



# The Treatonian



ROBERT TREAT ACADEMY, CHARTER SCHOOL  
NORTH AND CENTRAL CAMPUSES

Volume 14, Issue 2

September 2011

## North Campus Students of the Month for August

Student	Rm./ Activity
Jaylin Lugardo	104
Asia Moore	107
Julisa Marcano	201
Gabriela Montero	202
Peter Reyes	203
Emir Akdogan	204
Indira Douglas	205
Paula Guzman	206
Liza Grier	207
Briana Hawley	208
Jordan Hubbard	210
Ciara Latchman	301
Ruben Gonzalez	302
Alianna Maduro	303
Madison Serrano	304
Destiny Maury	306
Glendaly Mendez	308
Maylynn Rodriguez	310
Mariah Lopez	Art
Jihad Marshall	Music
Andrew Vazquez	Science

## Our Principal's Message



The staff and students of the Academy have had a very busy month packed with a wide range of activities.

Most notably on September 19th we held our 8th annual Interview Day that was attended by 32 day and boarding schools. Three Hundred and Seventy Eight (378) interviews

took place on that day! I want to take this opportunity to thank our 8th grade parents, the staff of the High School Placement Department, and our students for making this day a huge success.

I want to address an issue of mutual concern. As you are aware, our students are successful and high achieving because of the high standards the Academy and their parents set for them. Having high standards is not enough to ensure success. We have to provide safety nets for students to achieve. One safety net, that has been proven to help students meet academic goals is our remediation program which takes place in our Extended School Day Program. Teachers have been advising me parents are not signing their children up for remediation due to the cost. Parents have also directly made me aware of this issue. I cannot allow this issue to interfere with providing extra academic support to those students who are in need of it. In an effort to assist you, I am reducing the cost for students enrolled in the remedial program (math/language arts/literacy) to \$5.00 per day. All other Extended School Day enrollment activities will remain at \$9.00 per day. This reduction in cost will begin on October 1, 2011. It is my expectation that you will cooperate with our requests for enrollment for remedial services. If you are unable to comply

## Central Campus Students of the Month for August

Student	Rm./ Activity
Qaadir Royal	12
Osaruonamen Okwudishu	13
Nyla Gilliam	14
Jahmir Wade	15
Sanaa Murph	Music
Christopher	Physical Ed.

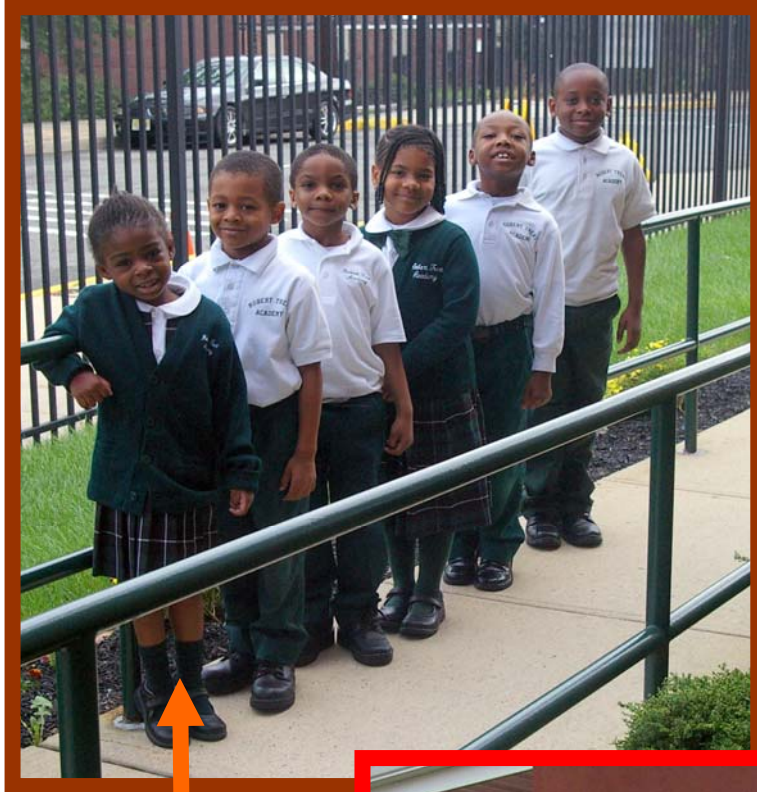
with this request, I ask you to contact me directly.

