

The New Trinity Times

- TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL -

NOVEMBER 2023

Lombard, Illinois



Trinity's Journalism students made posters to honor our veterans for Veterans Day. November is National Veterans and Military Families Month.

My Pledge To Our Veterans

by Angelina Iverson

Sometimes I wonder why people don't recognize veterans more. They served our country, not because people forced them to, but because they love their country and want to fight every last strength that they have for our country. So many people have died in wars and some people don't acknowledge it. They had to leave their home, their families, and friends, but they did it because they love their country. Veteran's Day is a day to honor all the Veterans. Going into the military and leaving your things behind may seem sad, but once you get in you'll definitely have a blast. You'll find lifetime friends, but most importantly you have to love what you are doing.

My pledge to our Veterans is to always honor them and respect them. I will always respect them in honor of my family and my friends.

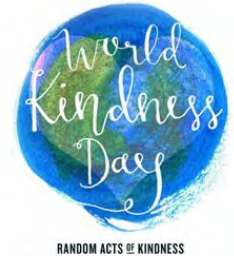
UPCOMING EVENTS

by Arian Gomez
and Tyler Zita

- November 17: Cookies & Hot Chocolate for \$1
- November 20-24: NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
- November 27: SCHOOL RESUMES, 8:15 a.m.
- November 28: Hot Lunch - Mostaccioli
- November 29: Chapel, 8:30 a.m.
- December 5: Hot Lunch - Pizza
- December 6: Advent Church Service, 11 a.m.,
Advent Hot Lunch - Mac 'n' Cheese
- December 12: Hot Lunch - Mac 'n' Cheese
- December 13: Advent Church Service, 11 a.m.,
Advent Hot Lunch - Hot Dog
- December 19: Hot Lunch - Hot Dog
- December 19 - Trinity Lutheran School
Christmas Service, 6:30 p.m.
- December 25-January 5: NO SCHOOL -
Christmas Break
- January 8: SCHOOL RESUMES, 8:15 a.m.

World Kindness Day *by Ariana Mehrazar*

There's no reason to be mean to one another, or say hurtful things. On November 13, **World Kindness Day** was recognized. But you can may any day **YOUR World Kindness Day**. It's a good day to repent for all the hurtful things you have thought or said. Try to help people, even strangers! Maybe you think, "opening the door for someone or giving a dollar to a homeless person isn't such a big deal," but that's where you'd be **wrong**. All these little deeds? They may not mean anything to you, but they mean a **lot** to the person you helped. Cleaning your room, listening to your teacher, these are all very kind and important! Remember to be kind not just on **World Kindness Day**, but to always be nice. If you do say something rude, remember, you can't take it back. **Think** before you speak. If you do, you can at least apologize to the person. And that my friends, is called being **kind**.



National Cinnamon Day

by Damian Gomez and Roscoe Barnett

We have lots of national food days. One is **National Cinnamon Day**, recognized each year on **November 1**. One thing that we bet you didn't know is that cinnamon is an ancient spice that comes from the bark of several different trees. The most popular cinnamon comes from Sri Lanka and China. Cinnamon has a very sweet, sharp, and sensuous fragrance as its taste. The Egyptians used cinnamon along with myrrh to embalm the dead, and the Romans burned it on funeral pyres. A funeral pyre is a structure usually made of wood for burning a body as part of a funeral rite or execution. Cinnamon was used for religious ceremonies in ancient times. Is cinnamon bad for you? Not if it is consumed responsibly and in moderation. But ingesting cinnamon in a reckless manner can result in choking, vomiting, and trouble breathing. Can cinnamon be used to lose weight? There is little evidence that cinnamon has medical properties that aid weight loss, though its spiciness can help provide flavor to diet regimens that cut back on sugar and salt. And of course, cinnamon is used in many holiday treats!



National Fast Food Day

by Ava Harrison and Abigail Pilny



National Fast Food Day was **Thursday, November 16, 2023**. It is a day to appreciate the delectable food you get from fast food places. The main point of **National Fast Food Day** is not necessarily to buy or eat it, but to **appreciate** it. You can purchase and consume if you wish, but it is not a necessity. Here are some of our favorite fast food places:

- Abigail likes **Panera Bread** or **Portillo's**
- Addison prefers **Portillo's**
- Aidan enjoys **Dunkin' Donuts**
- Angelina is into **Burger King**
- Arian dreams about **Portillo's**
- Ariana adores **Chick-fil-A**
- Ava appreciates **Sonic**
- Damian digs **McDonald's**
- Francesco was undecided
- Roscoe is cool with **Panda Express**
- Sophia selects **Burger King**
- Tyler chooses **Chick-fil-A**





Chargers Fall Sports Wrap Up

by Abigail Pilny

At Trinity, we had fall sports with a lot of competitive athletes. These students have worked so hard on a specific sport (or both for some people).

