



# Treatonian



Volume 20, Issue I  
August & September  
2017



Stephen N. Adubato

## Robert Treat Academy Charter School

*Two Campuses, One Community United by a Passion for Learning*



Jackie Robinson

### Principal's Message

Welcome back to another school year at Robert Treat Academy!

There are a few changes you were informed of at our Back to School Night that are worth repeating. The most significant change is in the student reporting cycles. We have transitioned from ten reporting cycles to eight. This decision was made to give students more time within a cycle to improve their grades. This is especially important for middle school students. We added another instructional component to our arsenal of supports for students and teachers. The program is called I-Ready. This is an individualized learning program for students and an instructional program for teachers. Students work through lessons and then are assessed. Teachers receive immediate feedback in order to provide targeted instruction to students.

I want to thank you all for complying with our uniform policy. I remind you if there are any hardship issues that are stopping you with complying with this policy, please contact me.

I want to thank most of you for complying with our traffic plan. We still have a few parents at our North campus who refuse to understand the plan is about student safety and following the law. It is not about parental convenience. The most important features of the plan; 1. DO NOT CROSS STUDENTS FROM THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE STREET. 2. DO NOT BLOCK DRIVEWAYS. 3. DO NOT DOUBLE PARK YOUR CAR AND LEAVE IT UNATTENDED. 3. DO NOT TRIPLE PARK. Again, most of our parents have been very compliant with the plan.

We have received PARCC and NJ-ASK Science scores. Once again, your children and the scores for the school are exceptional. As they are still embargoed, I cannot not share them with you at this time, but hope to be able to very soon.

Our students enjoyed our 'rain date' Founder's Day held in August. As always it was a huge success thanks to the efforts of our parent volunteers and our staff.

As always I look forward to working with all of you to ensure another successful school year for our students.

## Stephen N. Adubato Students of the Month for June, 2017!

Ahmani Robinson	104	Izabelle Herrera	207	Elijah Jackson	308
Pamela Goez	107	Antonella Ortega	208	Madison Vargas	310
Skyler Martins	201	Justin Guaman	210	Alexandra Bobadilla	Art
Alexandra Bobadilla	202	Brendaliz Arroyo	301	Skyler Martins	Music
Romeo Quimis	203	Yasline Francisco	302	Kellani Laidly	P. E.
Milagros Velasquez	204	Jahnay Daley	303	Sianna Rosario	Science 6-8
Solmarie Rodriguez	205	Brandon Turcios	304	Delaia Baez	Technology
Kellani Laidley	206	Matthew Duthie	306		





## Jackie Robinson Campus Students of the Month for June 2017!

Melanie Lopez-Silvero	12	Alexander Cruz	22	Yaseenah Abdullah	Science
Mark'kia Leonard	13	Hayat Bembry	23	Juel Cruz	Music
Tre'Von Jackson	14	Isis Pabon	24	Skylar Motley	P. E.
Rest Afolabi	15	Tahiyah Williams	27	Alani Rodriguez	Technology
Mary Chukwudinma	21			Gabriel Jimenez	Art





## Stephen N. Adubato Students of the Month for August, 2017!

Tamia Louissaint	104	Maylynn Rodriguez	207	Sophia Duthie	308
Izabelle Herrera	107	Arianna Guerrero-Valencia	208	Adesuwa Aimiokunvbivvie	310
Ethan Capintero	201	Destinee Duran	210	Emily Pena	Art
Cyrae Brooks	202	Anthony Silva	301	Victoria DaSilva	Music
Tristan Gonzalez	203	Veronica Velasquez	302	Kelvin Ramos	P. E.
Antonio Lance	204	Alonso Vega	303	Justin Hubbard Jaedin Marsette	Science 6-8
Luna Cardenas	205	Chloe Reyes	304	Richard Pisano	Technology
Mithayus Diaz	206	Aaliyah Salva	306		





## Jackie Robinson Campus Students of the Month for August 2017!

Mya Pintado	12	Hayat Bembry	22	Carter Brown	P. E.
Victoria Thomas	13	Samson Nwobi	23	Ashley Martins	Technology
Josiah Berrios- Diaz	14	Elisanai Lugo Peralta	24		
Tre'Von Jackson	15	Joanne Ahkibi	27		
Elizabeth Esteves	21	Nayeline De La Cruz	Music		





# RTA 2017 Award's Ceremony







*Congratulations!*







# September 16-October 16, 2017

## Citrus Sale

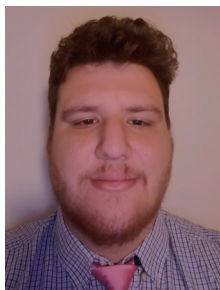
The middle school students of RTA will be participating in the citrus sale this coming month. The proceeds will be used for the expansion of the JRC. The citrus sale has moved into the 21<sup>st</sup> century whereas you may order on line and/or send it to an address other than being delivered to the school. This is great for gift giving and expanding our sales to family members that do not live nearby. Thank you in advance for your help in our fundraising.

Please have all sales into school by October 16, 2017 so we may receive our order the week before Thanksgiving. All orders must be accompanied with payment (cash or checks made out to Robert Treat Academy).

<https://shop.floridaindianrivergroves.com/ecommerce/103375/page/welcome>



## Get to Know New Staff Members



**Hugh Ahern**

**(JR Campus)**

I graduated from Rutgers University, where I was a member of the school's football team, in 2015 with my masters in education. I spent my last year teaching math at a public school in Chelsea Massachusetts. I am very much looking forward to coming back home to New Jersey and teaching middle school math at Robert Treat Academy.

