



TRINITY TIMES

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Kavanaugh's Appointment to Supreme Court

by Ari Burdulis and Zach Martone

After serving on the Supreme Court for 30 years, Justice Anthony Kennedy notified president Donald Trump that he was ready to retire. Upon receiving this news, President Trump nominated Judge Brett Kavanaugh to be the next Supreme Court Justice. This action was highly controversial; for years Kennedy had been a swing vote for left-wing political views such as legalizing same-sex marriage, while Kavanaugh holds more right-wing political views opposing those of Kennedy. Additionally, Kavanaugh was accused of sexually assaulting Dr. Christine Blasey Ford in high school, leading many to outrage. Thus, his confirmation for the Supreme Court was delayed until he could be tried for this accusation.

After the hearing and an FBI investigation, Brett Kavanaugh became the 114th Supreme Court Justice in United States history. Because of his acceptance into the Supreme Court, many important, hot-button issues in our country could potentially change. First, Roe v. Wade, the case that legalized abortions in 1973, could be reversed, thus allowing states to restrict abortion as they wished. This could potentially save about 4,000 children's lives in the United States daily. Also, Obergefell v. Hodges, the case that legalized same-sex marriage in all fifty states of the United States could be reversed. Had he not been confirmed, these two important issues would likely not be affected.

Many voters believe that Dr. Ford coming forward to accuse Judge Kavanaugh was a way to postpone his confirmation until after new Senators had been selected, hoping that the Senate would be under a Democratic majority. Others believe that Kavanaugh is truly someone undeserving of being part of the Supreme Court -- someone who would do more harm than good. Though a decision has been reached, there are lasting effects to this controversy. Many will never view Justice Kavanaugh as a good man who can help serve our country; other will forever think of Dr. Christine Blasey Ford as a liar who wasted the time of the Senate. Whatever anyone thinks, we must recognize that everyone from any party must be able to accept our leaders and support them as he or she makes tough decisions for our nation. Mark 3:25 says that "if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand." We as citizens must keep in mind that arguing will accomplish nothing in the long run and that only by trying to make peace can we better ourselves and each other.

Harvest Party



by Hannah Genberg and Gabby Martone

This year's Harvest Party was run and hosted by Jon-Luke Rodriguez, head of Student Council's Social Committee. It took place on Saturday night from 5:30 - 8:30, and was a great success.

Students had a great time of fellowship, pizza, s'mores, and hot chocolate. Some engaged in group games before the fire including giant Jenga (with which several students built a large house complete with aesthetic acorns on top) and card games. At the end of the evening Jon-Luke gave a devotional about being hungry Christians and always wanting to learn more about God and improve the world, while being content at the same time. In the middle of the devotional there was a small crisis in which the bottom of the fire pit gave out and the grass caught fire, but the danger was quickly averted by the thrifty boy scouts who put ice and water from their drinks onto the fire, and the rest of the evening went smoothly.

During an interview one student said that they "loved the location and the hot cocoa." One thing that was done this year that wasn't done in past years was it was "early enough

in the year that it wasn't freezing, but was still chilly enough for hoodies," though many of the students had to go inside to warm up later in the evening once the sun went down. Another student commented that they enjoyed the food and that more of the middle schoolers showed up, which was true; it was a great time of hanging out with not only the high school but the middle school as well. A third student said that "Jon-Luke did an excellent job" and that everyone there was very kind to each other and great examples of inclusion and Christ-like love.

We'd also like to thank Miss Freire and Mrs. Sifonios for chaperoning. Miss Freire kept an eye on the students while interacting with them, and then later helped set up the s'mores. Mrs. Sifonios helped Mrs. Rodriguez in the kitchen all evening; dealing out pizza, and preparing hot chocolate. Thank you to these two ladies as well as the Rodriguezes for sacrificing their Saturday night to make this event possible for the students. Overall it was a fantastic evening of socializing, food, and a focus on God's word, and we hope to see an even greater turn-out next year!

