



The Treatonian

Robert Treat Academy
Charter School

Volume 16, Issue 6

January 2014



Our Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Guardians,



On behalf of the staff of the Academy and our Board of Trustees, we wish all of you a Happy New Year!

I direct your attention to the new Saturday Class Schedule and the NJ-ASK test schedule on page 8. We are counting on you to ensure your child attends every Saturday class.

At your Parent Council meeting in December, the students of both campuses put on spectacular performances by our drama club, our choruses, and our band and orchestra. I applaud the many hours of practice the students and staff dedicated to these performances. On page 4 is the Parent Council Attendance for the December meeting. I continue to applaud our Jackie Robinson Campus parents for their dedication to their children's education and their general support of the Academy. To the parents at our North campus, I truly do not know what to say. To our Kindergarten parents at both campuses your overall attendance is unacceptable. In the past I have always been able to count on Kindergarten parents to boost the overall attendance. The mission of the Academy is all interested parties must do their part to ensure the education of our students. This has been imbedded in our school culture for nearly two decades. If parents are opting out of their responsibility in essence you are eroding a vital part of the school culture. I cannot allow this to happen. I will be advising you in the near future of my plans to address this issue. On January 28th (North Campus) and January 29th (Jackie Robinson Campus) I will be delivering the State of the School Address. This is the most important Parent Council meeting of the school year.

We are currently conducting fund raising for the expansion of our Jackie Robinson campus. If you have not picked up your box of candy please do so.

Sincerely,

**Theresa Aduvato
Principal**

North Campus Students of the Month for December, 2013!

Brittney Martinez	104	Yamisha Braconiel	207	Alexandra Bobadilla	308
Jorge Padilla	107	Riayan Reyes	208	Brandon Cordero	310
Scott Quishpe	201	Bryan Rodriguez	210	E'meel Thomas	Art
Kamara Robinson	202	Alexa Leiva Carrasco	301	Brittney Martinez	Music
David Solano	203	Gian Martinez	302	Justin Guaman	Phy.Ed.
Jordan Geronimo	204	Jenniece Rivera	303	Sophia Figueroa	Science
Dasia Johnson	205	Noah Rosario	304		
Balthazar Sheehan	206	Jack Cumbicus	306		





Central Campus Students of the Month for December, 2013!

Samson Nwobi	12	Sariah Richardson	15	Arthur Nwobi	Music
Janis Zempare	13	Janel Booker	23	Dennis Smith	P.E.
Linai Blackmon	14	Gabriely Acosta	27	Christopher Negron	Art

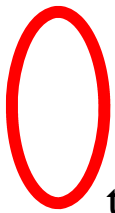


Parent Council Attendance Percentages

For Both Campuses



=Thank you
very much for
your
cooperation
and support



=What message
are we sending
to our children?



"Life's most
persistent and
urgent question
is, 'What are
you doing for
others?'"

— Martin Luther King Jr.

ROOM #/GRADE	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
301-K	100%	77%	P	81%	54%
303-K	92%	64%	A	92%	60%
308-1	89%	58%	R	77%	58%
310-1	96%	71%	E	91%	78%
304-2	85%	65%	N	100%	69%
306-2	92%	62%	T	100%	78%
302-3	89%	65%		81%	50%
203-3	93%	70%	C	85%	74%
201-4	85%	52%	O	70%	48%
202-4	80%	55%	N	63%	58%
205-5	75%	58%	F	79%	83%
208-5	92%	58%	E	67%	71%
204-6	74%	67%	R	81%	65%
206-6	80%	56%	E	64%	52%
207-7	80%	32%	N	48%	64%
210-7	83%	48%	C	57%	65%
104-8	74%	57%	E	65%	61%
107-8	92%	38%	S	83%	48%
RTA North	86%	59%		77%	63%
C-13-K	96%	76%		68%	52%
C-12-1	96%	75%		75%	92%
C-14-2	88%	72%		71%	100%
C-15-3	96%	81%		85%	92%
C-27-4	92%	84%		84%	92%
C-23-5	96%	71%		65%	82%
RTA Central	94%	77%		75%	85%
TOTAL	88%	63%	100%	76%	69%

Hosted a Financial Aid Workshop for Parents

Submitted by the High School Placement Office

Before the hustle and bustle of the holidays were upon us, the 8th grade parents and the High School Placement team were busy getting a leg up on the January deadlines in terms of financial aid. The school held an evening Financial Aid workshop for parents

which reviewed in detail how to complete the PFS and the TADS aid applications.