During the four short weeks we were off in July, our school underwent a major renovation. The entire roof was removed and a brand new roof was installed. The North Ward Center, without hesitation, arranged for this repair. All of our parent fundraising efforts this year will go towards helping The North Ward Center defray the cost of our new roof. This fundraising campaign will be kicked off the first week in October with the candy/gift brochure. During the year we will be conducting a variety of activities to help our parents meet fundraising goals. More communications will follow on this topic.

Sincerely,

Principal

# The August Students of the Month



North Students of the Month  
Pictured below, bottom to top and  
left to right!

Row 1: Madison Serrano, Destiny Maury,  
Glendaly Mendez, Ciara Latchman,  
Maylynn Rodriguez, and Alianna Maduro

Row 2: Julisa Marcano, Ruben Gonzalez,  
Mariah Lopez, Peter Reyes, and Gabriela  
Montero

Row 3: Indira Douglas, Jaylin Lugardo,  
Emir Akdogan, Briana Hawley and Liza  
Grier

Row 4: Paula Guzman, Jordan Hubbard,  
Jihad Marshall, Andrew Vazquez and Asia

Central Students of  
the Month  
Pictured on the left  
from front to back!

Sanaa Murph

Christopher  
Lewison

Osaruonamen  
Okwudishu

Nyla Gilliam

Qaadir Royal





## Central Connection

**Submitted by Mr. Parada, TA & Physical Ed.**

The administration and teaching staff at RTA recognize the important contributions parents make toward a child's success in school. We understand that success at school begins at home. Parents are a critical variable in a child's education by modeling both silent and spoken language in front of their children on a daily basis. One of the strengths of RTA is the partnership between school and parents who work together for the best interest of the child.

As we continue through the month of September, your child's teachers will continue to establish school standards, school rules, and classroom routines. These routines, blended with the teachers' instruction, form a smooth running classroom environment that is conducive to learning and growth.

At home, it is also important to establish a routine. Provide a time that gives students an opportunity to complete school work and recreational reading. During this time a suitable place, some-

what free of other distractions should be available. This sort of routine provides an opportunity to develop self-discipline, stimulate imagination, and enhance reading skills.



Commitment to the best for our children on the part of the parents, students, and staff is the key to our success with the children we teach. It is the hope of the staff that all parents will help us fulfill this commitment to excellence. We must all work together to build skills and knowledge, reinforce values, and develop a strong sense of worth. We must invest time and energies in our most valuable resource-our children.

## High School Placement News

**Submitted by Mr. Trillo, V.P.**

Our efforts to secure acceptances to great high schools for the class of 2012 are well under way here in the Office of High School Placement. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all the parents that came in to meet with myself and Ms. Corsey to discuss the individual goals and options for your children. Once the signed "matchup" sheets are returned we will be composing the schedule for the 8th Annual Robert Treat Academy Interview Day which will be held on Monday, September 19th.

Parents and students should receive schedules of the day's events approxi-



mately one week before it takes place. We look forward to hosting another successful interview day and expect over 40 high school representatives to visit with us on Monday, September 19th. As a reminder parents should be aware that public high schools will not be attending interview day and some of the private and catholic schools on student

matchup sheets may not be able to attend the event. Rest assured that any school that cannot attend the event will be scheduled to come in and visit with us at a later date to conduct student interviews for interested candidates. If any questions or concerns should arise, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Corsey, Ms. Almodovar, or myself in the High School Placement Office.

**Have you checked SchoolNotes.com lately?**

**You can access the website through [www.roberttreatacademy.org](http://www.roberttreatacademy.org), go to your child's teachers page and you'll find the link there.**

## Meet Our New Physical Education Teacher at North

Mr. Zach Ontell is a recent graduate of East Stroudsburg University with a Bachelor of Science in Health and Physical Education. This is his first year teaching at Robert Treat Academy and he is very excited to begin working with the students, staff, and community as a whole! His goal is for students to have fun learning as they work together to develop the physical, mental, and social skills necessary for success in the future. Mr. Ontell enjoys swimming, playing tennis, and lifting weights in his free time.



## Parent Council Meeting Attendance

### North and Central Campuses for School Year 2010-2011

Congratulations to the parents of the students in Room 304 at North Campus and the parents of the students in Room 12 at the Central Campus for having achieved 100% at the August Parent Council Meeting. This was our yearly “Back to School Night” where parents were asked to come out and meet their child’s teacher and hear what the grade expectations are for this year.

We hope that in the classrooms where attendance was poor that you will make every effort to attend our September Meeting which will be held on Wednesday evening, September 21, 2011, for parents at Central Campus and Thursday evening, September 22, 2011, for parents at the North Campus. Your support is really needed at these meetings. We ask you to make sure that every child is represented at these meetings.