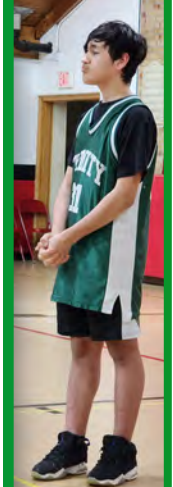
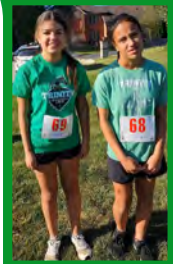
At the St. Peter/Schaumburg Cross Country Meet, nobody earned any medals, but the team did very well. We also saw Mrs. Messina, our former principal.

At the Trinity/Burr Ridge Volleyball game on October 17, the Chargers lost. That wasn't our best game. but at the Burr Ridge tournament, the volleyball team placed 7th.

On October 24, the Trinity Chargers went we against St. Paul/Brookfield Chargers for Volleyball and Trinity's team won!

The Chargers' last Volleyball game of the season was against Zion-Concord/Bensenville on October 27 and we lost.

But the Chargers had a good season in Cross Country and Volleyball and thankfully, no one got hurt.



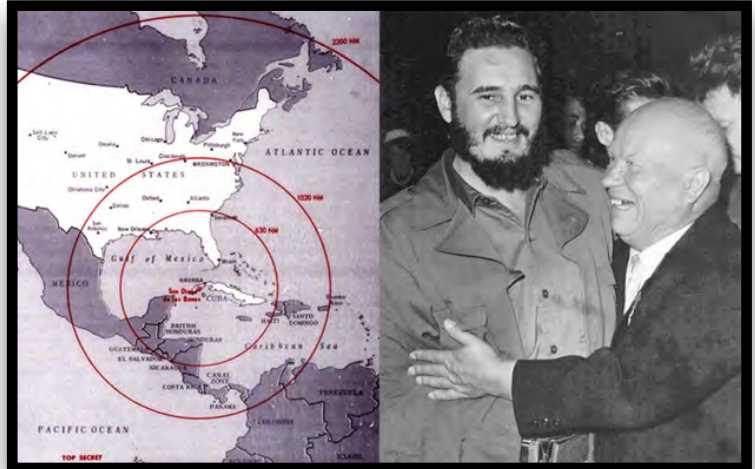
History: The Cuban Missile Crisis by Francesco Lamphere

HISTORY IS
awesome

During the Cuban Missile Crisis, leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union engaged in a tense, 13-day political and military standoff. This took place in October 1962

and it was over the installation of nuclear-armed Soviet missiles on Cuba, a Caribbean island nation just 90 miles from U.S. shores. In a television address on October 22, 1962, President John F. Kennedy (1917-1963) notified Americans about the presence of the missiles, explained his decision to enact a naval blockade around Cuba. He made it clear the U.S. was prepared to use military

force if necessary to neutralize this perceived threat to national security. Following this news, many people feared the world was on the brink of nuclear war. However, disaster was averted when the U.S. agreed to Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev's (1894-1971) offer to remove the Cuban missiles in exchange for the U.S. promise not to invade Cuba. Kennedy also secretly agreed to remove U.S. missiles from Turkey.



Martin Luther by Ariana Mehrazar

Martin Luther was a Catholic Monk, pastor, German priest, theologian, author, hymn writer, professor, and Augustinian friar. Luther was afraid because he thought he wasn't going to go to heaven, as the Church wasn't teaching the Bible. So, he read the Bible and tried to have the Church teach the truths of the Bible. But, the Church wouldn't change, so Martin kept teaching the bible anyways. Martin also wrote ninety-five theses in his attempt to convince the Roman Catholic Church to stop selling indulgences. Luther's efforts helped bring about the Reformation—which would give rise to Protestantism, (as the third major force within Christendom), alongside Roman Catholicism, and Eastern Orthodoxy. The Reformation spawned the Lutheran Church which focused on teaching the Bible and centered on Jesus as the only way to heaven. Reformation Day, marked annually on October 31, acknowledges and celebrates the immense and lasting effects of the changes instigated by Luther. Martin Luther died at just 62 years old because of a cardiac infarction - heart failure. He might have lived into his 80s or 90s with today's medical capabilities, but sadly, 16th century medicine wasn't as advanced as ours is today. He died on February 18, 1546. His last words were: "We are beggars. That is the truth."



Thanksgiving Traditions

by Angelina Iverson

Thanksgiving is normally celebrated in The United States and countries near it. It is held on the fourth Thursday in November.

In most houses you will traditionally see a big meal shared with gathered family and sometimes friends. The main dish, in some families' homes, is turkey. Other popular

foods that people eat are ham, pumpkin pie, and a lot of stuffing. People follow this tradition of having a big feast in remembrance of the First Thanksgiving; where the Native Americans and Pilgrims had a big celebration meal to thank God for their survival through harsh conditions and rejoice in all the crops they had grown.