**Ashley Wetzel**

**(SNA Campus)**

Hello! My name is Ashley Wetzel and this is my first year working at RTA in sixth grade ELA. I graduated with my B.A. from Kean University with a teaching degree in Pre-school-third grade alongside with Special Education. I am very excited to join the wonderful staff here and students here at RTA.



**Katherine Cryan**

**(SNA Campus)**

My name is Katherine Cryan, and I will be the Resource Room teacher for the 2017-2018 school year. I recently graduated from King's College located in Wilkes-Barre Pennsylvania, where I received my degree in Elementary and Special Education. To get to know me a little more, I was a college lacrosse player, I traveled to Africa, and I love to read. Overall, educating is a passion of mine, and I look forward to contributing to a productive school year at Robert Treat Academy.

**Janet Mondragon**

**(SNA Campus)**

I am the new instructional assistant for Ms. Gilles' first grade class. I graduated from Kean University with a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education. I am bringing my experiences of substituting and tutoring to Robert Treat Academy. I hope this year will be filled with plenty of educational and joyous moments.



**Susan Rodriguez**

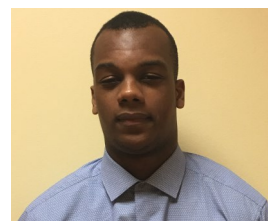
**(SNA Campus)**

Hi! I am Ms. Rodriguez and I will be working with Ms. Livardo in the second grade class. This is my first year at Robert Treat Academy. I graduated Montclair State University in 2016 with a bachelor degree in Family and Child Studies with a Concentration in Family Services and a Psychology Minor. Before RTA I was a Pre-K teacher for six years. I am looking forward to this new journey.

**Yann Ulysse**

**(SNA Campus)**

My name is Yann Ulysse. I graduated from St. Benedict's Preparatory School in 2013. From there, I went on to attend Hamilton College in Clinton, New York. During my time at Hamilton I studied Mathematics and Philosophy.







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**Jessica Soto****(SNA Campus)**

Although this is only my second year in education, I have a big heart for children! I was previously involved in parallel teaching at a pre-k school. I have also served as a paraprofessional and provided ABA Instruction to children with Autism. I was born in Newark, NJ and graduated from Belleville High School. My undergraduate work was completed at Montclair State University where I earned my bachelor's degree in family and child studies. I love making new memories with my family!

One exciting thing we did this summer was take a helicopter ride over NYC!

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**Nyesha Little****(JR Campus)**

Good Morning, my name is Nyesha Little I am the new Instructional aid working in the kindergarten classroom with Michael Lee in room 13C. I previously worked in the Irvington school district as ABA therapist working with students with disabilities. I hold a Bachelors in English and just finished my master's in Special Education. I look forward to working with all the students and having a great year.



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**Jennifer Fanelli****(SNA Campus)**

My name is Jennifer Fanelli and this is my first year at RTA. I am the new Kindergarten teacher in room 301 with Ms. Lee. I recently graduated this May from Kean University with my degree in Early Childhood Education. I am very happy to be at RTA and excited to see what the new school year will bring.

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**Sarah Oese****(SNA Campus)**

As the new Instructional Assistant for seventh and eighth grade English Language Arts. As the new instructional assistant for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade ELA, I am excited to be working with Ms. Coyle. I have recently earned my bachelor's degree in P-12 English Education from Kean University, becoming the first person in my family to graduate from a four-year institution. In my free time, I love hiking, swimming, and weight lifting. I love reading science fiction and fantasy, and my favorite authors include Libba Bray, Delilah S. Dawson, and Kiera Cass. I am really looking forward to an awesome year with the amazing students and staff at RTA, who have already made me feel so welcome!



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**Theresa Rivera****(SNA Campus)**

Hi! I am Ms. Rivera and I have been teaching at RTA for about 14 years. I took last year off to stay home with my 1-year-old and 3-year-old. I will be teaching 8th grade ELA this year. I am happy and excited to be back and also looking forward to inspiring young minds!



## Sculpture Fun in First Grade!

First-Grade Team, JR

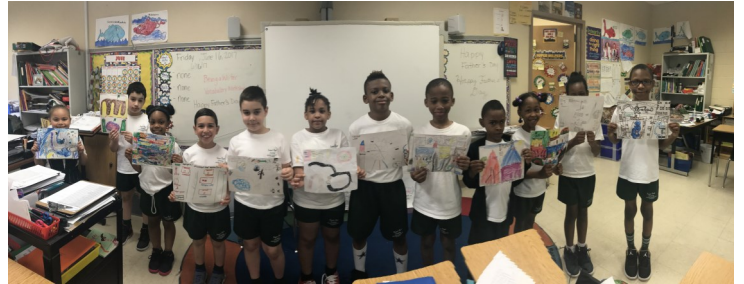
To wrap up our read-alouds for the year, we read In Mary's Garden by Tina and Carson Kugler. The story is about a young artist, named Mary, who uses items that she finds in order to make artistic sculptures. Mary uses chicken wire, feathers, and other things that she finds in her backyard or on the beach. After reading, we went on a scavenger hunt to find our own items! We found materials in our homes and in our classrooms and put them all together in order to make sculptures of our own. We had so much fun being creative. We made some incredible projects out of ordinary, everyday items.



## On the Ride to Success!

Second-Grade Team, JR

Second grade students in Room 14 ended their year creating their own amusement parks! Not only did the class design their own dry amusement or water-park, they also wrote a description of the rides that would be included. Their map entailed a vivid drawing of their park as a guide for their peers/ guests in order to help with envisioning the innovative creation. Students were even kind enough to include where restrooms, restaurants, and snack locations were throughout their amusement park. We really enjoyed listening to all of the creative ideas our fellow classmates had!