Weathering the Storms

by Riley Como

Do you remember Hurricane Sandy? Also known as "Superstorm Sandy," it was the deadliest and most destructive hurricane in the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season. The record tide levels and a wind speed of 114 miles per hour, stole 233 lives. Cars were washed away, whole neighborhoods destroyed, leaving people still without their home five years later. The flooded basement, loss of power and detours because of fallen trees may have been difficult for us here in North Jersey, but it can be hard to realize that only an hour away, people's whole houses were destroyed, and they were left with what little possessions they could grab.

Hurricanes have caused devastating loss for millions in the U.S. this year. Hurricane Michael, a class 4 hurricane, struck Florida on October 10. It has already claimed more than 30 lives, and is the strongest hurricane to make landfall in the US since 1992.

Florence also entered the U.S. on September 14. It left the millions of people in its path without homes and power. Three feet of rain poured down on some places, while others struggled through the 110 mile per hour winds. The people of the Carolinas and Florida may be out of the winds and rain, but they still have much rebuilding to do.

But like the eye of the storm, even when everything seems hopeless and the sky has gone dark, clear skies and relief can be found. The hurricanes that to so many mean loss and fear, can pull people together. Whole neighborhoods rally together to help each other. People turn to each other for help and prayers, instead of arguments. Churches go from site to site helping rebuild and sharing the gospel with those who need to hear it most. No matter how forcefully the storm strikes, it isn't enough to stop people, churches, and communities from joining together to lend a hand to strangers and friends alike.



Return to Sender: Mr. Picciottoli

As the year began, every elementary student at TCS had the opportunity to submit an anonymous question for me to answer. This article attempts to answer their questions, along with providing interesting facts about me, Mr. Picciottoli.

I am 37 years old, and my favorite color is dark purple (not lavender or violet, but deep and rich dark purple). My favorite subject was math in both elementary school and high school because it required the least amount of work to get the best grades possible.

My favorite food is Chicken Parmesan, and either donuts or ice cream are by far my favorite treat; I especially like Oreo cookie ice cream. I enjoy breakfast and lunch equally, and overall, enjoy almost all the different types of food that God provides.

I have never and will never play Fortnite (recall last week's chapel testimony), and my favorite Bible verse is Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."

I attended Ramapo College in Mahwah, NJ, for both my undergraduate and first graduate degree; I received a second graduate degree at the College of Saint Elizabeth in Madison, NJ. I've taught in several public schools in classes ranging from third to eighth grades, and I even taught pre-school park time in college where I was referred to as "Mr. Mike". Although I never taught in a Christian school earlier in my career, God had other plans for me starting this school year. Being the Head of School at TCS was never my goal as the President of the TCS Board; but, God opened the door for me to bring the skills and talents He has blessed me with to serve Him here at TCS. My favorite part of being at TCS is each day having the opportunity to speak to others about God - be it at staff devotions, in secondary homeroom, or starting off 7th-grade study skills class in prayer. What a great blessing!!

May God richly bless TCS this 2018-19 school year!

Scenes from School Spirit Day

Team Points

Blue: 100

Red: 100

Yellow: 0



Soccer Season Draws to a Close



by Josiah Tyree

All three soccer teams are doing extremely well this season. The Varsity Men are still undefeated and are hoping to keep it that way. Earlier this week, the men defeated American Christian 11-0 to clinch the regular season title. The younger members of the team had a lot of playing time during that last matchup to prepare for postseason play.

The Varsity Girls soccer team is also doing very well this season. The girls also defeated American Christian earlier this week on the road. This season, the team has only lost two games, both to Veritas. Sophomore goalie Faith Carbone has been injured. She has a concussion and will not be playing again until later.

Both varsity squads will be celebrating senior night this Monday, as they take on Faith Christian.

The Junior Varsity Team is also undefeated with only one goal scored against them all season, thanks in part to seventh grade goalie Griffin Como. The squad wraps up tournament play today at Camp Dawson fields in Towaco.

We will see if the work pays off in the final games. A special thanks to all our coaches, who support and help the teams in ways no one else can.