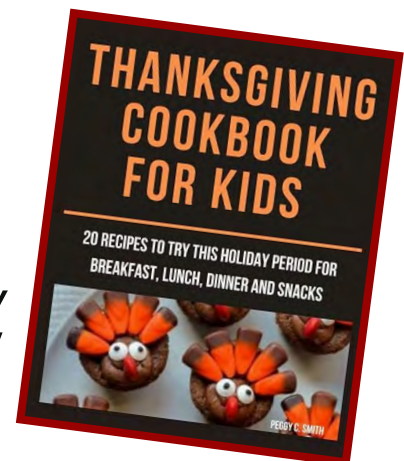
Each year on Thanksgiving, New York City has a Thanksgiving Day Parade where you can see a bunch of different floats. You may also see other festivals and parades being held as a recollection of the joy embodied by that First Thanksgiving.

THANKSGIVING FOOD

by Ava Harrison

There are so many ways you can celebrate thanksgiving but the one way almost everyone celebrates is by holding a feast - with the main food being turkey. Some people also have cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, and other traditional dishes. While most people serve turkey for Thanksgiving, others try duck, chicken, lamb or salmon. Green bean casserole is a popular side dish and pumpkin pie is a favorite dessert. Experiment with a good classic cookbook or try one that encourages cooking with your children.

Try this one...***Thanksgiving Cookbook for Kids: 20 Recipes to try this holiday period for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks*** by Peggy C. Smith



Trinity Lutheran Church Thanksgiving Services

Wednesday, November 22 – 7 p.m. (Central)

in person and online

livestreamed on Facebook @TrinityLombard or trinitylombard.org

Thursday, November 23 – 10 a.m. (Central)

in person

GIVING TUESDAY

#GIVINGTUESDAY by Abigail Pilny

Giving Tuesday (or #GivingTuesday) is a day that offers a charitable and philanthropic response to the modern materialism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday falls on November 28, 2023. It was designated annually as the First Tuesday after Thanksgiving Day and is a day when we are all encouraged to give for good. This is the day that we give an extra gift to support the kingdom ministry. Who will you give to on this #GivingTuesday?

Thanksgiving Craft *by Ariana Mehrazar*

November is finally here! Woo-hoo! Thanksgiving! And with that, we have new crafts for us to do! These crafts are very simple and fun to do. Without further ado, let's get right into it!

Glittery Book Page Fall Leaves

Materials:

- Book Pages
- Leaves Pattern
- Highlighter or Pen
- Mod Podge
- Paint Brush
- Precision Scissors
- Scrap Paper
- Fine Glitter



Instructions:

- First, place the leaf on a piece of book paper and use it to trace the shape. Remove the leaf and use the scissors to cut the traced leaf. Don't worry about trying to cut off all of the pen lines, the glitter will cover it up. Continue this process until all of your book page leaves are traced & cut.
- On your first piece of scrap paper apply the Mod Podge on the edges of the leaf. Then remove the leaf and place it on a different piece of scrap paper and sprinkle on the glitter.
- Once the glue has dried shake off the excess glitter on the scrap paper and funnel it back into the glitter container.
- Repeat on all of the book page leaves.
- Then apply a thicker coat of Mod Podge on top of the glitter edge fall leaves and a second coat of fine glitter.
- Once all of the leaves have a second coat of Mod Podge and glitter, and have dried thoroughly, apply a third and final coat of Mod Podge and let dry.

ADVENT!

by Ariana Mehrazar

Advent is a season in the Church calendar dedicated to the hopeful anticipation for the arrival of Jesus.

The four Sundays of Advent proclaim aspects of our divine nature—hope and faith, peace, love, and joy. The traditional themes of Advent are practiced through meditation, prayer, and affirmation—to contemplate ways to share our deepest gifts.



The four candles in the picture you see here represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice. The white one in the middle represents Christ our Lord. You may wonder, where did the idea of candles come from? Is it an old tradition? Well, kind of. In 1839, Johann Hinrich Wichern, a pastor from Germany, built a wreath out of an old cartwheel to help the children in his mission school count the days until Christmas. He added small candles to be lit every weekday and Saturday during Advent, and on Sundays, a large white candle was lit. This year, Advent is from December 3 to 24. Advent is almost here! If someone asks you about the history of Advent, now you can explain it to them.

