



The Treatonian

Robert Treat Academy
Charter School

Volume 17, Issue 7
February 2015



Our Principal's Message



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is my pleasure to inform you that Robert Treat Academy has once again been named a "Reward School" (high performing) based on the 2013-2014 New Jersey School Performance Report.

The Performance Report sets three Performance Area Targets for schools to meet: Academic Achievement, College and Career Readiness and Student Growth.

Our performance in each category is as follows:

<u>PERFORMANCE AREA</u>	<u>PERCENT OF TARGET MET</u>
Academic Achievement	100%
College & Career Readiness	100%
Student Growth	100%



Most significant, the Academy performed in the 98th Percentile in Academic Achievement. This means our students scored better than 98% of all third through eighth grade New Jersey students on the NJ ASK. If you would like to review the entire report, you can access it online at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/pr/1314/80/807730970.pdf>.

This information was presented at the Annual State of the School Parent Council Meeting in January. As your attendance at that meeting was only 60%, I felt it was important to disseminate this information again.

This outstanding achievement is directly attributed to students, staff and a fair percentage of parents living up to their obligations.

Along with the good news I must express to you my concern regarding parents not taking an active role in their child's education. While it bothers me, I may be able to overlook poor Parent Council Meeting attendance.

(continued on page 4)

Stephen N. Adubato Students of the Month for January, 2015!!

Amari Charles	104	Luz Lopez Marcano	207	Yasline Francisco	308
Eric Showers	107	Izabelle Herrera	208	Katherine Carchipulla	310
Jason Rosado	201	Mariah Lopez	210	Zaida Lagarez	Art
Kellani Laidley	202	Luis Familia	301	Miavalentina Guerrero	Music
Antonella Ortega	203	Kai Kennedy	302	Joseph Rodriguez	Phy.Ed.
Devin Narvaez	204	Makayla Amador	303	Devin Narvaez	Science 6-8
Rafael Cruz	205	Josue Baez	304	Michael Shipman	Science 3-5
Tristan Jones	206	Patrick Penafiel	306		



Jackie Robinson Campus Students of the Month for January, 2015!!

Myles Brownridge	12	Kennedy Robinson	22	Laila Dailey	Music
Lucas DeLana	13	Nyla Gilliam	23	Tahiyah Williams	P. E.
Ashley Martins	14	Liana Zempare	27	Elisania Lugo-Peralta	Science 3-5
Chelsea Gonzaga-Torres	15	Carlos Martinez	Art	Kennedy Robinson	Science 6



dreamstime.com

Assessment Schedule



PARCC has two assessments and two testing windows. With the exception of illness, it is imperative children be in school during testing. This is a tentative schedule and is subject to change;

Performance Based Assessment: March 2nd-March 27th 2015

Week of March 2nd: grades 7th and 8th
Week of March 9th: grades 5th and 6th
Week of March 16th: grades 3rd and 4th
Week of March 23rd: Make-ups

End of Year Assessment: April 27th-May 22nd 2015

Week of April 27th: grades 7th and 8th
Week of May 4th: grades 5th and 6th
Week of May 11th: grades 3rd and 4th
Week of May 18th: Make-ups

Science

Week of May 27th: grades 4th and 8th (Science is assessed with the NJ -ASK.
There is no PARCC assessment at this time)

(continued from page 1)

What I will not tolerate are parents who are falling short on their obligations to their children and the Academy, i.e., parents who are not checking to ensure homework is being completed; parents in the lower grades not ensuring math facts and word lists are memorized; middle school parents who are not responsive to teacher communications.

As I tell the students when I am addressing issues in a particular classroom, if it doesn't pertain to you, disregard what I am saying. My target audience is those parents who feel "when our children are at school they are your problem". This sentiment is not part of the culture of the Academy nor is it in the best interest of your children.

Our students and staff work very hard and are living up to their obligations. It is time for certain parents to step up to the plate and start doing their part.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Theresa Adubato'.

Theresa Adubato, Principal

Halo Award

Juan Miranda received this month's Halo Award for coming to the defense of one of his peers!