As in past years, the Academy hosted Rob Mitchell, of the Morristown –Beard School, an expert in financial aid who provided parents with the

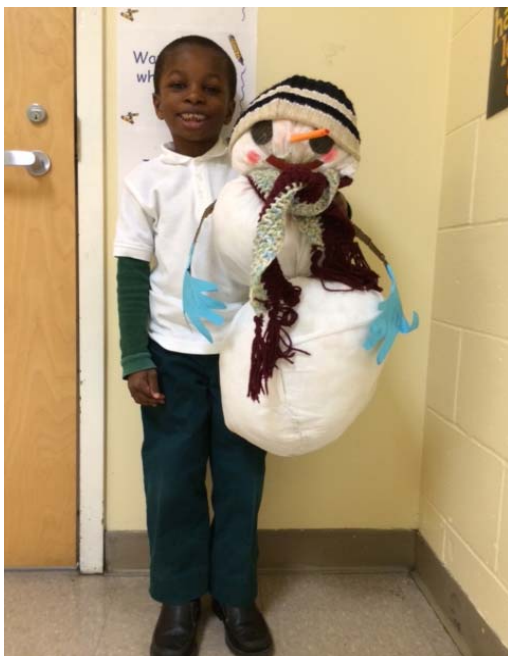
necessary information needed to complete these important forms. Both he and the HSP team reminded all parents that without accurate financial information and necessary documentation there will be no financial aid award associated with admissions. These forms must be completed before the due date.

After the workshop, many of the parents scheduled private appointments with Ms. Moje in the High School Placement Office to receive individual assistance with the completion of the online forms. If you have not yet completed your PFS or TADS form and are applying to school which uses those forms, please contact Ms. Veronica Heinlein, High School Placement Supervisor as soon as possible. She can arrange for a time for you to come in and work with either herself or Ms. Moje on the completion of the forms.

Family Project!

Submitted by the Jackie Robinson Campus Kindergarten Team

During our Winter Break the Kindergarten was asked to complete a family project. They listened to the story "Snowballs" by Lois Elhert, which was all about snow creations. The author, Lois Elhert, does a great job of adding detail to all of her snow people and animals. There were pictures of a snow dad, mom, cat, dog, etc. After they listened to the story the children were told they would be creating their own snow creature as their family project for this month. They were asked to use any materials they may have had at home or wanted to buy. However, the most important part of the project was to be as creative as possible. Well, when we returned from break, we were amazed to see all of the wonderful projects that were returned! The kindergarten went above and beyond to make their snow creature "one of a kind." They used materials such as pipe cleaners, tissue paper, buttons, and even socks! Some children even created more than one snowman. We are so proud of Room 13 and cannot wait to start our next family project!!



**LEFT:
STANDING
WITH HIS
PROJECT IS
KHALILULLAH
SAIDU**

**RIGHT: PRO-
JECTS SUBMIT-
TED BY THE
CLASS AFTER
VACATION.**



Bad Dreams Are Not Allowed!

Submitted by the North Campus Third Grade Team

On Wednesday, December 17th, 2013, our third graders got a chance to meet a children's author. **Mrs. Pasha Pernell** is the author of the book, ***Bad Dreams Are Not Allowed***. She is also the parent of one of our third graders!

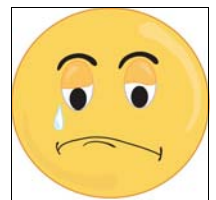
The students were intrigued to learn about not only what the book was about, but also what the process was like to write a children's book from beginning to the end. Mrs. Pernell talked about how she first jotted her ideas down one day when her younger daughter was having bad nightmares. She wanted to help her so she came up with the idea of writing a story about it. She then explained to the students how she worked with an illustrator to draw pictures for the book which brought her book to life.

Mrs. Pernell read the book aloud to the third grade and then answered the children's many questions. It was a wonderful experience talking to an author-especially because that author is part of our RTA family!