Upcoming Events

Jr. High MCAA Tournament
TODAY! 10/19, 3:45pm

Senior Night (VB & VG)
vs. Faith Christian
Monday 10/22, 3:45pm

Varsity Men's & Women's
MCAA Tournament
Thu-Fri 10/25-10/26, TBD

More at www.tcsnj.org/schedule

TCS Spelling Bee (Gr. 2-8)
Tuesday 10/23

Hot Lunch
Wednesday 10/24

Half-Day of School
Tuesday 10/30

Boston Field Trip (Gr. 9-10)
Wednesday 10/31 - Friday 11/2

It's in the Past: History through the Lens of Scripture

by Mr. John Odland

As a history teacher, one of the most common questions I've been asked over the years is "Why learn history? How will that help me? It's all in the past." It is a legitimate question that I've heard from numerous students. I've also witnessed many public educational institutions, including colleges, eliminate so much history from their curriculums. Regardless of their reasoning, the answer for why we learn history is not an option but is commanded to us by God.

The word "remember" is used in the bible approximately 166 times. Psalm 143:5 reads, "I remember the days of old; I meditate on all you have done; I ponder the work of your hands." The psalmist clearly recognized how remembering history isn't some requirement in one's life, but rather a necessity to understand God's world. Without comprehending history we cannot understand who God is nor will we recognize when he is working in our lives.

Hebrews 13:7 "Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith." It is likely that the author was referring to learning from, remembering and imitating; Matthew, John,

Moses, Joshua, Samuel, David, Nehemiah, and other leaders we learn about throughout the Bible.

Today when studying more recent historical leaders such as Augustine, Martin Luther, John Calvin, Johnathan Edwards, John Calvin, George Whitefield, C.S Lewis, Charles Spurgeon, and Billy Graham the author's wisdom still applies. To understand any of these godly leaders we must understand the time periods they lived in and what urged them to live a life dedicated to spreading the Gospel.

Lastly, when we study the past we become aware of why we need a Savior. John 16:33 states, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Yes, Jesus has overcome the world! He has overcome all sin and to grasp why Jesus went to the cross we must recognize the crucifixion as the most significant historical event to ever take place. With that, it becomes clear that only through the lens of history do we identify God's world, recognize sin in the world and in ourselves, and ultimately realize the need to embrace our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Marko and Ari: Q&A

by Ari Burdulis and Stephen Markowicz

Why does TCS only have 3 sports (for girls in particular)?

There are two reasons why our school doesn't have many options for sports. The first, Our school only has only around 150 kids in it, of which only from 6th to 12th graders are eligible to participate in sports. As it is, with some of the sports like track or basketball, the teams are small. If our school had more sports in it, the teams probably would barely have enough players in it. A second reason is because it would be better to divide the different sports seasons into thirds than to divide them into even smaller seasons. Dividing the sports seasons into thirds enables athletes to enjoy a longer season.

Do you live the life of homework? Do you have a social life during the school year?