## Summer Sun!

Mr.Ontell, Phys. Ed. Teacher, SNA

In June, our students participated in kick-ball, wiffleball, running bases, and cooperative games. We spent a great deal of time outside where classes could take full advantage of the track, turf field, and playground. Our gardening club will be happy to harvest the crops they planted back in May. Here we have a variety of tomatoes, zucchini, squash, basil, mint, and lavender! Looking forward our students jumping back into PE to work on team building and circuit training!



## Owl Pellets

Ms.Litterio, Science Teacher, SNA

As we closed out the school year, I decided it would be a great wind-down activity to complete an Owl Pellet Dissection. We learned about the behavior of raptors, analyzed its feeding habits and took a close look at its anatomy in order to understand the owl and its hunting mechanisms. Each student received an owl pellet and a skeleton guide where they had to match up the skeleton with one of the typical prey of an owl. To say the least, our students had a blast!

## Art in June

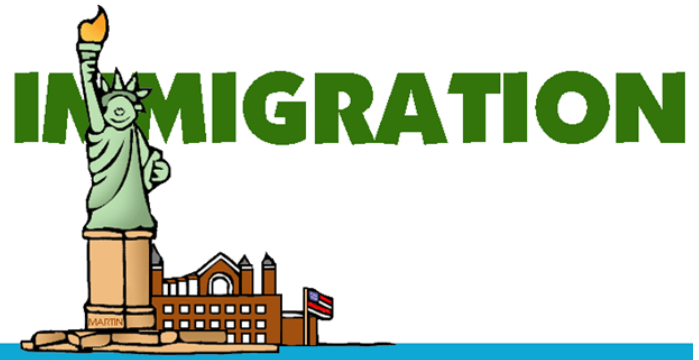
Ms. Krinner, Art Teacher, SNA

June has been a very creative month in the art room! Students were working on finishing their projects that focused on expressing their individual voices as artists. Lessons we worked on in June promoted deeper, critical thinking. Students worked hard all year and should be very proud of the work they created in the last 11 months.



## Sixth Grade Class Trip

Sixth-Grade Team, SNA



The sixth grade classes from the SNA and JRC campus went to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty for their class trip. The day started with a ferry ride from Liberty State Park in New Jersey to Ellis Island. Ellis Island was the gateway for over 12 million immigrants, which was the nation's busiest immigration inspection station for over sixty years. The students explored many of the rooms and stations throughout the buildings as well watched informative videos. Many of the students also participated in a scavenger hunt of the building which earned them badges upon completion. We all enjoyed a picnic lunch on the lawn of Ellis Island before boarding the ferry again for a quick ride to the Statue of Liberty.

The Statue of Liberty is located on Liberty Island in New York Harbor. The copper statue was a gift from France to the United States. The Statue of Liberty is a figure of a robed woman who represents Libertas, a Roman goddess. She holds a torch above her head and carries a tablet which is inscribed with July 4, 1776, the date of the U.S. Declaration of Independence. A broken chain lies at her feet. The statue came to represent freedom and was a welcoming symbol to immigrants arriving from abroad. The students also had the advantage of climbing up to the pedestal of the statue which brought them up 154 feet. Once they reached the top of the pedestal they were able to walk around outside and get a magnificent view of the New York City skyline, Ellis Island, and New York Harbor.

The students returned by ferry to Liberty State Park to end their day. It was an enjoyable, educational day for all.

## Butterflies

First-Grade Team, SNA

As part of Earth's Birthday Project, we raised our very own butterflies and studied their life stages. A caterpillar goes through four distinct life-cycle stages as it makes a complete metamorphosis into a butterfly.

As time went by we received tiny live caterpillars. These little caterpillars did not stay small and cute for long. Within days, we watched them eat and grow rapidly. We observed the caterpillars in centers and made daily observations. We noticed a change in color, size, daily activities, and finally watched them shed their final caterpillar exoskeleton and form the chrysalis.

After eight days, our butterflies emerged from the chrysalises. Our bravest first graders had an opportunity to hold the butterflies and view them up close before their release. Raising butterflies has been a wonderful experience and one that first graders will never forget!



## Eighth Grade Students Moving On to the Next Step

Eighth-Grade Team, SNA

The eighth grade students have graduated and moved on to the next step of their lives--various prestigious high schools that now await the important contributions that they will make. This was a very good group of students that understood the importance of hard work, determination, maturity, and a good sense of humor. They worked hard to achieve their goals and were very successful at Robert Treat. We are certain that they will become very successful in their future endeavors and achieve great things throughout higher education. We are very confident in their abilities as their futures await them. Best of Luck to the RTA class of 2017!

## Finishing Strong!

Sixth-Grade Team, JR



The sixth graders at JRC finished a great year by working hard and ending strong. They completed math projects where they made their own games, solved puzzles, and even created original artwork to explain math concepts they learned throughout the year. In addition,



they finished their final novel of the year, *Tangerine*. Finally, we had a great time on our class trip to Ellis Island and Liberty Island! We are so proud of the growth that our students have demonstrated this year, and know that they will

begin seventh grade by displaying the skills and maturity they have developed!

## Welcome Back!

Third-Grade Team, SNA

August is here already. However, by the time you read this message, our students will have been well on their way to understanding how to succeed in third grade.