**Students will not have school on
January 17, 18, and 20, 2014.**

**Teachers will have school on Friday,
January 18, 2014.**



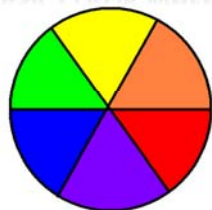
The Color Wheel?

Submitted by Ms. Depuma, North Campus Art Teacher

The Kindergarten class can identify all six main colors on the Color Wheel. Each student has demonstrated his or her comprehension in color theory by creating a multicolored flower. After choosing either a white or black background they have worked hard to draw, cut, and paste every petal for their beautiful piece of artwork. Keep up the great work little ones!



BASIC COLOR WHEEL

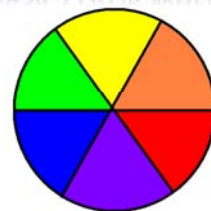


PICTURED ABOVE-FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

**SITTING:
ALEXA LEVIA-CARASCO AND
XAVIER FAWCETT TORRES
STANDING: RAQUEL GOMPRTO,
KATHERINE CARCHIPULA, DEYRA
DIAZ, ETHAN CARPINTERO,
VICTORIA CORREIA DASILVA AND
IBN LEE**



BASIC COLOR WHEEL



Saturday Class Schedule
Starting November 2nd !!!

<i>3rd Grade</i>	<u>8:15 to 10:30</u>
<i>4th Grade</i>	<u>8:30 to 11:45</u>
<i>5th Grade</i>	<u>8:30 to 10:45</u>
<i>6th Grade</i>	<u>8:00 to 11:00</u>
<i>7th Grade</i>	<u>8:45 to 11:00</u>
<i>8th Grade</i>	<u>8:30 to 11:45</u>

Saturday Class Schedule
2013 - 2014

Parents/Guardians,

We count on you to ensure your child(ren) attend all Saturday classes. You have always been cooperative and I know I can continue to count on your support.

January 4th (3rd through 7th grades)

New schedule for 4th and 8th grades begins

January 11th (3rd through 8th grades)

January 25th (3rd through 8th grades)

February 1st (3rd through 8th grades)

February 8th (3rd through 8th grades)

February 22nd (3rd through 8th grades)

March 1st (3rd through 8th grades)

March 8th (3rd through 8th grades)

March 15th (3rd through 8th grades)

March 22nd (3rd through 8th grades)

March 29th (3rd through 8th grades)

April 5th (3rd through 8th grades)

April 26th (3rd through 8th grades)

May 3rd (3rd through 6th grades)

May 10th (3rd through 4th grades)

NJ ASK Testing for Grades 7 and 8 will begin Monday, April 28th, and end Thursday May 1st.

NJ ASK Testing for Grades 5 and 6 will begin Monday May 5th and end Thursday May 8th.

NJ ASK Testing for Grade 3 will begin Monday, May 12th and end Thursday, May 15th.

NJ ASK Testing for Grade 4 will begin Monday, May 12th and end Friday, May 16th.



Grade Seven Students Get A Visitor

Submitted by Ms. Kelly-Kemple,
Science Teacher

All of the students in grade seven recently had a special visitor. Mr. Tarasenko, our very own Ms. Tarasenko's father, came to Robert Treat Academy to teach the students all about the world of engineering. He is a Director at Pfizer Global Engineering. He is a self-proclaimed "professional problem solver". He has spent more than twenty five years traveling all over the world to work with teams of other engineers to solve and create answers to a wide variety of problems. Mr. Tarasenko stressed the importance of team work, good writing and communication skills and studying lots of math and science in elementary and high school. It was clear to all that Mr. Tarasenko has a passion for the work he does and a gift for teaching. The students enjoyed the lesson and are hoping he will visit again soon



**MR. TARASENKO
WITH HIS DAUGHTER,
OUR OWN
MS. TARASENKO,
FIRST GRADE
TEACHER.**

**MR. TARASENKO
INTERACTS WITH
STUDENTS DURING
SCIENCE CLASS.**



Annual Concert at Jackie Robinson Campus a Success!

Submitted by Ms. Walker, Jackie Robinson Campus Music and Art Teacher

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.