Proven Ideas for Parents

Submitted by the Third Grade Team, Stephen N. Adubato Campus
Copied from www.rif.org (Reading is Fundamental)

During this time of the year students are challenged with taking responsibility for themselves and their actions, being organized, using time wisely and becoming independent thinkers. We have compiled a list of suggestions that parents and caregivers can use to help their third grader succeed with these obstacles.

Proven Ideas Parents Can Use to Help Their Children Do Better in School

Making Time Count

1. Put specific times on your calendar each week when you will spend time with your children. During that time, focus your love and attention on your child.
2. Use car time to talk with your children. There's no phone or television to interfere. No one can get up and leave. And kids know they really have your ear.
3. Plan to eat at least one meal together as a family each day.
4. Look for things to do together as a family. Get everyone involved in choosing how to spend your time together.
5. Try giving children television tickets. Each week, each child gets 20 tickets. Each ticket can be used for 30 minutes of TV time. Any tickets remaining at the end of the week can be cashed in for 25 cents each. Parents can still veto a certain program, of course.

Reading to Your Child

6. Try relaxing your family's bedtime rules once a week on the weekends. Let your children know that they can stay up as late as they want, as long as they are reading in bed.
7. Help your child start a home library; paperback books are fine. Encourage your child to swap books with friends. Check used book stores. Give books as gifts.
8. Want your children to be good readers? Let them see you read.
9. Try holding D-E-A-R times at your house. "DEAR" stands for "Drop Everything and Read." During DEAR time, everyone in the family sits down for some uninterrupted reading time.
10. With young children, try reading to them during bath time.
11. Use the "Rule of Thumb" to see if a book is on your children's reading level: Have them read a page of the book aloud. Have them hold up one finger for each word they don't know. If they hold up four fingers and a thumb before the end of the page, the book is probably too hard for them to read alone. But it might be a great book to read aloud.

100th Day of School

Submitted by the Kindergarten Team at Stephen N. Adubato Campus

The kindergarten students are 100 days smarter! We celebrated the 100th day of school on Friday, January 23, 2015. The celebration started with wearing shirts the students made at home, decorated with 100 items. Students participated in centers involving counting to 100! They made groups from 100 snack pieces, built structures with 100 cups, flipped a coin 100 times, rolled a die 100 times and the fun did not stop there! Each student brought in 100 pennies. As a team, the students decided to donate those pennies to help others. The donation this year is going to the Robert Treat Student Council! The students counted and collected \$40.00. What a GREAT day!



LEFT TO RIGHT: WILLY CUMBUS, AMANI MOSLEY, JAZMIRE BASKERVILLE, EMELY PALADINES AND DANA RIVAS



RIGHT TO LEFT: JONIAS ZUNIGA, DANA RIVAS, MIAVALENTINA GUERRERO, MAKAYLA WHEELER AND MICHAEL BOOK

Did You Know That We Have A Quilting Club?

Submitted by Ms. Hanlon, Moderator of Quilting Club, Stephen N. Adubato Campus

are hoping to complete the quilt before the end of the year!

The quilting club is very busy learning to hand piece a very special sampler quilt. The 6th and 7th grade girls in the quilting club are making blocks, one at a time, for the Robert Treat Quilt. When they finish piecing and quilting it, they will be selling raffle tickets. One lucky winner will be chosen to own a beautiful handmade quilt of beautiful greens and golds! We



Food Chain of Life?

Submitted by the Fourth Grade Team at Jackie Robinson Campus

Everyone plays a specific role in the food chain of life. You might be a human thinking they are king of the hill or you might be a bacterium under the feet. You are very important to the survival of the system no matter what role you play. As the fourth grade begins their journey into life science we are studying ecosystems and cycles in life. Students learned the terms food chain and food web. They describe the same series of events that happen when one organism consumes another to survive. Food web is a more accurate term since every organism is involved with several other organisms. In one of our Saturday school sessions, students created a hands-on food web. Each student was a different animal and using string these animals were connected based on what they ate and who they ate. This was a great experience and truly showed our students just how connected animals are to each other.