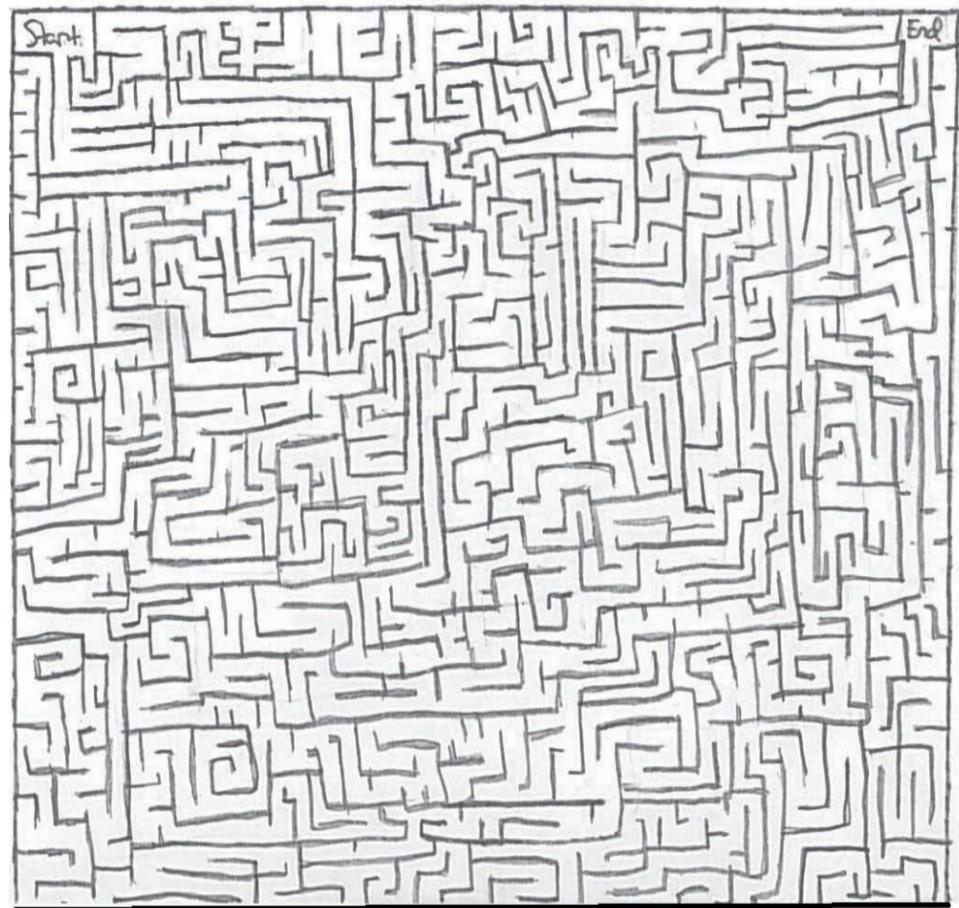
Sometimes it can be hard to balance homework life and social life outside of school. As Mr. Picciottoli said in his testimony to Secondary, he realized that while in school it was more important to study hard for something important, than to go to a social gathering.

What could I do instead of going outside for recess?

Sometimes the temperature or day may seem not to your liking to go outside for recess. My advice is to ask the teacher who takes you out to let you into the gym, where the it may be more to your liking. If you do not want to do that, you should instead stay at the lunch tables and talk to your friends, or review for a test or quiz that may be coming in the future.

Prepare to be A-Maze-d

Maze drawn by Stephen Markowicz



Movie Review: *Christopher Robin* A Children's Classic Revisited

"Deep in the Hundred Acre Wood where Christopher Robin plays, you'll find the enchanted neighborhood of Christopher's childhood days."

by Hannah Genberg

Winnie the Pooh and all his friends are a childhood favorite of many people. A couple of months ago, Disney released the movie *Christopher Robin*. The premise of the movie is that Christopher Robin has grown up and forgotten about his childhood playmates in the Hundred Acre Wood. His work in a luggage company begins to consume his time. His wife, Evelyn, and daughter, Madeline, urge him to spend time with them in his childhood home in the country, but he declines for work.

Meanwhile, in the Hundred Acre Wood, Pooh wakes up to find that his friends have gone missing. He makes his way to London, where he reunites with Christopher Robin. Robin and Pooh team up to hunt for their missing friends. With nods to the books,

from heffalumps and woozles to Eeyore's melancholy, yet lovable, disposition, Christopher Robin learns that his work is not as important as his family and friends.

As a whole, it was a lighthearted, fun movie dealing with the importance of family and not being a workaholic. It is the perfect movie for fans of the Hundred Acre Wood gang and their lovable antics. It was a throwback to childhood, while showing about what happens as you grow up. It shows that it is ok to take a break and not work all the time. I loved this movie and would recommend it to all ages.

(Editorial Note: The Times presents this material without strictly endorsing the viewing of this or any other film. We firmly believe entertainment choices are to be made in a family context.)

CALLING ALL POETS!

Do you love to write poems? Well, here's your chance. The winning poem will be published in our newspaper.

Prompt:

Write about autumn using the senses, EXCEPT sight, i.e. smell, hearing, taste, and touch.

Give submissions to Hannah Genberg by November 1.