HR	AUG.
301	84%
303	96%
308	84%
310	88%
304	100%
306	83%
302	88%
203	96%
201	92%
202	83%
205	88%
208	84%
204	66%
206	73%
207	84%
210	60%
104	79%
107	92%
C-13	92%
C-12	100%
C-14	92%
C-15	88%

Total- 86%

**“Your children need your presence  
more than your presents.”**

Jesse Jackson

## ***Interview Day Is Coming!***

**Submitted by the Eighth Grade Team**



On Monday, September 19th, the 8th graders and their parents will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from boarding schools, private schools, and parochial schools in preparation for high school next year. This event, which has been hosted at the Academy for the past 8 years allows both parents and students the chance to learn more about individual schools and also gives the admissions representatives the time they need to get to know our students.

Robert Treat will be visited by prestigious boarding schools, including Miss Porter's, Saint Paul's, Saint Andrews, Choate Rosemary Hall, and Episcopal High School. Among the elite day schools visiting are Newark Academy, Morristown Beard School, Seton Hall Preparatory, and Montclair Kimberley Academy. Other private school visitors include St. Benedict's Preparatory, St. Vincent Academy, and Immaculate Conception High School. All in all, over 35 schools will visit with the 8th grade students which is sure to be an exciting day!



## ***A Note From Our Music Room***

**Submitted by Ms. Corey, Music Teacher**



Music classes are in full swing! Already, we have learned about functional music ("I've Been Working on the Railroad" for example) and rhythmic notation. Equally exciting is the performance schedule for September 16:

the choir will be singing "Too-ra-loo-ra," "Oh, Danny Boy," and "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" for Big Steve's Irish Breakfast and the Class of 2014 will unveil a profoundly emotional surprise for World Peace Day. Hard work with enthusiasm is being done by all!



**Central Campus**  
**Parent Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 21, 2011**  
**at 6:45 PM in the Multipurpose Room**



## *K & L Gates Law Firm Awards Three Students*

**Submitted by: Mr. Golombuski  
Social Studies Teacher**

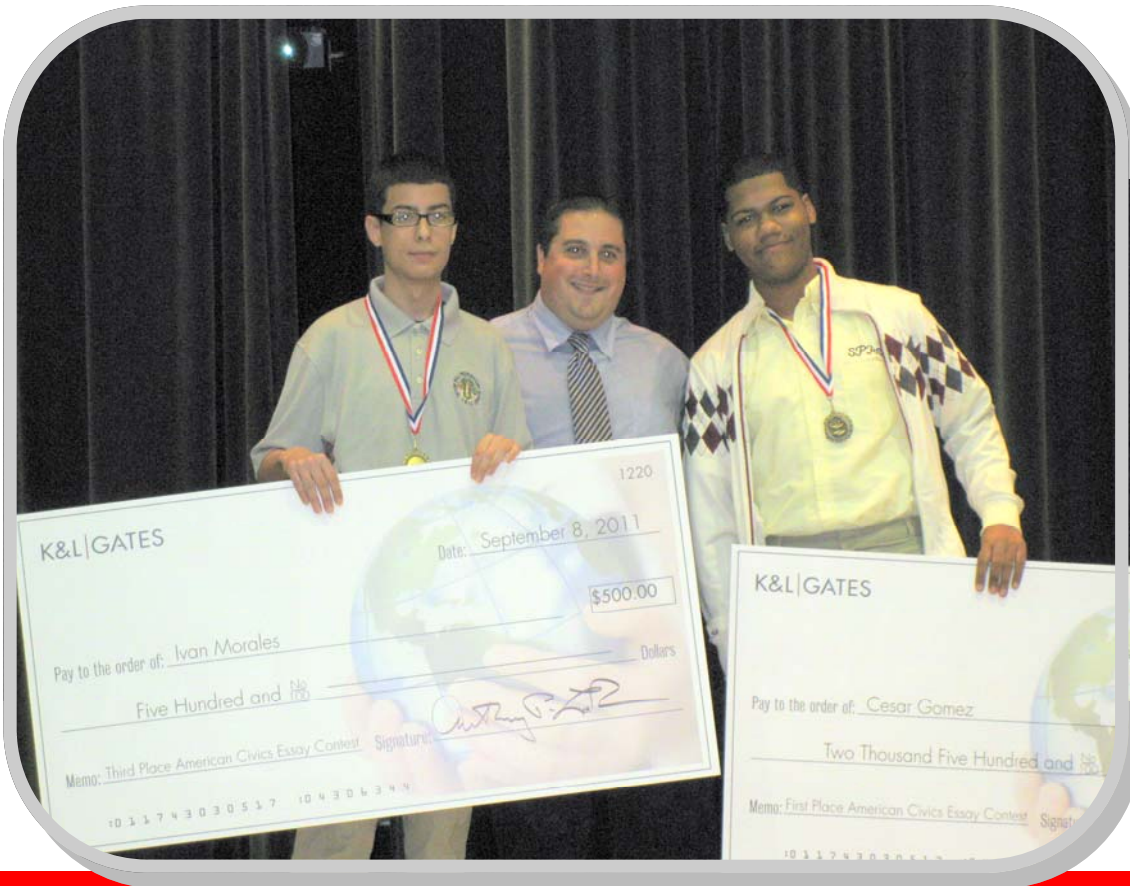
The Robert Treat Academy, along with the K & L Gates Law Firm in Newark have teamed up for the 7th consecutive year to present the American Civics Essay Contest Awards. This year's ceremony was held on Thursday, September 8th and featured the issuing of three financial awards for the Robert Treat Academy Class of 2011, who graduated in June. We were lucky to have two of the three finalists make an appearance at their former school to personally receive their awards and be recognized for their