Sixth Grade Public Service Announcements

Submitted by the Jackie Robinson Campus Sixth Grade Team

For the final lesson related to the novel, **Tangerine**, our 6th grade students from Jackie Robinson Campus worked on Public Service Announcements. They researched using the internet, both logical and emotional appeals that would help them support their message or claim. The students worked collaboratively with one another as they created their Public Service Announcements that will be hanging around Robert Treat Academy and making students aware of different issues in

**PICTURED AT RIGHT:
TOP L-R KENNEDY ROBINSON
AND JACQUELINE RODRIGUEZ
BOTTOM L-R ALANI
RODRIGUEZ AND CAMILA
ZAMBRANA**




**YOUR
PARENT
COUNCIL
NEEDS
YOU**

Parent Council Attendance Percentages for Both Campuses

ROOM #/GRADE	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN
301-K	96%	81%	100%	58%	62%	62%
303-K	92%	88%	100%	69%	54%	62%
308-1	96%	73%	100%	96%	58%	62%
310-1	92%	77%	100%	96%	42%	73%
304-2	76%	64%	100%	68%	48%	60%
306-2	92%	72%	100%	68%	44%	68%
302-3	88%	77%	100%	65%	69%	50%
203-3	81%	69%	100%	69%	65%	81%
201-4	100%	54%	100%	54%	69%	42%
202-4	89%	88%	100%	65%	85%	62%
205-5	96%	68%	100%	56%	56%	56%
208-5	88%	60%	100%	60%	72%	64%
204-6	88%	67%	100%	50%	46%	38%
206-6	92%	74%	100%	57%	70%	74%
207-7	88%	67%	100%	57%	74%	54%
210-7	83%	67%	100%	54%	54%	67%
104-8	84%	64%	100%	52%	56%	64%
107-8	88%	63%	100%	38%	54%	67%
SNA Campus	89%	71%	100%	64%	60%	61%
C-13-K	96%	73%	100%	65%	62%	62%
C-12-1	92%	50%	100%	96%	77%	50%
C-14-2	92%	60%	100%	77%	81%	54%
C-15-3	78%	50%	100%	92%	92%	52%
C-27-4	96%	72%	100%	77%	96%	58%
C-23-5	100%	70%	100%	70%	100%	65%
C-22-6	82%	65%	100%	58%	96%	43%
JR Campus	91%	65%	100%	75%	86%	55%
TOTAL	90%	69%	100%	67%	67%	60%

Poorest Showing To Date

The percentages on the left indicate that January had the poorest attendance at any of the Parent Council Meetings so far this school year. **The January meeting is the most important one of the year because of the information given in the State of the School.**

As a youth, I was always proud when my parent attended the Parent-Teacher Association meetings. It was nice to hear a compliment that the teacher may have given my parent concerning me. On the other hand, I was also told when the comment wasn't nice and then I was warned to shape up quickly.

And when the percentages of parent attendance were announced during an in-school function, it was always a moment of pride when those homerooms with the highest percentages were recognized.

I guess the question is, what are we, as parents of today, going to do to bring that same pride to our own children?



The International Dinner



Will be here
before you
know it.



Decide now
what dish you

would like to share with the
Robert Treat Academy Family.

Individual programs at each campus.

April 23, 2015

6:30 PM until 8:00 PM



**Spring Recess
begins on April
3rd.**



**We'd like to let you into the
Music Room, Band Room and Art Room
but we cannot!**

**The students and their teachers are
practicing and creating for the
Spring Concert and Art Show.**

**Individual programs at each campus on
May 20, 2015!**

**Jackie Robinson Campus at 5:30 PM for Grades K-3
and 6:40 PM for Grades 4-6**

Stephen N. Adubato Campus at 6:30 PM for all grades

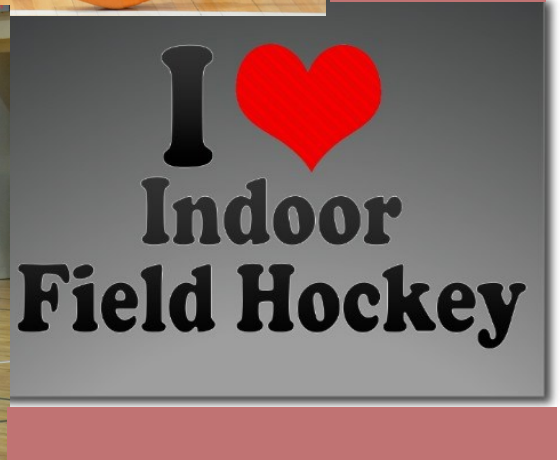
We expect 100% parent attendance that evening!

