunteers to participate in Honors Chorus. Many music enthusiasts join this club as an opportunity to expand their knowledge. Students in grades four through eight are invited to join. When you join the Honors Chorus, you have the chance to perform in the winter and spring concerts, as well as at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception during the Christmas season. The repertoire includes beautiful and religious songs such as Ave Maria and The Hallelujah Chorus. Students not only get numerous opportunities to showcase their talents to those close to them but also to a wider audience. Honors Chorus provides a space for interaction with people who share similar interests. Besides participating in various activities, the most rewarding aspect is the people you meet and the lessons you learn!





## Girls Soccer

by Sophia Mock and Alyssa Mestecky

Trinity Regional School is fortunate to have a girls' soccer team. Although we didn't secure many victories this season, our team created a supportive atmosphere, and we had a helpful coach who guided us toward future success. Despite their busy schedules, many parents came out to support our team. Mr. Ray, our coach, not only teaches us to play better and improve our skills but also encourages us to be the best team we can be. The roster included two sixth graders, nine seventh graders, and two eighth graders. Lilligrace, our main goalie, has made crucial saves for our team. Our soccer team is competitive yet caring, exemplified by winning the sportsmanship award last year. Ending the season on a high note with a victory, we acknowledge the valuable contributions of our two sixth graders and hope they join us again next year. The season has been a delightful experience, and we'll miss our eighth graders immensely.

## The 8th Grade Boys Soccer Team

by Luke Browning, George Lang, and Aidan Pollack

The eighth-grade boys' soccer team had an exceptional season, remaining undefeated with nine wins and one tie. Their remarkable performance culminated in winning the championship. In contrast to the previous year, this year's championship featured top teams from both the eastern and western parts of Long Island. The championship match concluded with a score of 4-1, with the Trinity team emerging as the winners. The Trinity team earned their win after a great season. Despite facing the challenge of no substitutions throughout the game, they displayed resilience and worked as a team to win each game. Beyond soccer, the Trinity team is now setting their sights on success in basketball and bowling. The future holds exciting possibilities for them, and we eagerly await to see their continued achievements.