To begin with, in literacy, students have submitted a third grade book report and their summer reading assignments, which have included some interesting information about themselves. They will also “shake off some rust” by completing short writing tasks, and reading, discussing, and responding to various forms of texts. In math, they have worked on skills learned previously, over the July break, so they are ready to receive lots of new information and strategies. Homeroom teachers have led very thoughtful discussions of the class rules and how each person is held accountable for honoring them. Behavior management plans were implemented, explaining how students can reach their goals each day, week, month, etc..

Technology is also essential for our students to succeed in today’s world, and we will be utilizing much of it in our daily lessons.

By now, students also understand how completing homework provides essential practice and enhances knowledge and grades.

We look forward to an exciting, new year, with many challenges, and opportunities for our students to succeed in third grade.



## Summer Reading is Delicious

Fourth-Grade Team, JR

The Fourth Grade is kicking off their school year with some delicious Cereal Box Book Reports based on a novel that students read over summer break.

To decorate the cereal box, the students had to invent a name for the cereal that is related to the title of the book and sounds like a cereal. Then they wrote about different parts of the book on different sides of the cereal box. For instance, their “ingredients” were the different characters and a sentence describing them. Student also described the setting, problem, and solution of the book on the remaining sides of the cereal box.

## Exploring the Liberty Science Center

Fifth-Grade Team, JR

The fifth grade visited the Liberty Science Center for their field trip. They explored many different exhibits, including the Mythbusters exhibit. Some of the favorites were the climbing area, the animal exhibit, and the Skyscraper. Many of the students participated in hands-on activities that got them involved in mini scientific experiments.



## CHROMEBOOKS Distributed to Fifth Graders

Fifth-Grade Team, SNA

Personal Chromebook laptop computers were distributed the first week of school to all RTA fifth graders.

The focus of the Chromebook program at Robert Treat Academy is to provide high-tech tools and resources for the 21<sup>st</sup> century learner. Teachers can now employ Chromebooks to integrate technology into the curriculum anytime, anyplace!

The use of Chromebooks will eventually make the need for lugging home a book bag laden with textbooks a thing of the past. For example: Ms. Silva’s fifth grade math students did not receive a math textbook this year. Instead, each student is expected to complete nightly math homework by accessing the math text on the Internet. So, forgetting to bring home a textbook is no longer a reason for missing a homework assignment!

To ensure that this tool is used in a responsible and ethical manner, students and their parents were required to sign a pledge before they were able to take possession of their Chromebooks. In addition, students are made aware that these devices are subject to random inspections throughout the school year.

It is also the responsibility for each student to charge his/her Chromebook each night so that it will be fully charged for the next day of learning. So, fifth graders, you now have a new item to add to your nightly routine: be sure to charge your Chromebook!



# chromebook

## End of the year

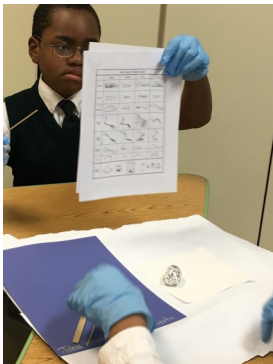
Mr. Comanda, Music Teacher, SNA

The word “bittersweet” has often been heard around the Academy this month. For obvious reasons, the upcoming graduation ceremony will undoubtedly bring about this emotion to fellow teachers, parents, administration and peers. It has been an absolute pleasure working with this specific group over the years and watching them grow as musicians and young human beings. They will certainly be missed, but I wish each and every one of them the best of luck on their journeys. They have set an excellent example for our younger ones and I look forward to writing a similar article for next year’s eighth graders.



## Oodles of Owl Pellets

Seventh-Grade Team, JR



The last week of school the seventh grade at the JRC dug into owl pellets. Owl pellets are the hairballs that owls cough up and leave in the wild. Inside these little morsels of hair are gems to the future scientist. The students had a great time pulling the pellets apart and finding skeletal bones of mice, moles, and small birds. After they pulled all the bones out, the students glued them into the actual skeletal shapes of the creatures the owl ate.





## Music Newsletter

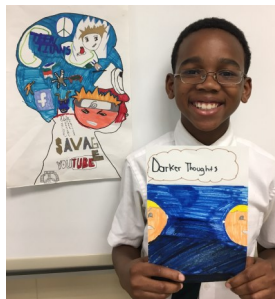
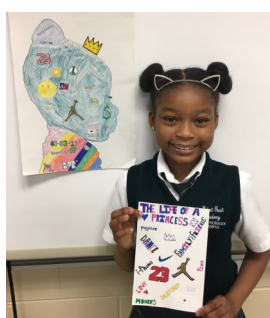
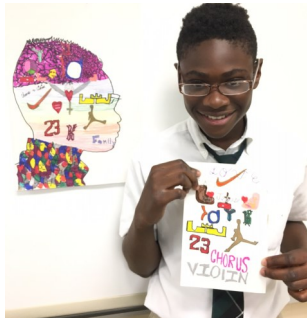
Ms. Walker, Music/Art Teacher, JR

I would like to congratulate Robert Treat Academy's star students of the month. It is quite an accomplishment to receive this amazing reward. Keep up the hard work.

What an amazing year it was! Our students worked very hard to be their best and I am very proud of their accomplishments. I would like to take this opportunity to express how proud I am of last year's chorus. Not only for their first place trophy and for excellent rating they earned in the Music in the Parks competition at Six Flags, but for their full year of performances and commitment. Being able to witness their growth right before my eyes is my proudest moment. We are looking forward to another great year with our new members. Auditions will take place this upcoming month. I wish you all the best of luck and a great school year.