Trinity Lutheran Advent and Christmas Services

Wednesday, December 6

- **Church service - 11 a.m. (Central)*** - followed by lunch - IN PERSON
- **Bible Study - 6 p.m. (Central)*** - dinner at 5:30 p.m.- IN PERSON

Wednesday, December 13

- **Church service - 11 a.m. (Central)*** - followed by lunch - IN PERSON
- **Bible Study - 6 p.m. (Central)** - dinner at 5:30 p.m. - IN PERSON

Children's Christmas Service:

Tuesday, December 19 - 6:30 p.m. (Central)*

Christmas Eve Service:

Sunday, December 24 - 9 a.m. (Central), *3 p.m. (Central), Candlelight - 10 p.m. (Central)* - IN PERSON

Christmas Service:

Monday, December 25 - 10 a.m. (Central) - IN PERSON

*livestreamed on Facebook @TrinityLombard or trinitylombard.org

More Thanksgiving Crafts by Ariana Mehrazar

Thankful Hands

Materials:

- Large foam sheet – choose preferred skin tone
- Scissors
- Pen
- "Give Thanks" stickers, or print outs
- A low temperature glue gun and glue sticks (use adults to help)

Instructions:

- Trace hands and wrist with the fingers close together (not spread open)
- Cut out two traced hands and wrists
- Level the wrist section off by cutting a nice straight line
- Glue the finger tips of both hands together
- Add "Give Thanks" stickers or print outs to the outside of each hand
- Place the hands on the table with the base spread



Paper Bag Turkey

Materials:

- Paper Bag
- Googly eyes
- Orange construction paper or cardstock
- Feathers
- Tacky Glue or a low temperature glue gun and glue sticks (use adults to help)

Instructions:

- First, glue the feathers to the back of the paper bag. You want the part that flaps up to be in the front for the face. Keep gluing until you fill the back with feathers. Choose any color combination you'd like. You can even make a pattern with them!
- Glue on 2 googly eyes. Alternately you could draw eyes on white paper and glue that on.
- Cut out a triangle for the beak from orange construction paper or cardstock.
- Glue the beak below the googly eyes.



And that's it folks! I hope you enjoyed these crafts. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Meet Miss Kraegel

by Abigail Pilny

Q: How many years have you worked at Trinity?

A: 25

Q: What school did you graduate from?

A: Concordia Teachers College

Q: Where did you grow up?

A: A town called York Center

Q: What is your favorite sport to watch/play?

A: I like them all, but baseball is my favorite

Q: What other school have you taught/worked at?

A: St. Paul Lutheran in Villa Park

Q: What is your favorite holiday?

A: Thanksgiving

Q: What is your favorite color?

A: Green

Q: Cats or dogs?

A: It is a tie

Q: Morning person or night person?

A: Morning

Q: What is your favorite vacation spot?

A: Bayside, Wisconsin



Meet Mr. Allegretti

by Arian Gomez and Tyler Zita

Q: What do you love about teaching?

A: Interacting with children

Q: What is your favorite sport?

A: Football

Q: What is your favorite color?

A: Blue

Q: What is your favorite subject?

A: Physical Education

Q: When's your birthday?

A: July 26

Q: What sports did you play?

A: Basketball and baseball

Q: What college do you go to?

A: Elmhurst University

Q: What made you want to teach PE?

A: Coaching

Q: What car do you drive?

A: Nissan Altima

Q: What's your favorite pet?

A: Fox

Q: What's your favorite movie?

A: Star Wars

Q: Facebook or Twitter?

A: Instagram

Q: Coffee or tea?

A: Coffee

Q: Morning or night person?

A: Morning

Q: Favorite Bible verse?

A: Proverbs 3:5-6

Q: Favorite holiday?

A: Thanksgiving

Q: What's your favorite TV show?

A: Friday Night Lights

Q: What's your favorite food?

A: Pizza

Q: What subjects do you teach?

A: Curriculum Sports

Q: What is your favorite song?

A: Seven Years by Lukas Graham



"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."
Proverbs 3:5-6

Meet Mrs. Iverson *by Sophia Garcia*

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: *La casa del los espiretus* [The House of the Spirits by Isabel Allende]

Q: What was your favorite subject in school?

A: Chemistry

Q: What's your favorite vacation spot?

A: Mykonos, Greece

Q: Where are you originally from?

A: Piura, Peru

Q: Who is your favorite historical figure?

A: Gran Almirante del Perú Miguel Grau Seminario - he fought against Chile for the independence of Peru

Q: What's your favorite movie?

A: Gladiator

Q: What is your favorite thing to do at Trinity with your students?

A: Help them draw pictures

Q: What is your favorite thing to help with at school?

A: Before care in the morning with the preschoolers



Do You Know O-H-I-O?

by Aidan Harrison

Every November 2 a very special day comes around - National Ohio Day! This day commemorates what is, in my opinion, the BEST state. Ohio Day was put in place to commemorate the day in 1803 that that Ohio became the first state from the Northwest Territory to join the Union. Ohio is located directly east of Indiana which is located directly east of Illinois. Ohio is home to two Major League Baseball teams, two National Football League teams, a National Basketball Association team, a National Hockey League team, two Major League Soccer teams, and houses the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

National Indiana Day

by Ava Harrison

National Indiana Day was November 16, and celebrated the 19th state of the union. The midwestern state is the 38th-largest state by area and it is the 17th-most popular out of the 50 states. The capital and the largest city is Indianapolis. Indiana became parts of the United States on on December 11, 1816. I really would urge you to this beautiful and relaxing place known as the Hoosier State. Known for basketball, farms, and red clay, Indiana was home to former Vice President Mike Pence, the late pop star Michael Jackson, and the legendary Johnny Appleseed. You should definitely visit Indiana, Illinois' neighbor to the east.

