



HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHAT'S IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE?

Letter from
Mr. Jack Richards
Head of Schools

School News

Parent Book Study

PTA News

Christmas Collection

December Friendly Unit - Bounce Back

Through December we have been in our fourth Friendly Unit: BOUNCE BACK. This unit teaches us to understand the important concept of resilience and to develop skills that will help us bounce back from the challenges we face.

Catchphrase (main point for students to catch on to):
"Bounce Back"

Key Verse (Biblical anchor points):

- Philippians 1:6: "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."
- Isaiah 40:30-31a: "Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength."

What does it mean to be resilient? Resilience is a person's ability to bounce back in response to hard or challenging times. It is working through things that are hard and not giving up. The dictionary defines resiliency as "the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness."

Continue the Conversation at home with your student. Here are the Four R's of Resilience, a strategy to use when we are faced with a challenge so that we can BOUNCE BACK.

1. Take time to recognize hardships. It's important to say "This is hard!" Then we can begin to find ways to bounce back. When we bounce back after a challenge, we get stronger and are better prepared for the next challenge.
2. Remain hopeful when facing challenges. Every person in the world has hardships. When we place our hope in God, He renews our strength and gives us the ability to bounce back (Isaiah 40:30-31a).

- 1.Reframe how you view hardships. Choose to focus on what you have, rather than what you've lost. Look for opportunities in the midst of opposition. Tell your story from a lens of hope.
2. Have supportive relationships. Other people help us bounce back. Sometimes we don't notice the people in our lives who care for us and cheer us on. It's important to remember who these people are.

A sense of belonging is one of the most powerful predictors researchers have discovered that determines how strong a person's resiliency is. The more parents, siblings, and families can help students feel like they truly "belong," the more likely they will be to BOUNCE BACK when faced with challenges or difficulties.

We encourage your families to discuss bouncing back, and the idea of resilience at home; being open with your child about your level of resiliency and ability to bounce back from different situations you have faced. We want to hear from you and celebrate the growth and success of our students. Linking arms in partnership with you—we are in this together!

Best wishes,
Rebecca Khoury
Counselor - St. Matthews

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Sat. : 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am
11:00 am

Confession:
Every Sat. : 3:30-4:30 pm

Parish Bulletin

Vision Statement of Holy Trinity Catholic School

To be a school of excellence that encompasses the whole child by modeling Jesus through our Catholic teachings, commitment to academics, service to the community, and devotion as life-long servants of God.

IMPORTANT DATES

Please see the school calendar at the button below for the most up-to-date information regarding upcoming meetings and events.

CALENDAR

SCHOOL NEWS

Waterstep Shoe Drive

Cleaning out your closets and storage areas this holiday break or as a part of your New Year's Resolutions? KUNA and our Presiding Officer Candidate, Brinn S, would love to have your shoe donations! Partnering with Waterstep, our KUNA delegation will be collecting new or gently used shoes from January 1 - 15 at both campuses. Waterstep sells shoes around the world to fund clean-water initiatives in times of emergency, such as the hurricane that impacted water in North Carolina recently, in remote villages globally, and in areas where clean water is not readily available. Did you know that often children are responsible for retrieving the water needed daily for their family, and in doing so, walk miles a day each way, which then prevents them from getting an education? WaterStep is working to change that and make water readily available to all children and families globally.

Please bring in your new or gently used shoes to the collection bins at either campus from January 1 - 15. Shoes cannot be moldy, damaged, or wet. They should always be sent as pairs, and if you can rubber band them together or tie their shoelaces together, that is extremely helpful in requiring less sorting time by Waterstep's volunteers. All donations are greatly appreciated. Thanks for your support in our work to bring clean water to children everywhere.

New Students for 25/26 School Year

If you have a child eligible to start at Holy Trinity in Pre-K or K next school year, now is the time to complete an application. To enroll a new students online, simply log on to our website (www.ht-school.org) and follow the procedures for Admissions.

After January 31st , applications will be considered on an as-received basis.

Winter MAP Testing

Winter MAP testing will occur in January. We ask that you plan accordingly and not plan any trips, appointments, etc., during these dates. Please be sure your child arrives at school on time, is well-rested, and has a good breakfast. If your child is in 6th-8th grade, please ensure their iPad is fully charged.

