



The Treatonian

Robert Treat Academy
Charter School

Volume 16, Issue 11

June 2014



Our Principal's Message



Soon to be Graduates,

I know, in time, you will look back at your nine years at the Academy with fond memories and an acknowledgement that hard work is necessary to be successful.

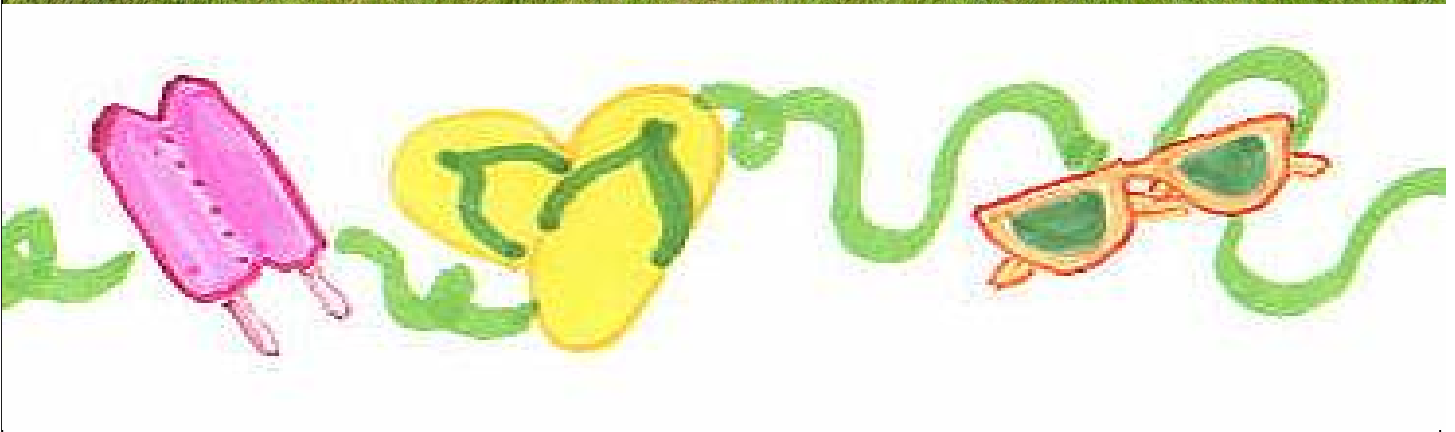
With Deepest Affection,

Ms. Adubato



Jackie Robinson Campus Students of the Month for May, 2014!

Celesta Goeh-Akue	12	Jaila Wade	15	A'Nyla Botts	Music
Dennis Smith	13	Isis Pabon	23	Amaris Hernandez	P.E.
Oduwa Iyoha	14	Joseph Amado	27	Sabrina Bailey	Art



North Campus Students of the Month for May, 2014!!

Emmanuel Uzeta	104	John Martinez	207	Ailani Miller	308
Arthur Shipman	107	Isaac Vasquez	208	Mithanial Diaz	310
Rosemary Lopez	201	Indira Douglas	210	Brianna Hawley	Art
Destiny Maury	202	Jordan Mitchell	301	Lauren Pannullo	Music
Destiny Cruz	203	Kimberly Figueroa	302	E'meel Thomas-Baker	Phy.Ed.
Joceline Cosme	204	Michelle Santiago	303	Latisha Austin	Science
Kyla Butler	205	Nicole Asenso-Boakye	304		
Tatiana Valentin	206	Latoya Austin	306		



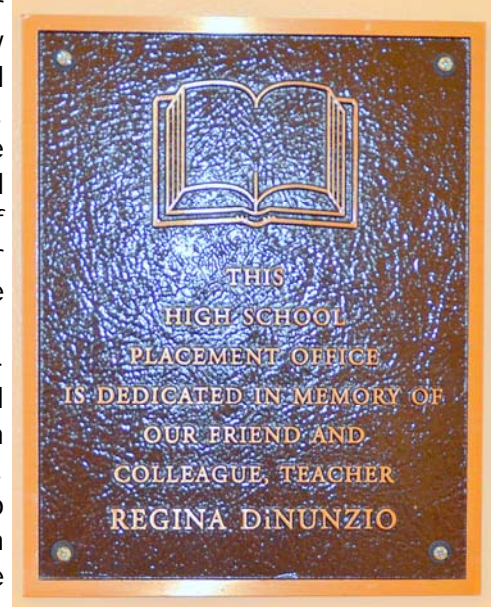
DEDICATION OF SCHOOL ROOMS IN MEMORY OF TWO OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

Submitted by Ms. Adubato

In 2008, Ms. Regina DiNunzio passed away. That year's yearbook was dedicated to her and her contributions to the Academy.