NATIONAL LOUISIANA DAY

by Ava Harrison

The Pelican State, or more familiarly, Louisiana, is the 18th state of America and has been celebrated since the time it was declared part of our proud country. Louisiana became part of the United States on April 30, 1812. National Louisiana Day is observed each year on November 9. The state has many interesting features. For example, Louisiana's state bird is the brown pelican. That's where the nickname comes from. Its state flower is the magnolia, a white or pink flower with pointed tips. Louisiana was interesting to learn and I hope you thought so too.

National Jellyfish Day

by Roscoe Barnett and Damian Gomez

Jellyfish are the ultimate life form. National Jellyfish Day was on November 3 to celebrate those beautiful swimming fish that can sting. You're wondering why there is a National Jellyfish day? If you don't know what jellyfish are, they have soft bodies and long, stinging venomous tentacles, which they use to catch fish. There are 215 species of jellyfish. Jellyfish have been around for a long time, probably longer than dinosaurs. While there are different beliefs about the age of the Earth. Some scientists believe that jellyfish originated more than 500 million years ago. In 2007, perfectly preserved jellyfish fossils discovered in Utah were dated as 505-million-years-old. This find was particularly mind-boggling because jellyfish, having no bones to speak of, rarely leave a trace of their existence the way that other animals do. Jellyfish have always boggled minds, particularly with their distinctive structures. Their mostly transparent bodies, wiry tentacles, and lack of bodily organs confounded early scientists so much that they couldn't even classify these guys — back when categories were only plants, animals, and humans. Jellyfish weren't plants but they didn't fit the specified mold of animals either. The world simply dubbed them as 'incomplete' and didn't bother investigating further, at least until the microscope was invented. Many such 'incomplete' organisms didn't neatly fit into any category naturalists created, and they were forced to reexamine their categories and come up with new definitions for each. However, it wasn't until Charles Darwin proposed his theory of evolution in 1859 — "all living things show a variation in physical traits over time as a process of natural selection" — that the jellyfish got some recognition. Then, the German zoologist and naturalist Ernst Haeckel wrote a book, "Generelle Morphologie der Organismen," in 1866, which translated to "General Morphology of Organisms." In it, he illustrated his theory of the evolution of many organisms — jellyfish included — to show how some scientists believe primitive animal forms gradually came to be the versions we all know now. He theorized that jellyfish had split from the rest of the organisms at an earlier date — the reason they look so different from other species. The world began researching the species and has never looked back. In the process, we are also reevaluating the use of 'fish' in the 'jellyfish' name. 'Fish' commonly refers to animals with a backbone and scientists now sometimes call them 'jellies' too. Today, this (somewhat) invasive species has survived and thrived almost all over the world because they need very little oxygen. They can survive in any water, enjoy a broad diet, reproduce very quickly, and shrink when food reserves reduce, only to revive themselves when food is available again.



THE MILKY WAY GALAXY *by Ariana Mehrazar*

Our Solar System is a mystery that only God knows about! Though scientists have figured out some important parts, like our solar system: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, and so on, and the five dwarf planets. Though there is much we've learned, we are not anywhere close to figuring out everything.

In October, my 5th and 6th grade class chose to make presentations about space missions.



The Aquarius Pathfinder mission, the Parker Solar Probe, the Voyager 2 Space Probe, you name it, we had it! I learned about the James Webb Space Telescope, which has high-resolution and high-sensitivity instruments that allow it to view objects too old, distant, or faint for other telescopes. Each of us shared a video or images about our assigned missions.

Our solar system has one star, the Sun. The Sun gives us vitamin D. It helps flowers and anything really, to grow. We have five dwarf planets, though who knows, maybe there are more! There are at least 290 moons. There are more than 1.3 million asteroids, and around 3,900 comets. It is located in an outer spiral arm of the Milky Way Galaxy called the Orion Arm, or Orion Spur. There is much to learn about our solar system and much that is still to be discovered.

All about Axolotls *by Roscoe Barnett and Ava Harrison*

Axolotls are a very interesting species of salamander. They are closely related to the tiger salamander. Axolotls are part of the mole salamander family. Even though axolotls are endangered doesn't mean they aren't cool. There are only about

50-1000 axolotls left in the wild, but before you cry there are about a million in captivity. Although axolotls make great pets, they cannot be put in the same tank with other fish or they will most likely eat them. For example, axolotls are carnivores which means they eat anything from fish and worms to insects and crustaceans. When everyone says axolotl they usually think pink but what is strange is that in the wild axolotls are rarely ever pink or white. Axolotls have many weird things about their body that are different from us and from other animals. An example of this is that axolotls have three-chambered hearts and they have gills, but they also will develop lungs later in their life. They can also regrow lost limbs.