Disco Bowling and Hockey!

Submitted by Mr. Ontell, Physical Education Teacher at Stephen N. Adubato Campus

In January every class learned the fundamentals of rolling through Disco Bowling! At this point in the school year we are able to differentiate between the critical elements of throwing, tossing, and rolling. Observing my students achieve success in their physical performance due to a cognitive adjustment is a very rewarding experience for everyone! Also, these lessons form classroom connections in mathematics as students tallied their scores using addition.

The next unit of instruction focused on the invasion game of hockey. We started with individual practice stations for students to work on their balance, passing, shooting, positioning, and control. Learning to manage our bodies with a hockey stick is imperative for success and students make a conscious effort to play safely. Our game is modified with no goalies which means a lot of goals are scored... even by defenders! Looking forward, we are very excited to begin Net/Volleyball games in February as it has become one of RTA's favorite activities!



Meters and Centimeters in Second Grade!

**Submitted by the Stephen N. Adubato
Second Grade Team**

This month Second Grade (Rooms 304 and 306) students have been learning to estimate and measure medium and short lengths using the standard metric units of meters (m) and centimeters (cm). We used a meter stick and a centimeter ruler to measure how long or short an object is.

Our students are also learning that the standard units of measure provide a basis for the comparison of lengths. We are just beginning to learn how to apply addition and subtraction concepts to real world problems involving metric length. Bar models are back too! They will use bar models to represent the part-whole concept in order to help them solve real-world problems involving length and short distance.



Inspirational People!

**Submitted by the Second Grade Team at
Jackie Robinson Campus**



This month our second grade will continue to “meet” people who inspire others to greatness by their accomplishments, commitments, and deeds. Last month we read about Sonia Sotomayor, the first Hispanic Justice of the Supreme Court. Through her struggles as

a young child and the love of her family, she rose above adversity and found the strength to achieve greatness. This month our story is about a woman named Jane Goodall. Jane is a scientist who has dedicated her life to the study of chimpanzees. We will not only learn about her struggles and triumphs, we will also use our vocabulary strategy chart to work through the challenging vocabulary in this higher order thinking Read



“Give people enough guidance to make the decisions you want them to make. Don't tell them what to do, but encourage them to do what is best.”

Jimmy Johnson

Arendelle?

Submitted by the Stephen N. Adubato First Grade Team

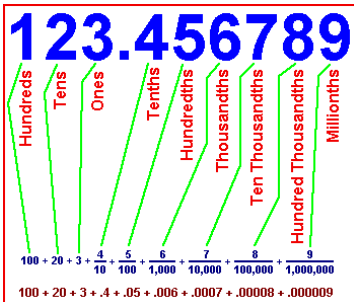
In the month of January, first graders experienced a bit of Arendelle. We embraced the joy of feeling frozen. In class, we have been working on numerous genres of writing and one of them was writing a "how to". We were inspired by Anna and decided to write a "how to" about building a snowman. First graders enjoyed writing their own instructions on building a snowman and sharing in the joys of winter fun. The cold is bitter but our love for winter warms our hearts!



What's a Decimal?

Submitted by the Fourth Grade Team at Stephen N. Adubato Campus

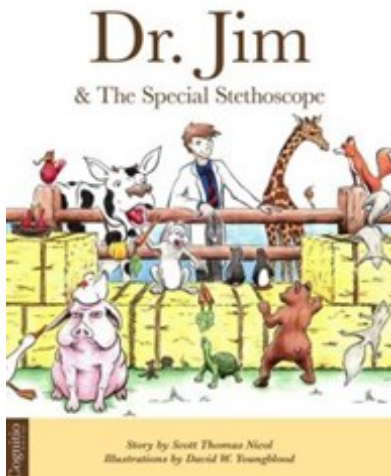
The fourth grade learned that decimals are used to show amounts that are parts of a whole. We have mastered adding and subtracting decimals this month and we are currently using this skill to solve real-world problems. Adding and subtracting decimals is an important skill needed to perform simple everyday tasks. An everyday task that requires adding or subtracting decimals is purchasing groceries. For example, when you are at the supermarket, you have to add up your items (which are represented as decimals) to get your total. Challenge your child's knowledge and help them practice some of the skills they are learning at school.