Ms. DiNunzio began her career at the Academy in 2000. She quickly established herself as a Master Teacher in Language Arts/Literacy. Ms. DiNunzio was renowned for her classroom management, unique teaching style and passion for her students. She mentored new teachers on instructional practices and on the unique culture of the Academy. Along with Ms. Heinlein-Wood, she wrote our school song. She founded our Student Council and acted as staff advisor. Her greatest legacy is her contribution to our High School Place Department. Ms. DiNunzio and I worked side by side to create and implement this program. She directed this program until her passing. Without doubt, the High School Placement Program is our most successful program. While there are no students currently at the Academy who knew Ms. DiNunzio, they and all those that come after them will benefit from her contributions. It is in that spirit, that the High School Placement room is dedicated in her honor.

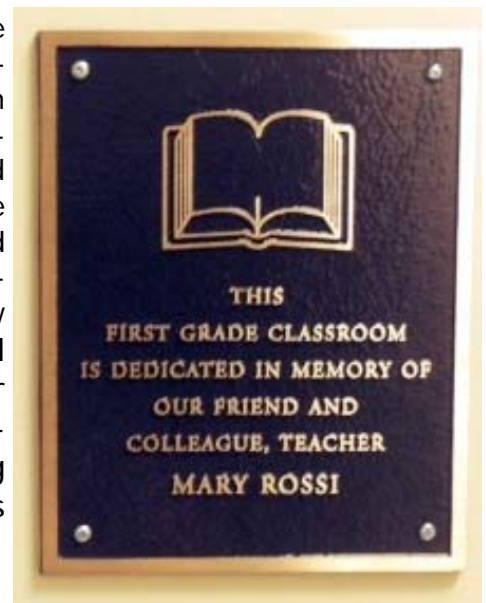


In 2010, Ms. Mary Rossi passed away. The next year's yearbook was dedicated to her and her contributions to the Academy.



Ms. Rossi taught at the Academy for 13 years as a first grade teacher. Ms. Rossi educated hundreds of children and cared for them as if they were her own. She involved herself in their lives beyond the confines of her classroom. She was a Master Teacher who shared her expertise and experience selflessly and mentored numerous new teachers. Ms. Rossi personified all the qualities of a great teacher and was the quintessential Academy staff member. It is fitting that her classroom room 310 is

dedicated in her honor.



News from the High School Placement Office

Submitted by the High School Placement Office

June is one of the busiest months for High School Placement. Please make sure you put the dates below on your calendar.

We have some good news in the department of summer programs. **Yasin Peppers** has been accepted to **The College Career Ready Academy**, a program designed for high school students to learn how to market themselves to colleges and future business employers. Yasin will spend one week this summer living at The College of New Jersey in Trenton, with a full scholarship courtesy of the NJ Chamber of Commerce and PSE&G developing a customized plan for an optimal high school outcome.

High School Placement Dates:

JUNE 3 (6:00pm)	Mandatory HSP meeting with all parents of current 7 th graders
JUNE 9 to 13	8 th Grade Cap and Gown pick up by parents (not students)
JUNE 11 & 23	8 th Grade Graduation Rehearsals in the Cathedral – parents must have signed permission slips
JUNE 12	7 th Grade SSAT --- Students MUST be in school for this --- all seventh grade students are required to take this exam
JUNE 20	Founder's Day (Dorney Park)
JUNE 24	Nanina's in the Park Dance
JUNE 25	8 th Grade Awards Ceremony
JUNE 26	8 th Grade Graduation

Remember to give Ms. Xanthia your Commencement Ticket Request!



8th Graders Preparing for a Series of Exciting Events

Happy Graduation .