We've had an amazing month. Robert Treat Academy Jackie Robinson Campus was filled to capacity on Wednesday, December 18, 2013 at 6:45pm. Our second annual holiday concert was a success. We enjoyed a wonderful presentation from our second grade class about the "Polar Express". We had the opportunity to hear some of our student soloists play on various instruments. Little Voices sang a few songs with soloists as well as our drama club narrated through our chorus segment. The highlight of the night was seeing our band play for the first time ever here at Jackie Robinson Campus and our chorus joined them in a song. It was delightful to see everyone join together for one song. Our recorder ensemble also joined them during this performance.

Immediately following the last bow, Ms. Walker and Mr. Sulaiman dedicated a song to all the participants of our concert and their families. Santa Claus came out and then the raffle winner was announced. It truly was an amazing evening filled with talent, joy and laughter. We will be working hard and looking forward to the Spring where we hope to see a great performance from our beginner strings program.

"The artist doesn't see things as they are, but as he is."



Concert Was Well Received at North Campus!

Submitted by Mr. Yanuzzi, North Campus Music Teacher

We had a very busy December in the Music Department. The chorus and orchestra worked very hard at polishing and perfecting their pieces in preparation for our Winter Concert. And all of that hard work really paid off. The Winter Concert was very well received, and we were so happy to see parents and friends take the time out of their busy schedule to come and support our children's artistic endeavors. A very special thank you to our administration and staff for being very accommodating with their schedules, allowing the children to get in extra rehearsal time. Mr. Comanda, Mr. Vinas, Ms. Heinlein and I all appreciate your continued support and affection for these programs.



Research?

Submitted by the Second Grade Team, Jackie Robinson Campus

"Research?" "Really?" Our students asked excitedly after they were introduced to the new writing task this week. Those two questions were shouted with enthusiasm and an ambition for learning. The children in room 14 strive for "more" every day. They embrace a challenge especially when it is about a topic they love. And this challenge is about ANIMALS, a topic they have been studying throughout our unit. After teacher guidance in our computer lab, the students at the Jackie Robinson Campus found information on their assigned animal and shared this information with their partners. Gathering information from several sources and then compiling the information to build cohesive paragraphs is not just accepted by our class, but welcomed with open arms and open minds.



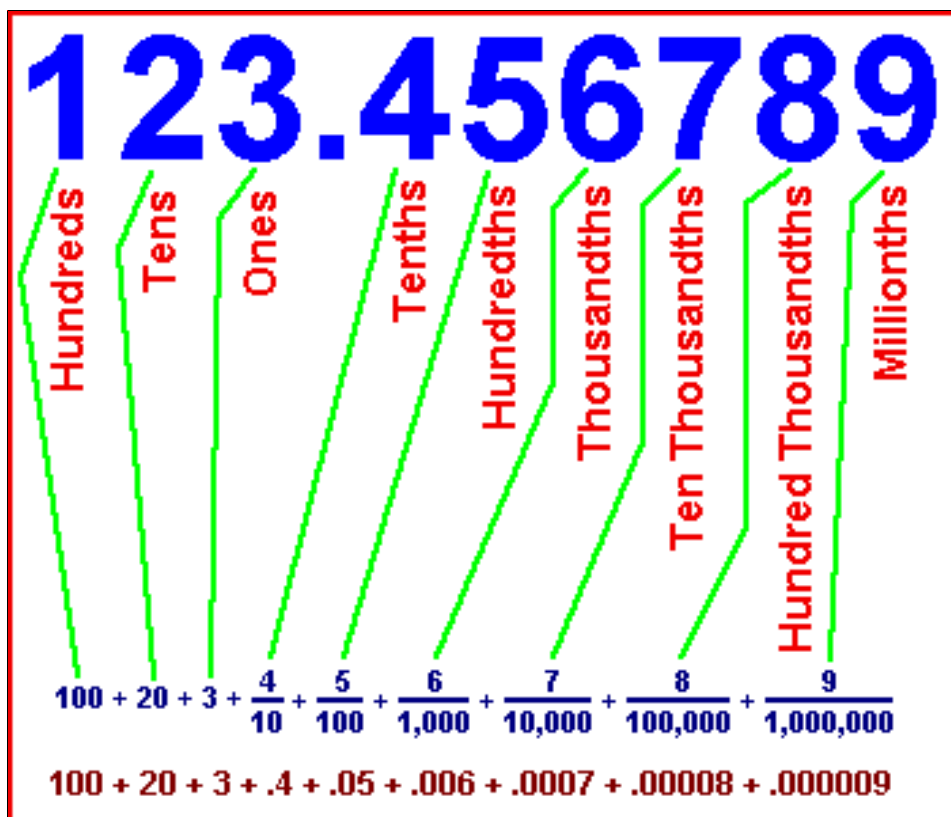
Check the Websites!