Axolotls are crazy creatures! We find them so interesting and we hope they don't become extinct.



POISON DART FROGS *by Roscoe Barnett and Ava Harrison*

There are a lot of things about poison dart frogs that are different from all other frogs. An example is that poison dart frogs' toxin, or poison, comes from the food they eat or their diet. Poison dart frogs are commonly told apart from other frogs by their color. Poison dart frogs are the brightest colored frogs in the world. They are among the most deadly. A two-inch-long golden poison dart frog has enough poison to kill ten adult men or 20,000 mice. They come in bright beautiful colors like blue, yellow, orange, and red, but don't be fooled and try and touch one of these! The colors are actually a signal to other potential predators that this potential prey is toxic. There is one species of poison dart frog that can spit venom. It is called the Phyllobate poison dart frog. In parts of South America, tribes like the Noanamá Chocó and Emberá Chocó of western Colombia dip the tips of their blowgun darts in the poison found on the skin of three species of Phyllobates. Don't worry, as there are no reports of any deaths caused by these incredible creatures - but one should still be cautious in places like the South American Amazon region.



Trinity's 6th through 8th grade students answered the question "How Are You Inspired by America?"

by Tyler Zita

One thing about America that inspires me is the military strength. Back 247 years ago an army of about 89,000 untrained farmers under the command of General George Washington took on the British army at Yorktown and won. That led to the end of the

Revolutionary War. Now almost two and a half centuries later on a scale where 0.000 is a perfect military the United States has a score of 0.045 while the country in second is Russia with a score of 0.050. The U.S. is one of three global superpowers, the other two are China and Russia. If either of these superpowers tried to wage war on America then they would undoubtedly lose because on April 4, 1949, Washington D.C. created the North Atlantic Treaty Organization or NATO which currently consists of 30 countries. If the U.S. ever went to war they would invoke the 5th article of NATO which provides that if an ally of NATO is the victim of an armed attack every other country in the alliance will consider it an act of war. In conclusion, if the U.S. ever enters another war not only the United States will enter but also the most powerful countries on Earth.



by Aidan Harrison

How are you inspired by America? This is a question with thousands of possible answers but I will be telling you all the different reasons why I am inspired by America. One reason I'm inspired by our country is due to the events of 9/11.

After the first plane struck the tower people didn't start shoving through everyone they started helping each other. People who weren't even in the tower started helping each other. That is why September 11, 2001, is sometimes referred to as the day America came together. Because everyone joined together as a nation and assisted. Another reason I'm inspired by

America is because of American movie production. America

probably has the best movies which could be a result of the biggest movie production industry known as Hollywood or it could be because of all the great actors from America. Another reason I am inspired by America is because of America's government. America's government was formed in 1787 and has been in place for 236 years roughly and still works to this day. Even though the American government is so complex, it still keeps its purposes clearly stated. The purpose of the Constitution is to state what the government can and cannot do and it does exactly that. Another reason for being inspired by America has to do with the American Space Program. America launches the most space shuttles by far, having launching 377 shuttles in only about 30 years. We also have the most advanced technology for space travel. We have sent rovers to Mars! My final reason for being inspired by America is because out of all the good things about America my favorite is the people. America is a place with so many races and ethnicities. America is a place where anyone can make a difference, because America is a place where dreams come true.

by Roscoe Barnett

There are a lot of reasons why I am inspired by America. I am inspired because there are a lot of cool statues, famous places, many cool resources, and a bunch of different things. There are monuments like the Statue of Liberty, the Statue of Lenin, Christ of the Ozarks, and the Atlas. There are famous places such as the Gateway Arch, Yellowstone National Park, Niagara Falls, Times Square, Navy Pier, and the Golden Gate Bridge. There are many natural resources, including coal, metal, gold, diamond, oil, and emerald.

There are 50 states to visit: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Alaska, and Hawaii.

There are a lot of people and plenty of tourists in the USA. All of the different ethnicities and nationalities that come to America make our culture both diverse and unique. There are many different businesses, stores, and restaurants in America. Our country is called the land of the free and the home of the brave. This is a happy nation in which people can make their life choices. There are plenty of sports played around the USA, including soccer, basketball, baseball, tennis, volleyball, golf, hockey, softball, wrestling, and football.

An abundance of wildlife includes ducks, otters, bears, dogs, wolves, foxes, birds, fish, sharks, snakes, camels, horses, chickens, cats, worms, hamsters, crabs, oysters, clams, squirrels, chipmunks, bald eagles, bison, coyotes, raccoons, polar bears, and alligators.

That is why I am inspired by America. I hope you are inspired too, so best wishes on finding "your thing."



by Sophia Garcia

America is a country that many people are familiar with. It also happens to be an extremely amazing place. There are many distinct languages, religions, and cultures. America inspires me because of its history. The fact that around one hundred pilgrims came to this country in search of religious freedom inspires me a lot. They colonized the land that years later became America. Despite the hot summers and extremely cold winters those pilgrims experienced, they still wanted to stay. Whatever went on, they persevered in battling the elements and the unknown with amazing resilience.

