



TCNS Notes



Celebrating 50 Years of Service

In 1959, a group of parents started Trumansburg Community Nursery School to offer their children a preschool experience. Over the years, TCNS has grown into a thriving parent cooperative program serving over thirty families annually. Our focus on parent involvement helps the children connect with their peers and their parents, and provides opportunities for parents to connect with one another. Parents work in the classroom monthly, organize fundraising events and enjoy time together at monthly meetings, and biannual family gatherings. Many of our families enter TCNS as

strangers and leave with close bonds.

In honor of our 50 years of service, we created a display in the library to celebrate the Week of the Young Child, distributed magnets, and designed a new school banner. TCNS children past and present participated in the annual Trumansburg Fireman's Day Parade.

TCNS extends a thank you to all of our families, past and present, as we celebrate 50 years of success and look toward a bright future!

- Sarah Brainard

TCNS Hires New Teacher!



My name is Jackie Puleo, and I love teaching at TCNS! I have an associates degree in Early childhood education and taught preschool in California and New Jersey. As a stay at home mom with my own children I also cared for the children of many others in my home over the past 16 years.

I moved here in June 2001 with my husband, Vince, and our 4 children, Jake, Maya, Toby and Lucas. I have been very active in everything my children do: soccer, swim team, theater, baseball, just to name a few! I was President of Trumansburg Elementary PTO for many years and very involved in my children's schools both in Trumansburg and New Jersey.

I believe "our greatest natural resource is the minds of our children." (*Walter Elias Disney*) I am looking forward to many exciting years at TCNS.



TCNS Looks Ahead

Even as we celebrate our accomplishments of the last 50 years, TCNS continues to look toward the future. The program has been through many changes since its inception in 1959. In the past few years, we have experimented with a number of program variations, from offering a five-day preschool schedule option to an after school program for Kindergarten. Some changes have been more successful than others, and we expect that TCNS will continue to grow to meet the changing needs of our community.

We are exploring many possibilities for the future of TCNS. A few options we're looking at include:

- Expanding our program and schedule at our current location
- Collaboration with the Trumansburg school district
- Collaboration with other non-profit groups to establish a building on our Camp Street lot

Our preschool program strives to meet the highest standards through continued teacher education, expanded planning time, new equipment, and continuous curriculum review. These continuing efforts help TCNS maintain the strong reputation that keeps our program in demand year after year. With the input and assistance of TCNS families, volunteers and the community, TCNS will enjoy another 50 years meeting the needs of young children and their families.

-Deb Austic

Scholarship Winner

Eric Irish



I remember my times at TCNS as my first taste of independence. Leaving the confines of my home, nursery school was a great place to make friends for the first time and experience the larger world. Activities such as "circle time" with Carol let us share our thoughts with others, and hear from them as

well. I've always been an

independent thinker; and Carol was very accepting of my aversion to "art time". My buddy Hank and I thought it was infinitely more entertaining to imagine sailing on the Atlantic in a boat made of wooden blocks. I had the opportunity to stay with Carol into the afternoon in "extended care" where I relished the smaller group atmosphere and personal exploration.

As I continued through Trumansburg Central Schools, I was involved in sports: Soccer, Tennis, and Track; Music: Vocal Jazz, Band; and Drama Club. I even overcame my aversion to art and now have a strong love for photography. It has led me to develop a creative side that I didn't realize existed. I am proud of my accomplishments in this area: as well as selling many of my photos; one of my works was exhibited in the State of the Art Gallery this spring. Unlike my newly found love of photography, I've always had a strong affinity for all things computers.

Next year I will be pursuing my education at Rochester Institute of Technology majoring in Information Science and Technology, where I will combine these two passions in my continuing education.

-Eric Irish



Event Donors

Thank you to all the businesses and individuals who helped make our Fun with Santa and Big Fun events possible. We could not run these events without your generous donations. We also extend a special thank-you to Dick Durling & David Redmond for playing Santa at Fun with Santa.