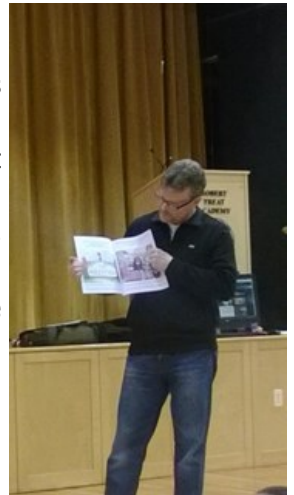
- Ask your child to write down the prices of 5 items from the supermarket
- At home, have your child add these decimals to find the total cost of all 5 items
- Ask your child to calculate how much money he/she will have remaining after buying these 5 items, if he/she had \$70.00 to begin with.

Children's Author Speaks to Kindergarten and First Graders

Submitted by the Kindergarten and First Grade Teams at both campuses



The Kindergarten and First Grade Teams hosted a guest reader at the Stephen N. Adubato Campus. Author Scott Thomas Nicol read his three books in his Dr. Jim series. The students came prepared with questions about being an author. They learned what it was like to write a book and work with an illustrator. Mr. Nicol was enthusiastic about sharing his stories with the students. He entertained the group of 150 students and was met with excitement and audience participation. Mr. Nicol resides in Flemington, NJ and has been a published writer for six years.



Painting and Writing-A Great Combination!

Submitted by the First Grade Team at Jackie Robinson Campus



This month the first grade students were inspired to paint and to write stories to go along with their paintings. Students were inspired after listening to *Napi*, a story filled with beautiful watercolor illustrations. They were given the opportunity to paint before writing. Their paintings were used as a rough draft for their stories. Students also used their paintings to concentrate on the topic they chose. They were able to sort things out in their paintings before having to commit to words on a paper. The first graders really enjoyed feeling like authors and illustrators!

Volleyball and Bowling at JRC!

**Submitted by Mr. Bush,
Physical Education Teacher
at the Jackie Robinson Campus**

The areas of focus in Physical Education class for the month of February are volleyball and bowling. The 5th and 6th grade students will have the opportunity to learn the basic skills of volleyball while the younger grades will have the opportunity to learn the basic skills of bowling. There are a wide variety of different bowling games to keep the students engaged and entertained through this unit. Volleyball can be a very difficult game if there is a lack of communi-

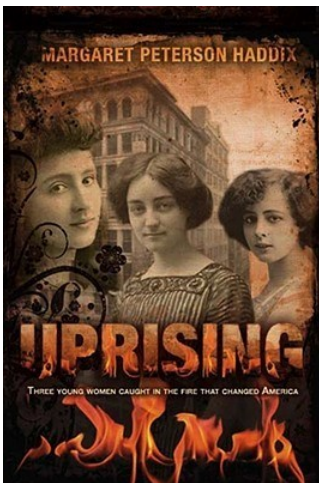


cation. The students must understand the importance of communicating as a team to be successful and safe during their games.

The proper technique for bowling a ball is for the students to follow the "Step, Step, Swing, Roll and Follow Through" method. This will allow the students to gain a deeper understanding of how to grip the ball while bowling the ball properly.

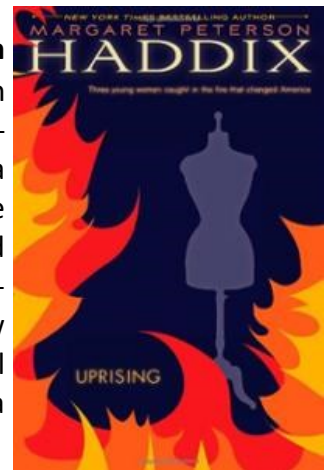


Uprising?