Our fifth grade class ended last year with amazing art work featuring themselves. They completed two projects in their "All About Me" unit in art and they were quite impressive. The first project was to design a book cover about themselves. They were not allowed to write their names as a title, but rather draw pictures and words that represent them. Their second project was a drawn silhouette of themselves where they decorated the inside with some of their favorite things, cultural identities, and future goals or aspirations. These projects took a few weeks but it was worth it. Here are a few outstanding projects.

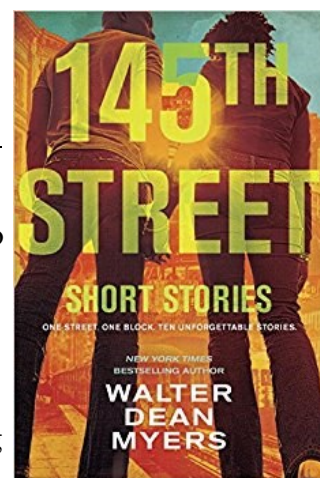
"The artist doesn't see things as they are, but as he is."



## 145th street

Seventh-Grade Team, SNA

This month, the seventh graders began reading their next novel, *145th Street*, written by Walter Dean Myers. In a kind of literary Rear Window, Myers uses 10 short stories to create snapshots of a pulsing, vibrant community with diverse ethnic threads, through all of its difficulties. Beginning with the tale of a wry character who stages his own funeral on a sweltering Fourth of July to celebrate the money he has received from canceling his life insurance policy, Myers then follows with a chilling story of a cop shootout gone wrong. Many of the stories are told through the voices of witty, intelligent teens. Jamie Farrell, in particular, is a standout as he relates his changing luck in "The Streak" and makes other cameo appearances. But even the more poignant stories told in the third person--such as that of Billy Giles, a middling fighter hired by the local gym to make contenders look good, and "Angela's Eyes," infused with superstition, in which Angela possesses the ability to foresee death and destruction through her late father's eyes--keep an inviting, conversational tone, Myers creates an overall effect of sitting on the front stoop swapping stories of the neighborhood. Most students will find that they could settle in for hours and take it all in.



## Seventh Grade Sailing Trip

Seventh Grade Team, JR



Our seventh graders had the opportunity to be educated by the joy of sailing the Shark River Bay in Belmar. They enjoyed this sport on a beautiful day with some of the friends they made at Friends of Belmar Harbor. This was a great opportunity to work hard while improving their skills, learning teamwork, confidence and self-control. They practiced multiple activities in order to be an active team player while getting along with others, learning the rules and playing by them. The students were able to paddle board, swim, kayak, and canoe.

They also got safety and swimming lessons by two instructors and learned the art of crabbing by Mr. Jeff! The students had a great time out on speedboats and sailboats, exploring Shark River and even going on an adventure out to the ocean. This was their second time there and they were so excited to see the same instructors as well as new faces! It was a great experience that they will carry with them for a lifetime!



## Online Safety

Mr. Pallante, Technology Teacher

Welcome back to another exciting school year. Over the past weeks we have been discussing the importance of online safety and cyberbullying. Students are made aware of the dangers that can occur when being online and how to protect themselves. Having a strong password, not giving out any personal information, and being responsible are just a few of the tips we discussed. You as a parent should always be mindful of what your child is doing online and keep the lines of communication open on how to be safe. I'm looking forward to a great year!

## Back to School Night in Third Grade!

Third Grade Team, SNA

Back to School Night was a HUGE success! Our parents had the opportunity to meet the third grade team and tour our beautiful classrooms. They were most excited about reading letters from their children. The students crafted friendly letters addressed to their parents describing their classrooms, favorite subjects, and what they're looking forward to learning this year. Many parents wrote back to their children encouraging them to do their best and continue to work hard all year. The third grade teachers and parents will work together to ensure that our students reach all the goals they set for themselves.



## Art in June

Ms. Krinner, Art Teacher, SNA

August has been a very productive month in the art room! Students were working on starting their first projects that focused the elements of art and principles of design. Lessons we worked on in August promoted understanding of these key vocabulary words associated with art. Students are showing great talent in art and I am very excited to see what they will create this year!



## Sailing Adventures with The Friends of Belmar Harbor

Sixth Grade Team, SNA



Recently the sixth grade spent two fun packed days in Belmar learning how to sail as well as many other activities. We started off our trip with some fun team building games on the big lawn. Next we were assigned to groups to begin our awesome adventure.



We went out in small groups on the sail boats, where we learned how to work the sails and get the boat moving on its wind power on the Shark River. We also learned swim safety where we were taught how to rescue swimmers from the land as well as the water. We practiced our swimming and floating and had a great time jumping off the dock. Some of us also learned how to go crabbing and were very successful in baiting and lowering traps into the water. We caught a lot of crabs but after observing them and learning how to hold them, we returned them to the water. We were also able to spend some time on the beach looking for shells and other marine life and had a fantastic time kayaking and paddle boarding. We were also treated to a motor boat tour of the Shark River and even went out into the Atlantic Ocean where we witnessed many dolphin sightings.

It truly was a memorable two days for us and we look forward to doing it again next year!

## New School Year

Mr.Bush, Phys. Ed. Teacher, JR

It has been a great start to the new school year! Many of the students have had the opportunity to participate in a few cooperative games, which focuses on many important skills such as listening, communicating, and being respectful to each other. It is very important to enhance our cooperative skills in order to succeed in Physical Education class. My main goal is to create a positive learning environment where all students feel comfortable.