"How Are You Inspired by America?"

America's colonies got started with the Articles of Confederation, which were initially created because there were only 13 states with no government and no one to serve as their head of state. The Articles of Confederation eventually made way for what became the United States Constitution with its 27 amendments and the Bill of Rights. The first President of the United States was soon afterwards decided upon: George Washington. He was also the head of the military during the American Revolution. The President helped the United States create a very effective government.

Almost a century later, slavery was eliminated in all of the states. The right to vote was also extended to women later, in the 1920s. The United States is now almost populated by over 331.9 million people. And we have fifty states that cover almost all of the North American continent. The United States also has some territories like Guam, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

That is how I am inspired by America, because the country started as a result of about 100 pilgrims escaping Great Britain for religious freedom. Now, the United States is one of the largest countries in the world and one of the most powerful, military-wise. So as you can see, America has come a long way, starting with just a handful of religious freedom seekers. That is how America inspires me.

by Damian Gomez

Americans are inspired to do great things by the people around them. They are greatly inspired by others, whether it be their fellow citizens, organizations, or the government itself.

A great way to support this comes from our nation's history. In World War 2, the government put out a large propaganda campaign. Americans, for once in a long time felt inspired, that they could make a difference, that they could help their country fight for something that mattered. They felt it their moral obligation. Everything was supporting the war effort, saying you should sign up for the military, or you should be saving supplies for the troops. The extreme amount of nationalism inspired Americans to support what they believed was a very noble cause. Before the war and all the propaganda, the nation was in an economic slump, and nothing great was happening. Once the propaganda started, production increased tenfold. Millions of Americans went to war, conserved supplies for the soldiers, and worked in factories making weapons for the military. It was a very inspiring time in the nation's history and helped us do a lot of great things.

But we have also had a lot of not-so-great things. The recent shootings in schools all over the country are very saddening, and many of the kids who had to experience these events are fed up with this country and its gun laws. As such, they have started protesting against the government for stricter gun control. Many people, young and old, from all across the country were inspired by these brave individuals, their ability to stay strong even in a time of crisis and have joined their movement in the protest to keep people safe. They feel like they are important, that they can make a difference in the government. These Americans have done great things and may actually be able reform the government as a whole.



by Francesco Lamphere

I am inspired by America because we are a free nation and we fought for it. We lost many in the fight for freedom, so now that we are free, we should remember the brave who fought for us in the American Revolution. We fought many wars that included the American Revolution, War of 1812, Mexican American War, Civil War, Spanish American War, WW I, WW II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and many wars in the Middle East. Our country was shaped by the soldiers that fought for us, so we must remember them. We have a democracy, so we elect a President, and we are the strongest country in the world. We've never lost a war, though some say that the Vietnam War was lost, but in reality we abandoned it.

Our economy is great, we have the top weapons and intelligence, and we have great alliances like NATO (National Atlantic Treaty Organization). That's a group that sticks together, so for example, if Russia attacks someone in NATO we all fight them.

We have many great people like Martin Luther King Jr, Dr. Seuss, Albert Einstein, Bob Ross, Tom Brady, and Audie Murphy. We have great sports like baseball, football, lacrosse, soccer, bowling, golf, and hockey. We have three different parties in politics lately, Conservative: Donald Trump, Liberal: Joe Biden, and Libertarian: Rand Paul. We have a great education system and most of our teachers are good. A lot of Christianity is around the country so we can grow in faith and spread the Word of GOD to the people. That really inspires me, but what inspires me the most is that we can do whatever we want in work.

We are not like the Soviet Union...we are the USA - a free country. We are grateful God blessed us with this great country and freedom. America is a very inspiring country, and many want to be here from all around the world.

by Addison Meredith

America has a lot of freedoms, but we did not always have these freedoms. People in the military had to fight for everything we have today, not to mention that in other parts of the world they might treat people differently for just being who they are which is not good, but here we can be whoever we want. Sure, some people think, "Oh you are so weird or gross, go change the way you are," but here you can just say nope. America was not always like this though. Great things take time but we eventually earned the freedoms we have today. Many people had to fight for this. People in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and all military helped with that, and we could not thank them enough for all who fought and some even lost their lives for me, my class, you, and everyone who lives in America. The people who died were not nobodies - they could have been a dad or mom, a child even, at just 20 years old. But they risked it all for us, so we would live without having to be told what job we should have or what house we should buy.

We can choose. We can vote, **EVEN WOMEN**, and we can live and be who we want to be. By now you will have caught on to my theme. This all happened because of the absolutely great people who fought for us. They could have died, gotten paralyzed, seriously injured and suffered in many other ways.