Submitted by the Eighth Grade Team

The 8th Grade students of Robert Treat Academy are now gearing up for their upcoming June activities in anticipation of their Graduation on June 26th. In the next few weeks, they will be participating in a series of events and activities that have been earned at this point in their education. They will begin with the school wide Jump Rope for Heart activities on Friday, June 6th; for heart disease awareness. They will be singing by themselves during morning announcements in front of the student body in the upcoming weeks. There are several graduation practices planned both in the school gym and at the graduation venue in order to familiarize students with the graduation procedures. They will then be going on the annual 8th Grade class trip to Dorney Park in Pennsylvania on Friday, June 20th. During the last week of school, they will attend their 8th grade dance at Nanina's in the Park on Tuesday, June 24th and attend the 8th Grade Awards Ceremony on Wed., June 25th. Finally, all of these events will culminate with their graduation ceremony at Sacred Heart Basilica on Thursday, June 26th. As you can see, June will certainly be a very busy month for the 8th Grade students at Robert Treat Academy. They will then move on to the next phase of their lives as they prepare to enter their respective high schools. We look forward to sharing these events with the 8th Grade.

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.

ROBERT TREAT ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

SCHOOL CALENDAR - NORTH AND CENTRAL CAMPUS - REVISED

SCHOOL CLOSING DATES		2014-2015	# OF DAYS STUDENTS/TEACHERS
		<u>2014</u>	
July	31	ORGANIZATION DAY – All Staff Members Report (8:00 am)	0 / 1
August	1	Professional Development All Staff Report (8 am)	
	4	School Year Begins for grades K through 8	
	15	School Closed	
	22-31	School Closed – End of Summer Recess	13 / 14
September	1	School Closed - Labor Day	
	2	School Reopens	21 / 21
October	13	School Closed – Columbus Day	
	24	School Closed – Professional Development	21 / 22
November	10	School Closed – Veteran’s Day	
	27-28	School Closed – Thanksgiving Recess	17 / 17
December	24 – 31	School Closed – Winter Recess	17 / 17
		<u>2015</u>	
January	1-2	School Closed – New Year’s Day	
	5	School Reopens	
	16	School Closed - Professional Development	
	19	School Closed – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18 / 19
February	16	School Closed – President’s Day Observance	19 / 19
March			22 / 22
April	3-10	School Closed – Spring Recess	
	13	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			203
TOTAL # of Days – TEACHERS			206

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



Robert Treat Academy Golf Outing August 18, 2014

**Greenbrook Country Club
North Caldwell, NJ**

Registration: 9:00-9:30 a.m.
Brunch: 9:45-10:45 a.m.
Open Bar: 4:00-8:00 p.m.
Cocktail Hour: 4:30-6:00 p.m.
Dinner: 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**For a brochure with full
information, call
(973) 482-8811**

Art Show Is a Success!

Submitted by Ms. DePuma, Art Teacher, North Campus

Thank you to all the students, parents, and teachers who attended the 2014 Art Show. Many students expressed their excitement about the show and displaying their work. We had a positive night with lots of spectators taking time after the Spring Concert to view all the artwork. Job well done to all RTA students for the creations you made and submitted this year. The success of this show is due you and all your hard work!

Special recognition to the Art Portfolio Club. The "Around the World" signs are beautiful and the many hours of dedicated work to help with the show paid off



The Spring Concert at North Campus

Submitted by Mr. Yannuzzi, Music Teacher, North Campus

It seems as though spring arrived a little later this year, but the flowers are finally blooming, and we are all looking forward to the summer!

And that's how it is in Music here at RTA. After months of preparation and rehearsal, our annual Spring Concert and Art show was an unqualified success! It was a great pleasure to see so many parents, relatives and friends attend the show. The Band and Orchestra showed great progress in their abilities, and with many new, young members, we expect that growth to continue. Our Jazz Band's improvisational skills have skyrocketed. Kudos to Mr. Comanda and Mr. Viñas for all of their hard work and devotion to our students.

The Spring Concert is always a bit melancholy, since it is the final concert for our eighth graders, many of which have been singing in the Chorus since the sixth grade. We will miss our graduates very much. They will get one more chance to sing together at their graduation, and we are very much looking forward to that. The Chorus rocked the house with a great performance of "Happy." Many in the audience were clapping and singing along. What a great time!



Concert at Jackie Robinson Campus

The Spring Concert and Art Show was delightful. Our violin ensemble certainly impressed many by one of their song choices and we were very happy to see them join our concert. It's always great to see our students stand up confidently to perform for their parents, teachers and peers. We are happy to say that chorus and instrumental lessons will continue for a few more weeks in the month of June. Students can continue to learn more about their instrument and be prepared once again in September.



Art Show at Jackie Robinson Campus



Organisms?