The area of focus in Physical Education class for the month of September is fitness. Students will have the opportunity to play various activities that will build their flexibility, cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, and muscular endurance. At the end of the unit, students will start their physical fitness tests. Students will be encouraged to try their best, rather than just focusing on achieving the best possible score.

## Soaring into Kindergarten!

Kindergarten Team, SNA



Our new class of superheroes has arrived! They have been hard at work since their first day here. Students quickly learned school rules, classroom routines, and have made new friends. In the classroom students are learning the alphabet, counting and recognizing numbers, writing their names, listening to stories, and so much more! We cannot wait to show all of Robert Treat what the Kindergarten can do. It is going to be a great year!



## America's Grow-A-Row

### Volunteers to harvest vegetables for those in need

Eighth grade team, SNA and JR



On Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> the eighth grade class took a trip to Pittstown, NJ to pick zucchinis, cucumbers and green beans that would be donated to hunger relief agencies throughout NJ.



The students picked over 4000 pounds of produce which we were told would make over 16,000 servings for those in need. The students were very proud of themselves knowing they helped by contributing to the social responsibility of their community. WELL DONE EIGHTH GRADE!!!!!!!!!!



## Cells

Ms.Litterio, Science Teacher, SNA

Eighth Grade Parents,

Your child's class has begun studying the unit "Cells."

The learning experiences in this unit prepare students for the mastery of the following Performance Expectations:

- Conduct an investigation to provide evidence that living things are made of cells; either one cell or many different numbers and types of cells.
- Develop and use a model to describe the function of a cell as a whole and ways parts of cells contribute to the function.

As students work towards success with these Performance Expectations, they will learn about more than just science content. Students will practice planning and carrying out investigations and developing and using models. They will also explore the roles that scale and structure and function play in many areas of science.

To stay up to date with our progress, ask often about what's happening in science class and check the RTA website.

To extend the learning at home, activities you and your child can do together include:

- Play organelle charades by taking turns using body movements and props to model the function and/or structure of an organelle while the second person guesses the correct organelle.
- Write a creative short story that describes a person entering and exploring a cell and its components. Discuss with your child why a change in perspective and scale would be necessary for this level of observation.
- Read a reliable article about the ongoing search for life beyond Earth, particularly the search for water on other planets and moons. Help your child prepare an oral argument explaining why water is necessary for cells and, therefore, life as we know it on Earth.

Thank you for your time and interest. Your participation in your child's education is a sure way to encourage learning!



## First Month Done!

### Second Grade Team, SNA



Throughout the month of August we have been working on our new classroom routines. We have been working on our school work and of course, patiently waiting for Founder's Day!

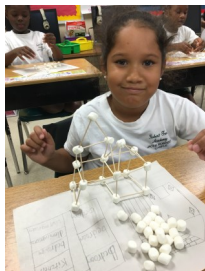
Since moving up from first grade, we have been on a roll and we are ready to learn and take on the new challenges second grade has to offer. Everyday we have been hard at work correcting sentences, finding place values, writing spelling words, creating amazing stories and growing as individuals. Now for what we were all looking forward to, Founder's Day!!

This year Founder's Day was very exciting because we had a carnival theme. There were carnival games and we had the opportunity to win prizes. There were three different inflatables which we really enjoyed: a jumping one, an obstacle course and a big slide. It is safe to say that we had a blast. For lunch we ate burgers, hotdogs, watermelon, nice cold lemonade and our favorite ice cream. We also enjoyed some time doing some arts and crafts, getting fun tattoos and silly face paintings. Our last activity was the playground where we listened to music, danced, ran around and played with our friends. We had an amazing time and this was an awesome way to get welcomed back to school. We are really excited for the new school year and we know it will be full of growth and learning.



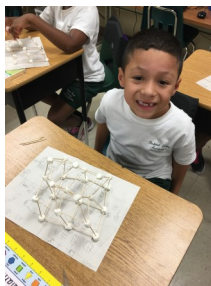
## Future Engineers

### Second grade Team, JR



Within our first month back, the second grade at JRC jumped right into the new science curriculum. The first lesson is all about being an engineer in which they learned the Engineer Design Process. The first step consisted of finding a problem. The children had to

design a house for victims of Hurricane Sandy. Next, they made blueprints of their houses. Once the blueprint was approved, it was time to put in the handy work. The students built their houses out of marshmallows and toothpicks. The next step was to test and improve. Some students had a couple of trial and errors but, overall with all the steps, the houses turned out great.



## Place Value of Whole Numbers

### Fourth grade Team, SNA



The fourth grade is studying numbers to 100,000. Some of the skills your child is practicing are reading and writing large numbers in different ways (word form, standard form, and expanded form), comparing and

ordering numbers, and finding the rule in a number pattern.

Large numbers can be intimidating but when their place-value structure is understood, they are actually very simple. Encourage your child to draw a place value chart to help them compare and order large numbers. Your child can practice these skills at home. For example, place a few coins or other small household objects in each column and ask your child to write the number that is formed in word form, standard form and expanded form.



## Best year yet to come

### Mr. Comanda, Music Teacher, SNA

As fast as August flew by, I can already tell this is going to be the best year, musically, for our students. It has been an absolute pleasure meeting our new Kindergartners; they are already shaping up to be incredible musicians. This year, we are introducing more theater into our music classes and the students are having a great time in doing so. Although we have said our goodbyes to too many extremely talented eighth graders, I believe they have left some big shoes to fill. I can only hope that our new eighth graders are up to the task, but with a lot of hard work and dedication, I'm sure they are going to fare just fine.