Submitted by the North Campus Fifth Grade Team

two numbers using division and how to express this comparison as a ratio. Now that we are equipped with these prerequisite skills, we are ready to apply them in our upcoming study of decimals and later multiplying and dividing decimals.

There are many things that parents can do to reinforce what is being taught at school. For example, ask your child to name places where they see decimals. Have your child accompany you shopping and help you calculate the exact cost of multiple items before checkout. Also, encourage them to add, subtract, multiply, and divide numbers with decimals in the thousandths place such as $1.225 + 3.275$. Most importantly, encourage your children to use the skills they learn at school when they are out in the real world.

We highly recommend using these websites at home for additional practice:



The fifth graders at RTA North have been busy mastering challenging concepts this fall. During the month of December, the students studied the area of a triangle and ratios. They practiced skills such as identifying different types of triangles using side lengths, degrees in angles, and the base and height. They have also learned how to compare

<http://www.ixl.com/math/grade-5/convert-fractions-to-decimals>

<http://www.ixl.com/math/grade-5/round-decimals>

<http://www.ixl.com/math/grade-5/put-assorted-decimals-fractions-and-mixed-numbers-in-order>

Creative Writing in the First Grade

Submitted by the First Grade Team, Jackie Robinson Campus



The first grade students at Central have been getting in the holiday spirit through creative writing! The curriculum introduced the students to the fantasy genre of stories and writing. The students were given a creative writing task with the prompt: One day I woke up and noticed I was an elf. They were encouraged to use their imagination to continue the story. The writing assignment also called for the students to implement the skill of writing having a beginning, middle, and end. The students created wonderful writings with interesting twists and turns!

North Kindergarteners In Charge of Morning An-

Submitted by the North Campus Kindergarten Team

The Kindergarten classes at RTA North enjoyed the anticipation of the holidays in December. They participated in Morning Announcements and showed wonderful ability to read and perform for an audience. They had a visit from the Elf on a Shelf in both classrooms and knew that Santa was watching through the eyes of Bernard Sprinkles and Jingle.



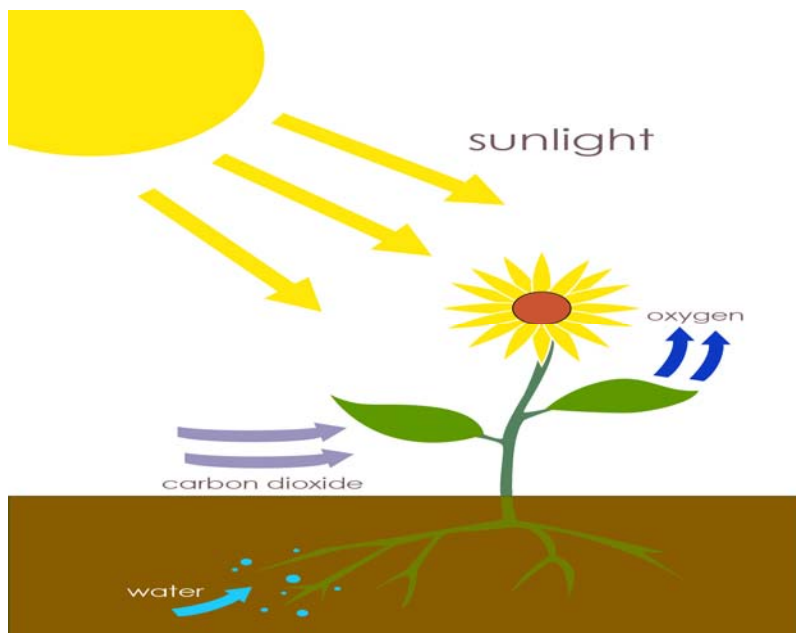
Fourth Grade Science News

Submitted by the North Campus Fourth Grade Team

To help the students understand and memorize the five stages of the plant life cycle, groups of students acted them out in front of their classmates. One of our more creative students used yellow Skittles to represent the plant pollen!