strong efforts. The contest entailed the former 8th graders writing detailed essays about important national issues and how they would best handle them. They were very impressive! Robert Treat Academy is grateful for the continued generosity, support, and participation of the K & L Gates Law Firm in this process and in granting these awards. The current 8th graders have this contest to look forward to later in the school year. The three winners and their financial awards granted are as follows:

**Third Place---Ivan Morales -Awarded: \$500**

**Second Place-Alejandro Sheppard-Awarded: \$1000**

**First Place---Cesar Gomez-Awarded: \$2500**



**Pictured on the  
left-from left to  
right:**

**Ivan Morales**

**Mr. Golombuski**

**Cesar Gomez**



**North Campus**  
**Parent Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 22, 2011**  
**at 6:45 PM in the Multipurpose Room**

## *A Few Apologies Necessary!*

Two of our students were omitted from the Honor Roll list for Cycle V. They are Joshua Skillern from North Campus Room 107 and Mekhi White from Central Campus Room 15.

The other mistake to be rectified is the names of the students in the picture below:



LEFT TO RIGHT: KEVIN MILLAN, FERNANDO HERNANDEZ  
AND ANABELLE RODRIGUES

**School begins promptly at  
8:30 am each day.**

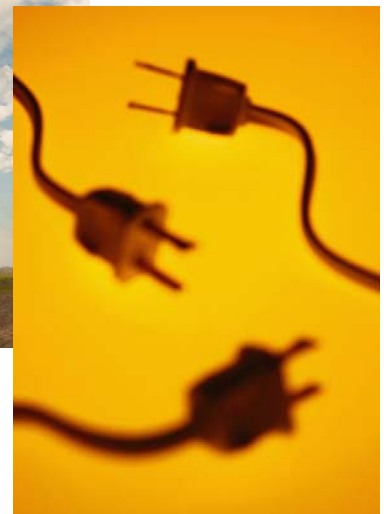
**Your children need your-  
help to get here on time.**

**If they enter school late,  
they miss Morning  
Exercises, a very important  
part of the school day.**

## *Seventh Graders Investigate Electricity*

**Submitted by Ms. Kelly-Kemple  
Science Teacher**

The students in grade seven are in the middle of their investigation of current electricity. They have completed a series of lessons that focused on static electricity. Students saw that energy generated by static electricity could light a neon lightbulb briefly. The students are now working in small cooperative groups to complete a variety of electrical challenges. The kids are given batteries, lightbulbs, switches, and clips to build circuits that turn lightbulbs on and off in a variety of ways. To further enhance their understanding of electricity the students are exposed to the language and code systems electricians use to communicate. They draw schematics of their circuits and use these schematics to develop an understanding of series and parallel circuits. The students are really enjoying the lab. Joel Ramos said, "Wow, now I know how my bedroom lights really work!".