## All about me!

### Third grade Team, JR

Over the summer, our class filled out the “Extra! Extra! Read All About Me” poster so that we can get to know each and every one of our students when they arrived! Most of our students are between seven and eight years old. We are excited to continue our reading series throughout the month. Our third graders are ferocious readers, and many enjoyed reading books over the summer. Many students had similar interests in books such as, *Charlotte’s Web* by E.B White and *Captain Underpants* written by Dav Pilkey. Pizza was the number one choice amongst our class as their favorite food. The students were also excited to talk about their favorite sports, as many were active throughout the summer. Their favorite sports included football, baseball, and soccer. One important event that was shared by our very own, Azariah Andrews, was that she toured a gymnastics championship over the summer.

“On November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016, my friend and I went to the Tour of Gymnastics Champions at the Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey. We danced in the opening ceremony. While we were dancing, Simone Biles, Laurie Hernandez, and Shawn Johnson walked by. We were lucky that our gymnastics coach chose us. We hope we can go to another show again!”



## BUSY MON“STARS”

### First grade Team, JR

This month the first graders at the Jackie Robinson Campus were thrilled to have their teachers from kindergarten another year! They were very eager to begin where we left off. With our new classroom theme “Monsters,” the first grade students were more than excited to see the new things first grade has in store for them. Beginning with centers, an innovative and challenging computer program i-Ready, and a new science curriculum, our first graders started off the school year with a full yet enjoyable load. Thus far, they have been busy Mon”STARS”!

## Seventh Grade Students Off to a Great Start!

### Seventh grade Team, SNA

The seventh Grade students at RTA North have established themselves well to this point. They are demonstrating academic responsibility, good examples, and mature conduct. They are very clear on the expectations of the middle school and have adapted well. We have communicated the importance of organization to them in order to maintain academic success and confidence throughout the school year. We are very pleased with their performance to this point and they seem to be enjoying the higher-level courses they are now taking. Our observations of them indicate that they are putting forth their best efforts and taking their responsibilities very seriously. We expect this effort to continue throughout the school year and will continue to communicate that. Let's keep them focused and ensure that they understand the importance of their continued academic success and demonstrating consistent maturity.

## Understanding Place Value

### Fourth grade Team, JR

Exploring place value of numbers up to the hundred-thousand place is what the fourth grade focused on in Math during August. Students worked on a number of projects in which they had to represent numbers in their different forms – standard, word, and expanded form. In addition, students were able to manipulate numbers to create numbers of a certain value. They had a lot of fun doing this in class and it will lay the foundation for all the math work we will be doing the rest of the school year!



## New Science Series Makes Its Debut for the 2017-2018 School Year

Fifth grade Team, SNA

RTA has acquired a brand new science curriculum and textbook series created by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt publishing company. Entitled HMH Science Dimensions, it is based on the Next Generation Science Standards (aka NGSS). Its goal is to raise the level of science literacy and achievement in our students.

The goal of science is to explain the natural world. The field of engineering is heavily emphasized since the goal of engineering is to solve meaningful problems in the world.

HMH Science Dimensions has been thoughtfully developed to incorporate the three dimensions of learning of the NGSS: disciplinary core ideas, crosscutting concepts and science and engineering practices.

In addition to a print version of the textbook, the students have access to a digital version of the text. The digital version has many features, including videos and links to external sites to provide students with opportunities for enhanced learning.

## Music Newsletter

Ms. Walker, Music/Art Teacher, JR

I would like to congratulate Robert Treat Academy's star students of the month. It is quite an accomplishment to receive this amazing reward. Keep up the hard work.

Chorus auditions are complete, sign-ups for various instrumental clubs are closed and very soon we will be taking off into another wonderful year of music. It is important that each student understands there are many students interested in these clubs but there is a limited amount of space available. If you are not chosen for what you auditioned for or signed up for, please try again next year. See your teachers and find out what you can improve on for the following year. Do not give up on your dreams.

Students who are chosen to participate, remember you are making a full year commitment to the program you decided to participate with. Do not take advantage of the privilege you were given by your teachers. Many students wish they had the opportunity you were given. Maintain a "B" average, practice to perform better and remember to have fun learning something new. Fall 2017, HERE WE COME!!

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

## It's a bird, It's a plane, It's KINDERGARTNERS!

Kindergarten Team, JR

Our kindergarten class at the Jackie Robinson Campus is so excited to start on their academic journey at Robert Treat Academy. Our theme this year is: **Superheroes** and the students love to be **Super Kindergartners!** They are excited for a great year of learning their letter sounds, counting, reading strategies, and making new friends. The students love ***centers*** where they are able to learn in a smaller group setting. They are learning how to work together as a team and they are doing a fantastic job at it! The Kindergarten Team at the Jackie Robinson Campus could not be more proud!