Mother Nature's most awesome "recipe" – photosynthesis – was our next topic of study. By now, all of our fourth graders should know that it takes water, sunlight, and carbon dioxide for a green plant to make a simple sugar known as glucose.

Upcoming in January, students will study the life cycle of a butterfly and frog.



The Polar Express Visits Robert Treat Academy

Submitted by the North Campus First Grade Team

The magical Polar Express train made a special stop in the first grade rooms. During its visit, the students filled the train with their own Christmas spirit by writing letters to Santa. Not only did we fill the train with gifts but also with joy and good tidings for the New Year. Enjoy 2014 and remember: all things are possible if you believe.



Expectations Run High!

Submitted by the North Campus
Eighth Grade Team



New Year's Expectations for the 8th Grade students run high. This part of the school year brings the most difficult part of the curriculum for each subject area; along with the expectations that their academic efforts will reach their strongest levels. As a reminder to them, a piece of good advice to follow is to study the information that they learned in class every night! These "study hours" should focus specifically on reviewing of class notes, carefully reading and annotating textbook sections, highlighting important information wherever possible, self-testing of the information learned, and critical thinking to analyze the importance of what has been learned. If each of these suggestions are followed, it will certainly lead to achievement and maintenance of strong grades throughout the school year. All of their teachers expect and anticipate this level of focus and determination--as we know they are certainly capable of it!

Buddy Reading With The Seventh Grade!

Submitted by the North Campus First Grade Team



First graders were lucky enough to read alongside some 7th graders. The students really enjoyed getting to know each other and discussing different books. With the help of their 7th grade buddy, students practiced making connections and naming characters, setting, and events. It was an enjoyable time for everyone. Thank you 7th grade!

PICTURED LEFT:

RANDALL CARRERAS AND BRYAN CALLE-SANCHEZ

PICTURED RIGHT:

ALBERTO CYRIAANO AND EMELY GOMEZ



Multiply or Divide?

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

The students in third grade are learning to solve one-step word problems that involve multiplication or division. They are using the "RTA Problem Solving Steps" to find their solution. The first step is to read the problem to understand. Students are encouraged to underline any important information needed to solve the problem and circle what they will need to find, solve, or figure out. The next step is to think about a plan or strategy. Students are familiar with creating bar models that represent the word problem and use them to solve. Bar models help to organize all the important and key information. When deciding whether to multiply or divide, students are thinking about what they are trying to solve. Multiplying is necessary if the problem asks to solve for the total number of items in all. They divide if they are asked to figure out how many groups or units are needed. This operation should also be used to find the number of items in each group or unit. The third step is to apply the strategy to solve. Once a part-whole or comparison bar model is created and labeled, students can work out what to multiply or divide. The fourth step is to note if the answer is reasonable by checking the work. Using the inverse or op-

posite operation will help determine if the answer is correct. The final step is to justify the answer by asking yourself if the strategy and answer make sense. Students think and discuss why they used the strategy to solve and how they got the answer. Becoming familiar with these steps will help transition students to solve two-step word problems. They can't wait for the challenge!



(Sung to the tune of "Up on the Rooftop")

Plant Cycle at Jackie Robinson Campus

The students at Jackie Robinson campus have been learning about the plant cycle. They were so interested in this topic that we decided to complete a lima bean project for them to see how this cycle works. Each fourth grader grew their very own lima bean plant. They learned about the different stages in a plant's life cycle, for example germination and growth. Not only did the fourth grade students at the Jackie Robinson campus learn about what takes place in each of the stage of a plant's life cycle but they were also able to see their plants growth and change through the stages. The students made weekly observations of their plants and kept a log of their plants' growth through diagrams and life cycle posters. Students were able to track their lima bean plants for about four weeks; they were able to observe how each



North Campus
Parent Council Meeting
will be held on Tuesday,
January 28, 2014 at 6:45 P.M
in the MultiPurpose Room!