**Submitted by the Second Grade Team
North Campus**

This month the second graders in rooms 306 and 304 researched and wrote about organisms. Students researched facts about their organism using our library resources and the internet. The next step in the student's research was to restate the facts they had collected, in their own words. This is trickier than it seems! In order to complete this challenging task, students worked with their peers and had one-on-one teacher conferences. Finally, they consolidated their information into a paragraph and recreated their own animal using crayons, clay and their imaginations!

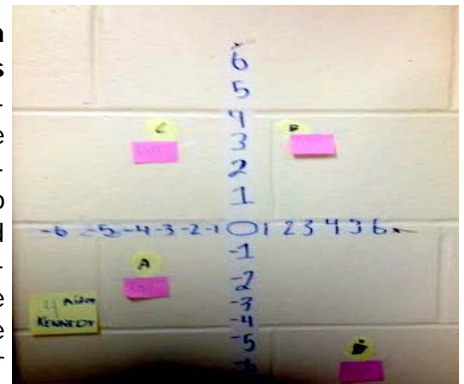
Stop by the second grade classrooms and check out our non-fiction texts!



Negative Numbers

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

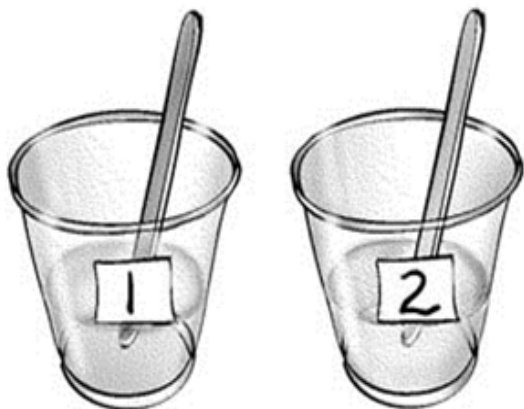
This month the fifth grade has been working with negative numbers. Adding subtracting, comparing and ordering were some of the topics we have covered. One important concept we learned was negative coordinates. In one of our activities students were broken into groups and created coordinate planes using masking tape all around the classroom, we then plotted those points and were able to demonstrate negative and positive coordinate pairs. Students had to make sure their x and y axis was labeled as well as negative and positive numbers in the correct place on their number lines. Stay tuned for more exciting activities from room 23!



Making Glue

Submitted by the Third Grade Team, North Campus

The third grade students are becoming little chemists. In our new science section students are designing mixtures to create a substance. Our first substance is glue. Students used a combination of baking soda, flour, salt, corn starch, and water to see which combination would create a sticky substance. By understanding the properties of each, students created their mixtures, then put some on a card and placed beans on it to see if their creations were sticky enough to be called glue. They recorded their results and will use them for the next experiment. They all did a really good job and the results were encouraging.



Second Grade Learns About Soil!

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

Students in the second grade at our Jackie Robinson Campus weren't afraid to get their hands dirty this May! Our science lessons were about the ubiquitous substance that covers the Earth.. soil. Our students learned the functions of soil and how soil helps living things survive. They had the opportunity to not only investigate through observations and hands-on activities, but read many non-fiction texts such as: Life is a Bucket of Soil, Into the Soil, A Handful of Dirt, and Jump into Science - Dirt. All of these picture books were selected with each reading level in mind so every student received interesting and challenging books. Speaking with your children about their school day is a critical factor in their learning. They need your interest and support. We have selected some science vocabulary words you might consider using in your conversations. You will be amazed at how much they know! Science Vocabulary Words: absorb, decompose, and depend.



ABOVE: MS. GARCIA WORKING WITH A GROUP OF STUDENTS.



RIGHT: LAWRENCE LEONARD WORKING ON A SCIENCE PROJECT.

News from the Music/Art Room

**Submitted by Ms. Walker
Music/Art Teacher
Jackie Robinson Campus**

I would like to congratulate Robert Treat Academy's star students of the month. This proves they are really working hard in class and trying to be the best they can be.