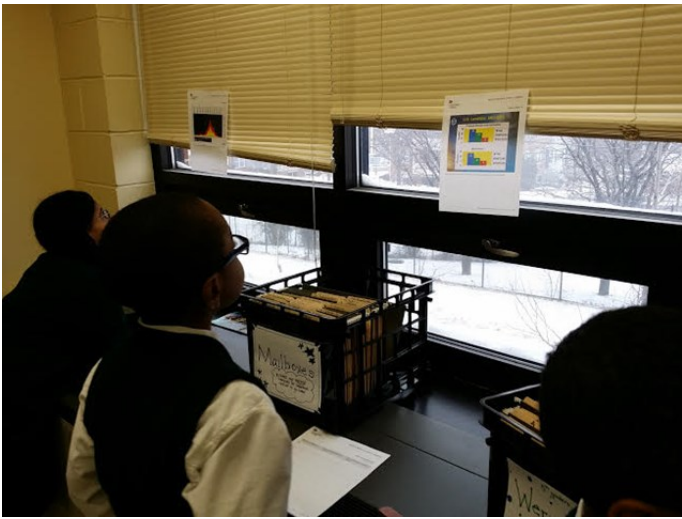
Submitted by the Seventh Grade Team

This month in ELA, our 7th grade students have been reading the historical fiction novel *Uprising* by Margaret Peterson Haddix. During our novel unit, students have gained a wide array of vocabulary, written reading responses that are supported by text evidence, developed their listening and speaking skills during class discussions, furthered their understanding of character development, and witnessed new perspectives on immigration, the impact of the Industrial Revolution, and women's suffrage. Overall, it has been a very rich literary experience.



Learning About Natural Disasters

**Submitted by the Jackie Robinson Campus
Fifth Grade Team**



Students have been learning about different natural disasters in the western hemisphere. This module integrates science, social studies, and English. It has a literacy focus on point of view in literature, research, opinion writing, and public speaking.

In the corresponding pictures, our 5th graders at the Jackie Robinson Campus have

Emotions!

**Submitted by the Third Grade Team at
Jackie Robinson Campus**

Throughout the year in group meetings, the 3rd grade class discusses many different Character Education topics such as building a positive classroom climate and communication. This month in one of the classroom meetings, the students discussed emotions and how to identify how to differentiate between what someone is saying to you and how they are saying it. People communicate in many different ways: words and tone of voice; gestures and body language; and creative expression such as dance, music and visual arts. This class meeting allowed students to explore how people use nonverbal communication to express or mask their feelings. The students learned to read nonverbal cues correctly to understand others, to nurture relationships and to build empathy. This skill also may help students to assess and avoid bullying situations.

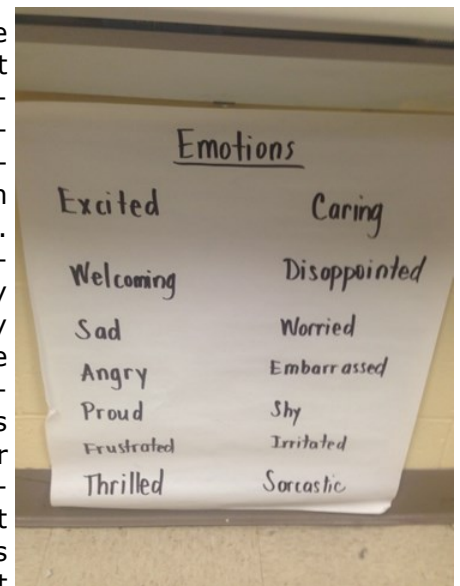
Each student picked an emotion out of a basket and a phrase to read using that emotion.

been reading about the science behind natural disasters, specifically earthquakes and hurricanes. Students participated in a gallery walk around our classroom where they pondered different pictures and quotes about different natural disasters. Students then made inferences based on what images they saw and created a list of their questions. As we move on in this unit, their questions will slowly be answered.