- Acorn Designs
- Alphabet Soup
- Americana Winery
- Blue Hair Knits
- Bookery II
- Bruce Austic
- Casella
- Cayuga Lake Creamery
- Cayuga Nature Center
- Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- Cornell Orchards
- Cornell Theater
- Cost Cutters
- Discovery Toys
- Ehrhart Propane & Gas
- Gail Zabawsky
- Gimme Coffee
- Glenwood Pines
- Greek Peak
- Green Star
- Hangar Theater
- Hazelnut Kitchen
- Heather Tielens
- Heads Up
- Holiday Inn
- Home & Garden Party
- Home Depot
- Island Fitness
- Ithaca Agway
- Ithaca Bakery
- Juniper Hill B & B
- Kinney Drugs
- Kyushu
- Ladies Workout Express
- Life's So Sweet
- Mama Goose
- Mary Kay Cosmetics
- Millspaugh Brothers, Inc.
- Moe's Southwest Grill
- Northside Wine
- NY Pizzeria
- NYSEG
- P&S Excavating
- Palmer Pharmacy
- Pampered Chef
- Papa John's Pizza
- PRI/Museum of the Earth
- Rasa Spa
- Red Feet Wine
- Rent-A-Flick
- Rogan's Corner
- Rongo
- Roundabout Designs
- Sciencenter
- Shelly Covert Hair Salon
- State Theater
- Sweetland Farm
- Sundrees
- T-Burg Toys
- Taughannock Farms Inn
- Tburg Ambulance
- Tburg Police
- Tburg Rotary
- Tburg School District bus garage
- Tburg Telephone
- The Hangar Theater
- The Rongovian Embassy
- The Thirsty Owl Wine Company
- Tompkins Co. Sheriff & K9 unit
- Town of Ulysses
- Trumansburg ShurSave
- Tupperware
- Vine Garden Designs
- Wegmans



We Belong

Cooperative Model Encourages Belonging

The mission of Trumansburg Community Nursery School is to provide an environment to nurture the emotional, social, cognitive, and physical development of young children.

Humans have a need to feel valued, important and protected by others; to feel comfortable and welcomed within a group. Within Native American culture it is considered the job of all adults, not just the parents, to teach the younger generation and create a sense of community. Dr. Martin Brokenleg describes the basic needs of children as Belonging, Mastery, Independence and Generosity. Belonging is the most basic need of all, for children and adults alike.

And, because TCNS is a parent cooperative, the parents build friendships with one another and find a place that they can belong, too.

TCNS strives to create a caring community where children feel that they belong. TCNS teachers create an inclusive environment where differences are accepted and appreciated. Circle time, small group activities and celebrations of different cultures all promote feelings of belonging. Teachers and parents see TCNS participants building friendships that often last throughout their

school years...and beyond!

When we interview alumni about their time at TCNS, they always mention the friendships they built here.

And, because TCNS is a parent cooperative, parents build friendships with one another too. Parents say that they value the friendship and support of fellow TCNS parents. The circle of belonging increases as the children connect with all the "parent helpers" and feel that they all care about them.

Psychotherapist Dr. William Glasser identifies basic needs of all human beings and the first is Belonging. Research tells us that a sense of belonging is essential to developing a child's growth, maturity and exercise of responsible freedom. When alienation and isolation replace belonging, children are at risk for destructive and self-destructive behaviors, including substance abuse, eating disorders and gang involvement.

I expect that all of us...TCNS alumni, parents of alumni and teachers can recall friendships that started or grew through our TCNS involvement. TCNS has been fostering belonging for children and families for 50 years! future!