The Jackie Robinson Campus Chorus is proud to announce that we will be participating in this year's eighth grade graduation. The collaboration with both schools will be very exciting and our students are thrilled with the opportunity to sing outside of our school walls. As the year is almost at a close we are very pleased with our stu-

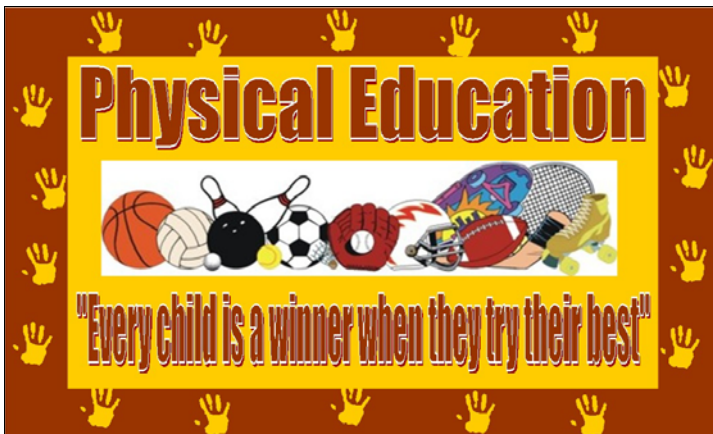
dent's hard work and dedication throughout the year. Each year we are growing and see a bright musical future.



End of the Year Activity

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

The areas of focus in Physical Education class for the month of June is finishing up our fitness tests and enjoying all of the different activities we have played throughout the year. The majority of the fitness tests have been completed and there is only one more left to focus on. In our curl up test, students will be tested individually while the other students will work with other equipment such as jump ropes, hula hoops, scarfs, basketballs, and so on. As soon as everyone has completed the test, we can move into other fun activities and games that we have played earlier in the year. It has been a long year and I am very excited for the students to enjoy all of the fun events that are coming up in June, such as Jump Rope for Heart and Founder's Day. June is an exciting month and hopefully the students understand the importance of finishing this year off on a strong note!



Eighth Grade Students Complete a Research Project

**Submitted by Ms. Kelley-Kemple
Science Teacher
North Campus**

The students in grade eight have completed a research project on famous scientists. They discovered what the scientist is most famous for but also reported on less well known discoveries. Many of the great thinkers and inventors throughout history have made several contributions but are not always known for their great body of work. Each of the students made a power point presentation and presented their work to the class. Also students had to find a famous and interesting quote by their scientist. Hearing how the quotes are still relevant today was a highlight in each presentation.



**MARIE
CURRIE**

**JANE
GOODALL**

Bullfrog At Magnolia Circle?



Submitted by the Third Grade Team, Jackie Robinson Campus

The students in the third grade are learning how experts gain and build knowledge as they discuss what makes a frog a frog and how these creatures adapt to their environment. Students read *Bullfrog at Magnolia Circle* and practice close reading to find the gist and main idea of a section.

They also identify the key details from the text and illustration that support the main idea. Finding unfamiliar words and looking for context clues is also essential during a close read. Students generate questions, build vocabulary, and locate information in the text about the bullfrog. They are excited to learn more about adaptation, habitat, predators, prey, and the overall physical characteristics of frogs. As we move forward into our study, students will have the chance to write an informational paragraph that synthesizes their learning about the bullfrog.

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

SCHOOL CLOSING DATES	2013-2014	# OF DAYS STUDENTS/TEACHERS
	<u>2014</u>	
June 26	Last Day of School – 8 th Grade Graduation	19 / 19
TOTAL # of Days – STUDENTS		199
TOTAL # of Day – TEACHERS		203

Congratulations, Claryssa Martinez!

Submitted by the Fifth Grade Team, North Campus

In April the fifth grade at North entered the Species on the Edge Art & Essay Contest offered by the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey. Their mission is to preserve rare and imperiled species of wildlife that live and breed in, and migrate through New Jersey. In November the organization sent a representative to our school to discuss how they carry out their mission. The winners of the contest were announced in May and we are so proud to announce that Claryssa Martinez from room 205 won First Place for Essex County! She wrote a detailed essay about the Peregrine Falcon and drew a beautiful portrait of the bird in its natural habitat. Claryssa and her family attended the awards ceremony on May 29, 2014 where Claryssa received



**MS. VELEZ, CLARYSSA MARTINEZ
AND MS. LICCARDI**



**CLARYSSA'S WINNING
ART WORK!**



**Remember to have
your child do some
independent
reading during
vacation!**



RTA Debate Team Finishes Season in Second Place

By John Feinstein, Debate Coach

One of the smallest RTA debate teams ever came up big winners at the annual awards luncheon held at the Robeson Center on the Rutgers Newark campus on May 19. A dozen RTA team members were recognized in just about every category and all contributed points that added up to RTA finishing second among 18 competing schools.