Kindergarten will take MAP Reading Fluency and MAP Growth Math.
1st-2nd will take MAP Growth Reading and MAP Growth Math.
3rd-7th will take MAP Growth Reading, Language Usage, and MAP Growth Math.

8th will take MAP Growth Reading, Language Usage, and MAP Growth Algebra I.

Grade

Testing Dates

K 1/13, 1/14, 1/22

1st 1/17, 1/24

2nd 1/21, 1/23

3rd 1/13, 1/14, 1/21, 1/23

4th 1/14, 1/16, 1/23

5th 1/9, 1/16, 1/23

6th 1/10, 1/17, 1/24

7th 1/9, 1/14, 1/16

8th 1/9, 1/14, 1/16

Lost & Found is Overflowing

Our Lost and Found at the St. Matthews Campus is overflowing and will be donated soon! While Student Council goes through it all and returns items with last names written in them weekly, we still have hundreds of items! As we do annually, we will clean and donate all items in the Lost and Found on the last day before Christmas Break and donate them before Christmas to Catholic Charities or St. Vincent DePaul. Please be sure to stop by the lost and found (located in the hall next to the cafeteria at St. Matthews) before dismissal on Dec. 20 to claim your family's lost items. **We have a neighbor who picks up items left on the playground, washes them, and then returns them to HT, so if your item isn't there the first day you look, please check back.

Possible Robotics Team

Do you have experience with Robotics or know someone who does? Holy Trinity would love to start a Robotics team, but needs adult leadership to make it possible. There's an upcoming competition in February locally that we'd like to explore. Please check out the [various information links and details included within their flyer](#). If interested in working to help HT start a Robotics team, and/or partner with the team's leadership, please contact our Director of Student Activities, [Mrs. Davenport](#).

Book Bee Applications Open

After Mrs. Davenport spoke with our 3rd - 8th graders about the Archdiocese Book Bee last week, many are excited to get started on the [reading lists](#)! The lists are available on myHTCS in homeroom pages and parent pages - - and are the same ones previously shared in May and August. The books would make great holiday gifts!

[Book Bee sign-ups](#) are also open and due by the MLK, Jr. holiday on January 20 to form teams. All of the ideas and rules regarding Book Bee are explained on the registration form, if you want to preview them to consider this opportunity for your child before signing up. New this year - - when signing up, you can see who else has signed up to know if tryouts are needed (if more than 12 students sign up), while also ensuring your friends or peers who you think should be on the team with you also get signed up before the deadline. You can also see if we have an interested coach, or are still in need of one to have a team. Happy reading!

6th Grade Showcase



Congratulations to all of our students who competed and represented HT well in last week's 6th Grade Showcase academic competitions in section 12 of the state competition:

- Holy Trinity - 2nd Overall
- QR Team - 1st Overall
- Mitch J. - Math, 5th Place
- Alex R. - Science, 2nd Place and Social Studies, 3rd Place
- Sylvie D. - Social Studies, 2nd Place
- Ethan A. - Arts & Humanities, 4th Place
- Cecelia M. - Composition, 2nd Place

Recourse Day Skorts



Shaheen's
est. 1922

Shaheen's now has Holy Trinity's Resource Day skort available in sizes Youth XS through Youth XL. The cost is \$26.98.

Holy Trinity Gym Skort
NOW AVAILABLE IN YOUTH SIZES



• Y2XS-AXL \$26.98



Scan the code to start shopping!

PTA NEWS

No School – Friday, March 28, 2025!!

We did it, Eagles! We sold all 700 Raffle Tickets! Since we met our goal, EVERYONE has earned Friday, March 28th off school!!!

Thank you to the families who helped us meet our goal. This was truly a team effort!

Final Candy Cart!!

Our final Candy Cart will be this Friday, December 20th. This will be for the students who sold tickets after last week's Wednesday night deadline and anyone who missed a previous Candy Cart.

A special thank you to our Candy Cart sponsor: Matt Kuerzi with the Derby City Group at Morgan Stanley!