- Linda Schoffel



Friends

by Maura & Evelyn

Friends are nice to each other
We have friends at school and
at kindergarten

We notice their faces if
they're happy

You hug them when
they're sad

We go to our friends' houses
in our car

I like to just play and play
with my friends

We do puzzles and play
candyland

I like to draw a rainbow in the
sky with my friends

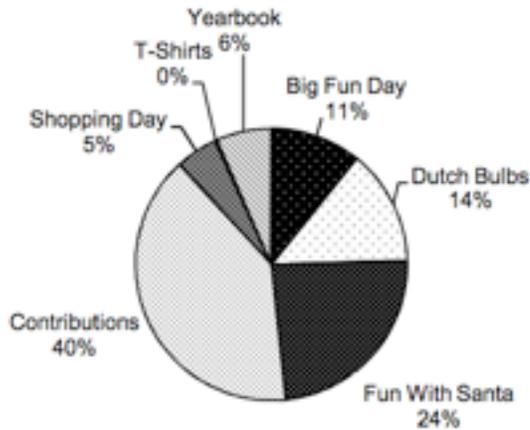
We swing on the
playground together

I like to pick flowers
with my friend

It's good to have lots of
friends

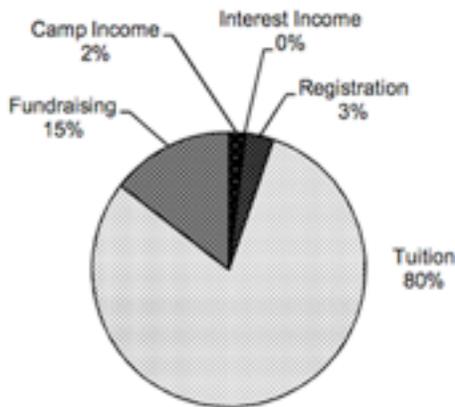


Sept 08-Aug 11, 09 Fundraising



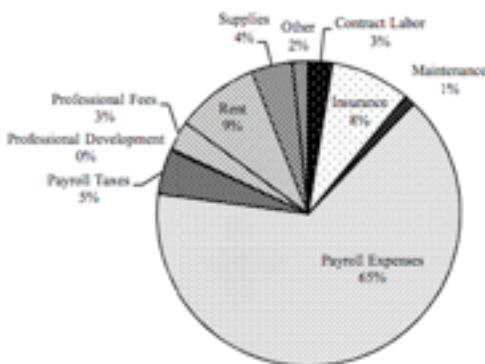
Fundraising	Sept 08-Aug 11, 09
Big Fun Day	837.48
Dutch Bulbs	1,063.62
Fun With Santa	1,840.41
Contributions	3,081.07
Shopping Day	388.11
T-Shirts	19.00
Yearbook	510.00
Total	7739.69

Sept 08-Aug 11, 09 Income



Income	Sept 08-Aug 11, 09
Camp Income	950.00
Interest Income	101.01
Registration	1,800.00
Tuition	42,882.00
Fundraising	7,739.69
Total Income	53,272.70

Sept 08-Aug 11, 09 Expenses



Expense	Sept 08-Aug 11, 09
Contract Labor	\$ 1,080.00
Insurance	\$ 3,501.53
Maintenance	\$ 472.50
Payroll Expenses	\$ 26,845.13
Payroll Taxes	\$ 1,943.48
Professional Develop	\$ 95.00
Professional Fees	\$ 1,275.00
Rent	\$ 3,650.00
Supplies	\$ 1,811.40
Other	\$ 683.49
Total Expenses	\$ 41,357.53

TCNS Supporters

March 2008 - June 2009

We thank the individuals, & groups for donations. Your donations help us continue to offer quality Nursery School programming, provide children with Scholarships, and keep our dream for the Trumansburg Children's Center moving forward. As you contemplate your 2009 charitable gifts, please consider a tax deductible donation to T.C.N.S.

- Deb Austic and Ron Loz
- Patricia & Richard Austic
- Ray & Diana Bradham
- Tree Cook
- Amy & Scott Dawson
- John Delaney
- Ann DiPetta
- Carol Grove
- Scott Hurlbut
- Carolyn Lange
- Scott & Sandy Mulford
- Carol & Joe Muraca
- Gail Murphy
- Carol & Keith Northrup
- Jay & Karen Ohlsten
- Ann Pavia
- Scott & Sue Peters
- Marty Petrovic
- Mary & Jim Proctor
- Dana and Roxanne Smith
- Chuck & Sally Sumner
- TCSD Foundation
- United Methodist Women
- Kurt Jordan & Jeannie Vallely



T.C.N.S PARENT COMMITTEE

We have a Parent Committee to help with projects, represent parents and organize special events. It is currently co-chaired by **Sue Peters** and **Kasey Simpson**, both who have had children in the nursery school for three years. The Committee meets eight times during the school year to discuss upcoming events with the Director. All families are encouraged to attend.

In prior years, parents were required to work 10 hours for the nursery school and volunteer monthly in the classroom. **This year, we changed the requirements to better suit the needs of our families.** Parents still helped in the classroom once a month, but the **10 hour commitment was changed to a job based system.** Families picked jobs that suited their style and type of time they had available. Some examples include; fundraising coordinator, lawn mower, workshop planner, sunshine person, Scholastic book order organizer, public relations, cleaning bee organizers, project preparers, and many others. There were many jobs that could be done in the evenings and weekends to meet the needs of working families. This way

everyone could still take part in helping the nursery school, but in a flexible fashion. Sue and Kasey have really enjoyed working with the parents and teachers of the nursery school and look forward to another great year at TCNS.

-Sue Peters



FAMILY FUN

Every year we strive to include opportunities for families to interact outside of the traditional nursery school day. This year we enjoyed many well attended activities including a Family picnic at Taughannock Park in September, Special Person's night in February, Kindergarten Readiness Presentation with Elementary Principal Jeannie Wiggins and Sibling Night in May, and a dessert social at the Elementary School playground in June. Our year culminated with our Graduation ceremony for children attending Kindergarten in the fall.