# PARENT COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE 2017-2018

## ALL MEETINGS BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 6:30 PM

<b>DATE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
Wednesday, August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Both Campuses	<b>BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT</b>
Tuesday, September 19 <sup>th</sup>	SNA	<b>Internet Safety: What Parents Need to Know</b>
Tuesday, October 24 <sup>th</sup>	SNA (6pm)	<b>Title I Parent Information Meeting</b>
<i>(Only for parents of title I students—notices will be sent home)</i>		
October 30 <sup>th</sup> –November 6 <sup>th</sup>	Both Campuses	<b>Parent Conferences-Cycle I Report Cards Distributed</b>
<i>(No Conferences on Halloween- Late Night Thursday, November 2nd)</i>		
Tuesday, November 14 <sup>th</sup>	Both Campuses	<b>Thanksgiving Play</b>
Thursday, December 14 <sup>th</sup>	SNA	<b>SNA Winter Concert</b>
Tuesday, December 19 <sup>th</sup>	SNA	<b>JRC Winter Concert</b>
January 22 <sup>nd</sup> – January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Both Campuses	<b>Parent Conferences-Cycle II Report Cards Distributed</b>
<i>(Late Night Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>)</i>		
Wednesday, February 21 <sup>st</sup>	SNA	<b>STATE OF THE SCHOOL</b>
Wednesday, March 21 <sup>st</sup>	SNA	<b>SNA Night of the Arts</b>
Thursday, March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	SNA	<b>JRC Night of the Arts</b>
Wednesday, April 25 <sup>th</sup>	SNA	<b>JRC International Dinner</b>
Thursday, April 26 <sup>th</sup>	SNA	<b>SNA International Dinner</b>
Tuesday, May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	SNA	<b>JRC Spring Concert</b>
Thursday, May 24 <sup>th</sup>	SNA	<b>SNA Spring Concert</b>
Friday, June 15 <sup>th</sup>	North Ward Center/ Branch Brook Park	<b>Founder's Day *</b>

(Although this is a student activity we welcome parent volunteers. Please sign up in the office.)

PARENTS MAY ATTEND EITHER MEETING DATE AT EITHER CAMPUS. THE DECISION TO HOLD THE LARGER EVENTS AT OUR SNA CAMPUS IS FOR THE COMFORT OF OUR PARENTS AND STUDENTS.



# Robert Treat Academy Charter School Calendar

## Stephen N. Aduato & Jackie Robinson Campuses

SCHOOL CLOSING DATES	2016-2017 <u>2016</u>	# OF DAYS STUDENTS/TEACHERS
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<b>July</b>	<b>31</b>	ORGANIZATIONAL DAY – All Staff Members Report (8:00 am)	<b>0 / 1</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>1</b>	Professional Development	
<b>August</b>	<b>2</b>	School Year Begins for grades K through 8	
	<b>11</b>	School Closed	
	<b>18</b>	School Closed	
	<b>25 -31</b>	School Closed – Summer Recess	<b>15 / 16</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>1 - 4</b>	School Closed – Summer Recess / Labor Day	
	<b>5</b>	School Reopens	<b>19 / 19</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>9</b>	School Closed – Columbus Day	<b>21 / 21</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>10</b>	School Closed – Veteran’s Day	
	<b>23-24</b>	School Closed – Thanksgiving Recess	<b>19 / 19</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>25 – 31</b>	School Closed – Winter Recess	<b>16 / 16</b>

### 2017

<b>January</b>	<b>1</b>	School Closed – New Year’s Day Observance	
	<b>2</b>	School Reopens	
	<b>15</b>	School Closed – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday	<b>21 / 21</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>19</b>	School Closed – President’s Day Observance	<b>19 / 19</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>30</b>	School Closed– Spring Recess	<b>21/21</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>2-6</b>	School Closed – Spring Recess	
	<b>9</b>	School Reopens	<b>16 / 16</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>25-28</b>	School Closed – Memorial Day Observance	<b>21 / 21</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>21</b>	Last Day of School – 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation	<b>15/ 15</b>

<b>TOTAL # of Days – STUDENTS</b>	<b>203</b>
<b>TOTAL # of Days – TEACHERS</b>	<b>205</b>

# Saturday Class Schedule Starting October 21st!!!

## Times for SNA:

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade **8:30 to 10:45**

4<sup>th</sup> Grade **8:00 to 11:15**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade **8:15 to 10:30**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade **8:00 to 11:00**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade **9:00 to 11:15**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**8:15 to 11:30(non-SSAT)**

**8:30 to 11:45(SSAT only)**

Starting January 6<sup>th</sup> class times will be  
8:15 to 11:30 for all 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

## Times for JR:

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

**8:30 to 11:30**

## Saturday Class Schedule 2017 - 2018

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.

– Theresa Adubato

October 21<sup>st</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders)

October 28<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders)

November 4<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders)

November 18<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders)

December 2<sup>nd</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders)

December 9<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders)

December 16<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders)

**January 6<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**NEW Schedule Begins for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade on January 6<sup>th</sup>**

January 20<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

January 27<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

February 3<sup>rd</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

February 10<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

February 24<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

March 3<sup>rd</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

March 10<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

March 17<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

March 24<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

April 14<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

April 21<sup>st</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

April 28<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

May 5<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades)

May 12<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grades)

PARCC Testing for Grades 7 and 8 will begin Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> and end Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

PARCC Testing for Grades 5 and 6 will begin Monday May 7<sup>th</sup> and end Friday May 11<sup>th</sup>.

PARCC Testing for Grade 3 and 4 will begin Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> and end Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

NJASK dates to be announced



## School Board Meeting Schedule

Thursday, July 20, 2017	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, August 17, 2017	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, September 21, 2017	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, October 19, 2017	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, November 16, 2017	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, December 21, 2017	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, January 18, 2018	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2018	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, March 15, 2018	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, April 19, 2018	Regular Monthly Meeting
Thursday, May 17, 2018	Regular Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, June 20, 2018	Annual Reorganization Meeting for 2018-2019

Welcome  
Back!



# 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:

- 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 Unit, call: Project CHILD FIND 1-800-322-8174.
- Assisting families of preschoolers, ages three through five, concerned about their child's development by directing requests to their local school district.
- Helping families access community services through referral.
- Promoting community and public awareness of all children with disabilities by providing information.
- 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.

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.