Awards for individual speakers and pairs were based on accumulation of points during the entire 2013-2014 season.

In the beginners speaker division fifth-grader Massa Godbold earned a medal of Merit, while Nicholas Carerro (seventh-grade) picked up a Speaker of Excellence medal, and seventh-graders Amber Rua and Alejandro Toledo received speaker of distinction awards. Team of Excellence awards in the beginner division went to seventh-graders Nicholas Carrero/Alejandro Toledo and Amber Rua/Mia Toledo (sixth-grade).

In the experienced division, Speaker of Excellence awards were earned by seventh-graders Raymond Alvarez, Amari Charles, and Elisha Godbold. Balthazar Sheehan, seventh-grade, took top honors with a Speaker of Distinction award. Godbold and Sheehan partnered for a Team of Excellence award and the Alvarez/Charles duo received top honors as a Team of Distinction.

Other team members who worked hard during the season but did not receive recognition at the awards program are: eighth-grader Jesse Bernardo, seventh-grader Sebastian Santiago, and fifth-grader Amelie Bobadilla.

Having finished the season within the top eight, or "Elite Eight" schools, RTA earned a berth in a final tournament to determine the top school within the Newark Debate Academy, formerly known as the Jersey Urban Debate League.



HOLDING HARD-WON HARDWARE (BACK ROW FROM LEFT): MS. ADUBATO WITH SECOND-PLACE SCHOOL PLAQUE, MIA TOLEDO, AMELIE BOBADILLA, JESSIE BERNARDO, AMARI CHARLES, AMBER RUA, RAYMOND ALVAREZ, ALEJANDRO TOLEDO, COACH FEINSTEIN, (KNEELING) ELISHA GODBOLD, SEBASTIAN SANTIAGO, BALTHAZAR SHEEHAN, AND NICHOLAS CARRERO.

Science Can Be Fun and So Can Our Promotion!



Submitted by the Kindergarten Teams North and Jackie Robinson Campuses

Kindergarten has been a very fun place to be! We have really been busy doing daily observations of our caterpillars. We have enjoyed watching the caterpillars eat and get bigger. They crawled around in a cup for about a week, and then we were lucky enough to see many of them hang and form the chrysalis around them during class time! We were able to see our butterflies emerge from their chrysalis! It was an exciting science project!

As we start the month of June, we are getting ready for our big promotion ceremony. We are working hard to show everyone how prepared we have become for first grade.

NORTH CAMPUS



JR CAMPUS



“How to Writing”



**CHRISTOPHER NEGRON:
HOW TO MAKE PAN-
CAKES**

Submitted by the First Grade Team Jackie Robinson Campus

The first grade students have taken on a teaching role through their “How To Writing!” The students have been working on this by describing the steps needed to perform a task they are familiar with. The students chose to teach their audience about outdoor activities such as riding a bike and sports, ways to demonstrate creativity such as drawing, and chores/ways they help around their home such as by making their bed and helping their parents make pancakes. This form of writing gives students the opportunity to take a key concept and break it down by steps; which is a problem solving strategy they perform on a daily basis. The students also enjoyed taking pictures with props demonstrating the task they chose to accompany their writing. The students enjoyed the opportunity to



**RONELL JACKSON-
WILLIAMS: HOW
TO BLOW BUBBLES**

teach others about an activity they enjoy. First grade students at central have a lot of skills to teach others!

Crawlers!

Submitted by the First Grade Team, North Campus

In the month of May, a special delivery of hornworms arrived to rooms 308 and 310. Hornworms are the larva stage of the hawkmoth, which lives in most of the United States. They moth goes through 4 distinct lifecycle stages as it makes a complete metamorphosis. When the larva first arrived, it was about the size of a grain of rice. Within 2 weeks, our larva grew enormously, increasing its weight by 10,000 times! During this time, the students made several observations using scientific tools, journaling, and graphing to chart its growth. Currently, our hornworms are about 5 inches long and are almost ready to enter their next phase in the life cycle: pupa. As seen in the pictures, students were not shy to cuddle with our classroom crawlers! It has been awesome raising these hornworms

and we can't wait to see them transform into the magical hawkmoth!



Upcoming Events

June 19	Thursday	Board of Trustees Meeting
June 20	Friday	Founder's Day
June 25	Wednesday	Kindergarten Ceremony
June 25	Wednesday	Eighth Grade Award Ceremony
June 26	Thursday	Eighth Grade Graduation