FIELD TRIPS

The kids at T.C.N.S enjoyed a number of fantastic field trips. We also organized many events for families outside of the traditional nursery school day. We'd like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to present, or their business to host us. The kids really look forward to these wonderful experiences.

Our trips this year include: Fall hike to Taughannock ☀ Ulysses library Halloween story hour ☀ Juniper Halloween parade ☀ Spring hike to Taughannock ☀ Hazelnut Kitchen ☀ Ulysses Library tour & story with librarian Molly Foust ☀ P&S Excavating ☀ Music presentation by Jason & Rich Koski ☀ Trumansburg Family Dentistry ☀ Walk to Juniper for reading & snack ☀ Tour of Elementary School & bus ride for Kindergarteners to be ☀ Trumansburg Fire Station





Alumni Interview

Kim, Keegan and Kai Moore



What is your favorite memory from TCNS?

Kim: The sensory table! That table sticks in my memory from my time at TCNS over 30 years ago! For me, I also love the idea that we've become generational TCNS alumni. I can look at pictures of my kids' time at TCNS knowing that we've all shared the same experience. I'm sure as a child I loved being there, but as a mother, I appreciate the value for my children. Both Keegan and Kai headed off to their first day of school with big smiles (no tears! well, except for mine:) and I feel that TCNS played a huge role in that transition to school.

Keegan: Playing games.

Kai: Playing in the water and flour table (like mother, like daughter, eh?)

Do you still have any friends from TCNS?

Kim: Yes. Ironically, my closest friend from TCNS moved away during our Elementary years. We reconnected when she moved back to the area about 10 years ago, and now our daughters attend dance class together.

Keegan: Yup. Mostly Harrison and Dalton.

Kai: Miranda, and Ryan, Orion, Ginny, Paul, Kaden, Rae (who moved to Ithaca Schools, but we still see each other at dance!)... Uhhhm, I think

pretty much all my friends from Nursery School are still my friends.

What activities are you involved with?

Kim: Does driving the kids to THEIR activities count?

Keegan: I do Tae Kwon Do and soccer.

Kai: I do ballet... and tap and jazz... and Hip Hop.

Parent & Teacher Reflections

"The biggest factor for school success is parent involvement. TCNS parents have been nurtured and taught how to help their children succeed in school as they proceed on their educational journey."

"TCNS was a great place to meet and connect with other families. Our kids are now ages 11 and 8 and we are still good friends with several of the families we met through TCNS."

"The teachers are truly concerned with the welfare not only of my child, but of our entire family."

"The program is great! There's a lot of variety and it's constantly improving and adding new ideas. "

"I remember bringing my son here for nursery school. Now I'm picking up my grandson."

"I absolutely love TCNS and would tell people to drive an hour one way to drop off a child there for school! It is a great place!"



From our Director

I'm so proud to be a part of TCNS as we celebrate 50 years. The welcoming atmosphere embraced our family, fostered friendships with families which are still strong today, and gave us the chance to be involved in our children's education and community. I've had the chance to know and work with many wonderful people, sharing common struggles and ideas in our efforts to support TCNS and our children.

Since 1959, parents, teachers, and community volunteers have worked together to build a program that supports and educates children and builds community. I'm grateful to the forward thinking parents who began the program and all who

have provided guidance over the years. From classroom time to fundraisers, business supporters, and volunteer board members, in classroom presentations or through field trips - we're fortunate to have had many talented people over the years. This is a perfect moment to thank all of those who have worked so hard to make TCNS the successful program we have today. We can all be proud of the program we've created together, a cooperative effort in which our young children come to understand that we're all vested in their well-being. TCNS encompasses the best character of community and shows that the whole truly is greater than the sum of the parts. *-Deb Austic*

Board of Trustees

Amy Dawson, President
Sarah Brainard, Secretary
Scott Andrew, Treasurer
Sue Lason
Kim Moore
Scott Mulford
Mary Proctor
Linda Schoffel

Parent Committee Chairs

Kasey Simpson, Sue Peters

Director: Deb Austic

Website: Scott Dawson

Trumansburg Community Nursery School
Main Street, P.O. Box 18
Trumansburg, NY 14886
(607) 387-5235

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 780
Ithaca, NY

About TCNS

**For more information about
our program please visit us on
the web.**

<http://www.tcns.info>