Physical Education Focus for January

The Physical Education area of focus for the month of January is hand-eye coordination. The Third, Fourth and Fifth grade students will have the opportunity to work with different implements such as bats, pillo polo sticks, and paddles. As for the younger grades, Kindergarten through Second will have the opportunity to play similar games with more modifications to ensure safety.

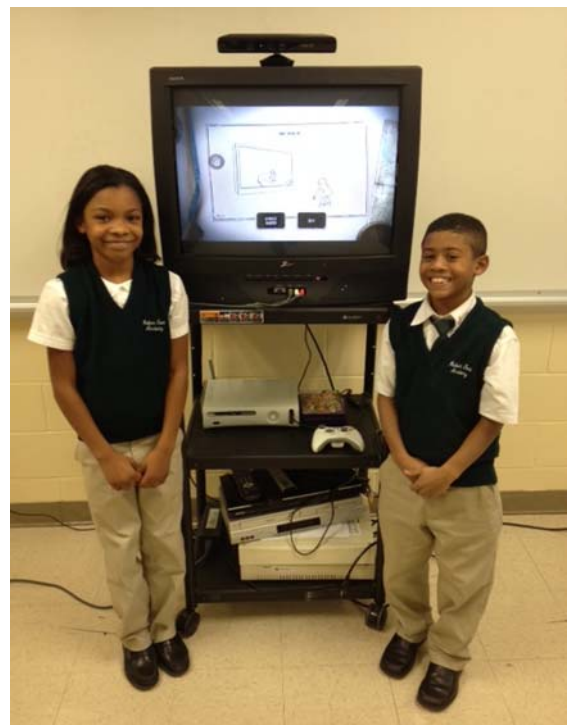
Students should understand the importance of using the proper grip, stance, and swing method for each implement. Students will spend at least one full day practicing the proper methods and safety procedures before moving on to our games. Once the students have gained a deeper understanding of each skill, they will participate in various activities.

As we move into our hand-eye coordination unit, safety is the most important concept the students must understand. If students are not using these properly, they can really hurt someone or themselves. Before each class begins, I will sit with the students and continue to stress how safety is number one priority. The Kindergarten, First, and Second graders will be using bats so it will be just as equally important to stress the fact that they should not swing while anyone is around them.

Students may even have the opportunity to use the Xbox Kinect to play games involving coordination with such as baseball, tennis, and ping pong. This will help them hit objects by just using their hands which will allow them to have fun practicing while exercising.



KELVIN RAMOS, TYRESE PICKETT-TELFAR, DONALD LEONARD AND MALACHI BEACHUM ENJOYING XBOX KINECT SPORTS IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS. MYA SIMS-TAYLOR AND NAAZIR JACKSON ENJOYING XBOX KINECT ADVENTURES DURING PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS IN THE CLASSROOM.



Jackie Robinson Campus **Parent Council Meeting**

will be held on Wednesday,

January 29, 2014 at 6:45 P.M.

in the MultiPurpose Room!





What a great way to say "I Love You"

Specialty Apples

Apples to be delivered for Valentine's Day

Cost: \$10.00 each

All orders must be in by February 1, 2014
3:00 pm

Brochures have been sent home with your child. Payment must be received with your order. Checks to be made out to Robert Treat Academy.

Thanks in advance for your fundraising efforts.



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

SCHOOL CLOSING DATES		2013-2014	# OF DAYS STUDENTS/TEACHERS
<u>2014</u>			
January	1	School Closed – New Year's Day	
	2	School Reopens	
	17	Staff Development School Closed	
	20	School Closed – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20 / 21
February	17	School Closed – President's Day Observance	19 / 19
March			21 / 21
April	14-18	School Closed – Spring Recess	
	21	School Reopens	17 / 17
May	26	School Closed – Memorial Day Observance	21 / 21
June	26	Last Day of School – 8 th Grade Graduation	19 / 19
TOTAL # of Days – STUDENTS			204
TOTAL # of Day – TEACHERS			208

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.



Calendar of Events

January 16	Thursday	Board of Trustees Meeting at North
January 17	Friday	Professional Development Day for staff No school for students
January 18	Saturday	No Saturday Classes
January 20	Monday	School closed in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Did You Know?

A copy of our newsletter now appears on line every month.

To access it on line you merely go to www.roberttreatacademy.org

After you get into the website go to RTA News and when the window drops down click on RTA Newsletters