# *We Are Sailing Into 6th Grade!*

**Submitted by Mrs. Roemer,  
Sixth Grade Teacher**

It's one thing to read about sailing and quite another to experience it and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class did just that. The first question the students asked was, "How will I drive the boat?" Quickly, they learned that they must determine where the wind is coming from. You do not actually drive the boat in a certain direction but instead a sailor holds the wind at a certain angle to their boat. The students learned that after determining the wind direction there must be a comparison to the direction that they want to go. They deter-

mined that sometime they will need to tack, which is to change direction by bringing the wind across the bow or perhaps they will have to jib, which is to change direction by bringing the wind across the stern. No matter what technique they may use, the students had an enjoyable and instructive experience. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade spent time learning about boats, looking for creatures of the river, playing through environmental exploration and the beauty of cooperation and friendships through sailing. These sailors cannot wait for next year.



**VERONICA BLAIR AND HER NEW  
FOUND FRIEND.**







## WHAT A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE!



**PICTURED ON LEFT-**  
**LEFT TO RIGHT:**  
**IRIS CHARMEKO**  
**BRITTNEY CARDONA**  
**SAMANTHA NIEVES**  
**JESSIE BERNARDO**  
**AND**  
**MR. FEINSTEIN**

**PICTURED ON RIGHT-**  
**LEFT TO RIGHT**  
**PEDRO REYES**  
**EMMANUEL UZETA**  
**RANDALL CARRERES**



## Kindness

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

For the month of August, second graders worked on the Unit titled **Kindness**. The story that was discussed and read throughout the week was called **"Because of You"**. It is a story about the importance of individuals. Students learned that the world changes each time a child is born. Every child can be loved and cared for and can love and care for another person. Each time a child is born, there is another person who can bring kindness into the world



and contribute to world peace.

Help your child realize the importance of acknowledging those around him or her. Explain that he or she is connected to the world and how he or she affects and is affected by many different people. Help your child understand the idea of a "chain of events" where one small incident can lead to something much bigger. After your child has finished reading "Because of You," you may want to complete the following activity together.

Let your child experience a chain of events in a tangible way by planting some seeds, nurturing them, and watching them grow into something beautiful. Do some research in a botany book or on the Internet to find out which flower or vegetable seeds can easily grow inside your home. Eventually, you and your child can spread kindness by sharing the flower or vegetable with a friend, family member, or neighbor.

Thank you for your support!

## Love From Home

### **Submitted by the Central Kindergarten Team**

The first days of a new school year can make a student nervous. This can also be true for kindergarten. To allay our fears we read the children's classic *"The Kissing Hand"* by Audrey Penn. The story relates the anxiety that Chester the Raccoon feels when he must leave his mom to go to

kindergarten. Mother Raccoon gives Chester a kiss on his palm and tells him that when he is lonely he can put his hand on his face to feel mommy's love.

The class then made their very own "kissing hand" through a handprint, a cut-out heart, and poem. The poem reads: "This kissing hand helped me start the new school year with love in my heart."



**PICTURED ON LEFT  
LEFT TO RIGHT:**

**OSARUONAMEN  
OKWUDISHU**

**SKYLAR MOTLEY**

**KIYARA GOODSON**

**SANAA SNEAD**

**CHUKWUEMEKA  
EZEONU**



## ***Even Students Need a Variety***

### **Submitted by the North First Grade Team**

In first grade it is important for the students to be exposed to a variety of reading materials. This school year, the reading process in our classroom will develop in two stages: through sharing Big Books during the first half of the year and by reading anthologies during the second half of the year. In these books, we will read many stories that revolve around a theme. These themes will be read about, thought about, discussed, and written about. The first theme we will be learning about is Back to School. Reading from the Big Book provides an opportunity for students to develop an awareness of print, recognize letters, distinguish words, and observe proper capitalization and punctuation. This will allow students to participate in reading behaviors as they observe what an experienced reader does.

In addition, parent involvement is a very important part of the reading process. Please encourage your child to read outside of school each day. Ask your child about the stories they read. This will help them develop strong comprehension skills and encourage the students to read for meaning. Together we can nurture our children and help them become great readers!



## ***“Imagine It!”***

### **Submitted by the North Third Grade Team**

The third grade has been busy learning all about friendship. Our new reading series “Imagine It!” has introduced us to an exciting world of colorful friendships and respectful relationships among our peers. While reading stories such as “Amos & Boris”, “Rugby & Rosie”, “The Legend of Damon and Pythias”, and “Good-Bye 382 Shin Dang Dong”, we have learned how to accept people for who they are, how to give a little to get a little, how to have faith and trust old friends, and how to not be scared of new places and people. We have taken this month and the theme of friendship to introduce our character education lessons as well. The third graders are on their way to being bigger and better friends to their classmates!! You should try it too!



