

ST. SERRA TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

February 26, 2023

Mr. Brian Allison



Want to know a cool fact about Mr. Brian Allison, one of our Fourth Grade Teachers at St. Serra? He was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area and attended high school with NFL quarterback, Tom Brady. He also loves going out to eat at exciting restaurants and considers himself a "foodie."

At St. Serra, Mr. Allison finds fulfillment teaching fourth grade. He says, "I really enjoy fourth grade

because I get to start preparing the students for middle school. I enjoy working with all the fourth graders since we rotate classes throughout the day."

Mr. Allison feels fortunate to have attended private Catholic schools all his life, including in college. He attributes his deep faith to his Catholic education and upbringing. Before he came to St. Serra, he worked in both the Cypress Unified School District and the Capistrano Unified School District, where he taught multiple elementary grade levels. He feels this experience provided him with the ability to work with students of varying ages and abilities. He draws upon his strong Catholic faith to impart wisdom and life experience to his students, saying "I feel that...my experiences throughout my life have been great examples to my students...[the students] are building a stronger relationship with God as they develop their faith."

February has proven a busy month for this husband, father of three, and active parishioner of Holy Trinity Catholic Church. His youngest son, Beau, turned two at the beginning of the month, which was followed by the celebration of 17 years of marriage with his wife, Selena. They have two older sons as well; Brian, 12, is in seventh grade at Ladera Ranch Middle School, and Brayden, 9, is in third grade at Oso Grande Elementary. He and Selena met in college, and once they were married, they moved to Orange County. They love traveling! Favorite family vacation spots include Lake Arrowhead and Palm Springs.

Currently in fourth grade, they are preparing to read their second novel of the year in ELA. Students will get to learn more about California history and the Gold Rush in the book, *By The Great Horn Spoon*, a novel by Sid Fleischman. Mr. Allison always looks forward to reading this book with his class every year, saying, "We get to engage in meaningful discussions, complete fun activities, and conclude the novel with creating a scrapbook project."