Sometimes the phrase did not match the emotion and the students had to figure out which emotion it was. After each student's turn, they discussed a way that would have been more appropriate to express that particular emotion. The student learned that body language is an important part of this type of

communication and, when used appropriately, body language can be used to express how you are feeling to another person without having to explain



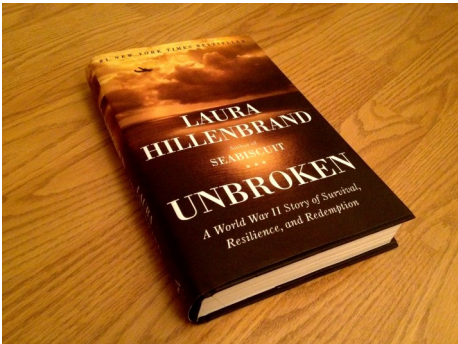
**ROBERT TREAT ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
SCHOOL CALENDAR - NORTH AND CENTRAL CAMPUS - REVISED**

SCHOOL CLOSING DATES		2014-2015	# OF DAYS STUDENTS/TEACHERS
February	16	School Closed – President’s Day Observance	19 / 19
March			22 / 22
April	3-10 13	School Closed – Spring Recess School Reopens	16 / 16
May	25	School Closed – Memorial Day Observance	20 / 20
June	25	Last Day of School – 8 th Grade Graduation	19 / 19
TOTAL # of Days – STUDENTS			201
TOTAL # of Days – TEACHERS			205

As approved by the Board of Trustees on April 24, 2014.

8th Grade Students Studying Overlapping Curriculum

Submitted by the Eighth Grade Team



The 8th Grade students at Robert Treat Academy have focused this year on material that overlaps subject areas. This is partially by design and partially by coincidence as the material

studied in 8th Grade happens to coincide with information taught across the subjects. As an example, the required reading of the book "Unbroken" in their English/Language Arts classes overlaps their study of government systems throughout history in American Civics, as well as their study of World War II in 7th Grade. The students are very familiar with Japanese aggression as was shown in their prison camps, along with the reasons why Japanese Americans were placed into internment camps in the U.S. following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. It is always helpful to the students to have the necessary historical background in order to better understand the stories they read. Another example would be the important connections between their study of

Astronomy in Science and the formulas necessary to calculate related information, which are studied in Math. The ELA classes are currently reading "Animal Farm" as well--a reference to the dangers of communism and an implied reference to the Russian Revolution. This is again an example to which students have background on this historical period from previous studies. The 8th Grade teaching team tries to focus on cross-curricular instruction as much as possible to provide students with the necessary background information and familiar concepts. Students should be aware that each subject is important from its own perspective, as well as contributing to their success in other subjects.



Project CHILD FIND

1-800-322-8174

Project CHILD FIND is a free referral service and public awareness campaign to assist in the identification of unserved / underserved youth with a delay or disability from birth through twenty-one years of age. In addition, **Project CHILD FIND** develops and distributes information to the public about early intervention services and special education programs throughout New Jersey.

Project CHILD FIND's comprehensive efforts include:

1. Assisting families of infants and toddlers, **birth through two**, concerned about their child's development by directing all requests regarding **early intervention** to the family's local Special Child Health Case Management Unit. If you need the number for your Special Child Health Case Management University

Project CHILD FIND 1-800-322-8174

2. Assisting families of preschoolers, **three through five**, concerned about their child's development by directing requests to their local school district.

3. Helping families access community services through referral.

4. Promoting community and public awareness of all children with disabilities by providing information.

5. Assisting local school district boards of education to identify unserved children from age **three through twenty-one** who are in need of special education and related services, including those students who are migrant or homeless.

Information through **Project CHILD FIND** may be obtained by calling the toll-free number, 1-800-322-8174, which is in service 7 days a week, 24-hours a day. All calls received are confidential. Project CHILD FIND was established by the New Jersey Department of Education through I.D.E.A., Part B funds from the U.S. Department of Education.

February Events

February 5	Thursday	Jackie Robinson Campus Chorus visiting William Paterson University for a violin performance.
February 9	Monday	Fifth and Sixth Graders at Jackie Robinson Campus will visit the Holocaust Museum
February 12	Thursday	NAEP Testing for the 8th Graders at North Campus
February 13	Friday	Assembly at North Campus, guest speaker, Dr. Michael Fowlin, a.k.a. Mykee Grades 3 - 5 from 10:00 to 11:00 am Grades 6-8 from 11:30 am-12:45 pm
February 14	Saturday	Valentine's Day
February 16	Monday	School closed for President's Day
February 19	Thursday	Board of Trustees Meeting at 5:30 pm
February 23- February 27	Monday- Friday	Parent Conferences-Sign up in Main Office Thursday, February 26 is the late night