Nominations

It's that time of the year when we recognize our faculty and staff. We are seeking nominations for 5 awards listed below, please read carefully as we have some changes this year. Nominations are due by January 8th to Molly Willer at Mwiller@ht-school.org. These outstanding people will be honored during Catholic Schools Week.

Teacher of the Year award at St. Matthews Campus:

[St Matthews Teacher of the Year](#)

Staff of the Year at St. Matthew's Campus. Includes instructional assistants, office staff, nurse, and admin: [St Matthews Staff of the Year](#)

Educator or Staff of the Year award at Clifton Campus. Includes all Clifton Campus [Clifton Campus Educator/Staff of the Year](#)

Parish Staff of the Year award. Includes Parish, Maintenance, and IT

[Parish Staff Award](#)

Volunteer of the Year Award: [Volunteer of the Year Award](#)

Eagle Soirée (formerly called VIP)

We are looking for unique VIP experiences or vacation homes for the live auction...if you have a connection please email Molly Willer mwiller@ht-school.org.

Christmas Collection for Clifton Teachers and Staff

Dear Holy Trinity Clifton Families,

Hopefully everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving break with family and friends! Hard to believe in a few short weeks Christmas will be here! It's a very busy time of year and realize you might be thinking about teacher gifts. As we have done in the past, we are planning an OPTIONAL money collection for your children's teachers and ALL HTC staff.

Contributions will be divided accordingly between all the teachers, assistant teachers, resource teachers and occupational therapists, support staff who support our children every day.

If you would like to participate in the Christmas collection for the Clifton Campus teachers, please send your gifts to Melissa Parshall no later than Monday, December 16th. I will plan to deliver them on Wednesday December 18th.

Venmo: @Melissa-Parshall

If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Parshall (melissa.parshall77@gmail.com or 973-534-8692)

Thank you for your support this year and best wishes for a blessed Christmas!

Christmas Collection for St. Matthews

Dear Holy Trinity Families,

As you start thinking about Christmas gifts for your children's teachers, we would like to offer an OPTIONAL collection for teacher gifts again this year. Contributions will be divided accordingly between your teacher(s) and assistant teacher(s) and will be from the whole class. An additional collection will be taken for the resource day special area teachers. If you would like to participate in this collection, please send your gifts to the appropriate contact(s) listed below no later than Tuesday, December 17th. They will accept cash or check via backpack mail or Venmo donation. Thank you for your support and best wishes during this holiday season! If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca at cobb.rebecca@gmail.com or 502-592-9088.

Rebecca Dydynski
Room Parent Chair

Teacher/Grade Room Parent/Venmo account/last 4 digits of phone for verification

PKA – Kaitlin Sullivan - @Kaitlin-Sullivan-1 (1112)
PKH – Susan Saylor - @Susan-Saylor-9 (6833)
PKP – Sara Kulyan - @Sara-Gentry-K (5499)
KB – Abby Thompson - @Abbythompson85 (7411)
KG – Natalie Miller - @Natalie-Miller-99 (6459)
KM – Lauren Colyer - @Lauren-Colyer-3 (9746)
KP – Katie Vacca - @kgvacca (8841)
1K – Susie Jackson - @susie-jackson-5 (4027)
1P - Kelly Sienkowski - @Kelly-Sienkowski (3235)
1S – Christina Weinstein - @Christina-Weinstein-2 (2809)
2B – Jada Wilson - @Jada-Wilson-28 (2232)
2M – Jennifer Schmidt - @Jennifer-Schmidt-60 (6499)
2Z – Bailey Robinson - @Bailey-robinson-3 (6566)
3B – Brittany Metten - @brittany-metten (9055)
3G – Kirsten Russell - @Kirsten-Russell-12 (7286)
3H – Ashley McKiernan - @Ashley-McKiernan-1 (6650)
4th Grade – Jennifer Kuerzi - @Jennifer-ThomasKuerzi (3637)
5th Grade – Amy Sugg - @amy-sugg-3 (6407)
6th Grade – Jennifer McDevitt - @Jennifer-McDevitt-2 (5539)
7th Grade – Charlotte VanHimbergen - @charlotte-vanhimbergen (6063)
8th Grade - Emily Adams - @emilyadams710 (3129)
Special Area Teachers – Rebecca Dydynski - @Rebecca-Dydynski (9088)