The point of this is, don't take what you have for granted because it could all slip away so quickly, your freedoms, your friends, your family could all go away someday, but for now you have them. For now (and hopefully forever) you have freedom, and that is why America inspires me. You can live and make your own decisions and be free and it is all thanks to the people who risked their lives for you and me. America inspires me because if a whole country can be free then I can be too. No one can tell me that I cannot be myself. I can just be free.



"How Are You Inspired by America?"

by Ariana Mehrazar

The land full of beauty and opportunities is called America. America has freedom that most places do not have, which includes freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly, the right to keep and bear arms, and the right to petition the government. These six freedoms make America the freest place in the world. It is a very nice place to live: from Chicago's skyscrapers to New York's Statue of Liberty, California's Hollywood, Florida's Walt Disney World, and Washington, DC's NASA Headquarters. From its mountains to its national parks, America is a beautiful place to live. The beauty shines in places like the Grand Canyon, Yosemite National Park, Yellowstone National Park, Death Valley, and Everglades National Park. These are only some of the few of the National Parks, and the list goes on and on.

In America, we are able to express our views aloud, or through published articles, books, newsletters, artworks, and/or leaflets. Some other countries do not even have freedom of speech! The First Amendment states that, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." According to the United State Supreme Court, "The freedom of the press, protected by the First Amendment, is critical to a democracy in which the government is accountable to the people. A free media functions as a watchdog that can investigate and report on government wrongdoing." In freedom of assembly, The First Amendment prohibits the government from shortening, "The right of the people peaceably to assemble." This basic freedom verifies that the spirit of the First Amendment thrives even when the majority of citizens would rather overpower expression it finds offensive. The Second Amendment of the United States Constitution reads: "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." One of the five freedoms the First Amendment guarantees is the right of the people to petition the government for change. The right to petition protects our right to ask the government to fix a wrong or change a policy.

"America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand." - President Harry S. Truman

by Ava Harrison

There are so many ways America can and does inspire me and the people around me. Usually, it depends on your interests or what you like. Say that I like movies and want to be an actor one day. America could encourage me because America has great movies and television shows and is famous for them.

One thing that inspires me is America's motivating and influential history. The way some of the most famous American leaders led through the most difficult times urge me to do all I can and never give up. Almost every American leader has done wonders for our country and to other countries in need.

I am fascinated by bugs and America has some of the best etymologists out there and that causes me to try my hardest so I can do all I can for this amazing country.

One person who inspires me greatly is John Hancock, who was the first person to sign the Declaration of Independence and another is Thomas Jefferson who wrote the Declaration of Independence. One great leader who fought through one of America's most difficult times is Abraham Lincoln. The Civil War was declared in 1861 and The North won the war in 1865. As President, Lincoln was in authority for throughout the war.

My point is that there are so many brave and inspiring people in America and all around the world, so don't take people for granted because one day maybe they will serve this country and help us. One of my favorite people in history is Martin Luther King Jr. because he helped us so much to fight for the equality of America and he did so much for the people who were treated extremely unfairly. His speech "I Have a Dream" was so inspirational.

America is one of the best countries and I think it is so inspiring and amazing.



by Angelina Iverson

"How Are You Inspired by America?"

America is a huge country with a long story to go with it. With all of the freedom we have in this country, it had to be fought to get. What inspires me a lot is how the soldiers fought for our rights and what they knew was right for our new country. Through many losses and long battles, they still fought for our rights. Over time America has shaped for the good and the bad. One good thing is that America still uses the Constitution and follows its rules. The Constitution was made for people to follow forever, and Americans have certain rights that they do

have to protect themselves from the government.

Another reason why America inspires me a lot is because of the freedoms we have. We have many freedoms that other countries don't have. Like freedom of speech. We can write what we want and voice our opinions without needing to worry about interference. An additional freedom we have is freedom of religion. We can have our own religion or no religion at all, and nobody will judge us. We can achieve many situations and matters here in America. People here do not get knocked down or treated differently because of race or different religions. In this present-day America there is equality.

Another thing that inspires me is the culture in America. In the United States not everyone has the same cultures or celebrates the same holidays. The many cultures here show the diversity of heritage and the widespread ethnicities in the United States.

One last thing that inspires me is the landscape. Over the hundreds of years that people have come here, Americans have left the landforms alone. They have let the Earth run its course through nature.

America can inspire you and other people in many ways. The USA promises multiple possibilities for people to excel and have new ways of life.



What Is a Koala Bear? by Ava Harrison

Koala bears, better known as koalas, are fascinating. How so? One example is that they have a strange diet consisting of poisonous leaves or that they share more features with a kangaroo than an actual bear. A koala is not a bear! Well if it's not a bear then what is a koala? I have one answer for you, It is a marsupial. Now what is a marsupial? A marsupial is any member of the mammalian infraclass Marsupialia. All extant marsupials are endemic to Australasia, Wallacea, and the Americas. A distinctive characteristic common to most of these species is that the young are carried in a pouch. Animals such as kangaroos, koalas, Tasmanian devils, and wombats are all in the marsupial family.



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