## ***Grade 4 Math Classes Have a New Math Textbook Series!***

### **Submitted by the Fourth Grade Team**

The fourth grade is very excited to start the new school year with a new math textbook series. They will be using the Math Connects series, which is published by MacMillan/McGraw Hill. What is particularly exciting about this series is that it is so much more than just a textbook. It comes with many Internet resources to support our students, especially at home.

Accessing the online resources is easy. The student must log on to the MacMillan/McGraw Hill website at [macmillanmh.com](http://macmillanmh.com). Once, there, they can gain access to a complete student edition **eBook**. In addition, the website has a wealth of fun learning activities to support every chapter in



the text! Some of the online support lessons are available in both English and Spanish. This is particularly valuable for those students whose parents are more fluent in the Spanish language.

We hope that all of our students will make use of these valuable learning tools.

# Math, Math, Everywhere

**Submitted by the North Kindergarten Team**

The Kindergarten students are becoming mathematicians. Already they have been sorting shapes, creating patterns, making graphs and more. Each day they are engaged in activities with our class manipulatives. Our message to students

is that math is everywhere in our daily lives. Students make these connections with real life topics. They are also making connections to other subject areas such as science and social studies. Start a conversation at home about the ways you use math each day. Math can certainly be a fun and exciting learning experience for everyone!



**SAMANTHA CASTAING AND BRIANA WASHINGTON**



**ANDREA SUCHITE AND JOSUE BAEZ**

## Chess Anyone?

Fifth graders will be able to participate in a chess/checkers club, run by Ms. Barbalaco, as an After Care Club on Fridays from 4:00 to 5:00. Many students have already expressed an interest in either learning how to play chess, or improving their chess skills. Space is limited so the club is only available to fifth graders at this time, but may be opened up to other grades at a later time.

There have been studies which show

that chess can improve academic performance, and provide a positive social outlet as well. It's even been said that chess can teach students skills such as focusing, visualizing, thinking ahead, and planning.

Chess sets will be available, but students will be allowed to use their own chess sets if they choose to do so. Naturally, the number of chess sets needed, will be dependent upon the number of students that sign up. Online chess will not be utilized initially in the club.





# Remarkable Writers!

## **Submitted by the Central Third Grade Team**

Since practice makes perfect, third graders at RTA Central have been writing daily. Whether they are writing stories, journal entries or answering word problems they are using a "Proofreading Checklist." Third graders are remembering to use a variety of literary techniques, including indenting each paragraph, using topic sentences, extending sentences using *who*, *what*, *where*, *why*, *when*, or *how*, and writing a closing/feeling sentence.

The third grade students worked hard to put together their first writing sample for the year. Students began by brainstorming topics of interest. They then began the writing process which involved prewriting, drafting, peer-editing, publishing and sharing. This process helped the students with the organization and thinking required to write well.

Students enjoyed explaining their experiences on various topics. Camilla wrote about her plane ride to Peru. She was in charge of taking care of her brother as this was their first plane adventure to visit family without their parents. Kennedy wrote about all the things she likes about her family. Amaris enjoyed describing her trip to "Great Wolf Lodge" while Isis reminisced about going to Hawaii. Aiden and Mekhi both explained their love for football, while Ibn explained how he has worked hard practicing basketball with his dad. All of the third graders enjoyed explaining in great detail of their personal experiences. After completing the writing process for the first time, they feel confident and excited about their next writing project!



**NILSA RAMOS AND AMARIS HERNANDEZ**



**JANIA NORALES AND JAHMIR WADE**

## **BOOK FAIRS ARE A 'COMING!'**

### **CENTRAL CAMPUS**

**MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY—NOVEMBER 21, 22, AND 23, 2011**  
**TIME SCHEDULE TO BE ANNOUNCED!**

### **NORTH CAMPUS**

**MONDAY THRU FRIDAY—DECEMBER 19, 20, 21, 22, AND 23, 2011**  
**TIME SCHEDULE TO BE ANNOUNCED**



**THERE IS NO BETTER FRIEND THAN A GOOD BOOK!**  
**SAVE SOME OF YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING FOR THE BOOK FAIR!!**

# Alphabet Fun

## **Submitted by the Central First Grade Team**

The first grade has spent the first few weeks reviewing the alphabet. They were very excited when they finished talking about each of the letters. They were so excited that we had an alphabet celebration! The celebration began with a march around the classroom chanting the alphabet. It continued with reading the story "*Chicka, Chicka, Boom, Boom*". We ended our celebration with our mystery alphabet pictures.

For their mystery pictures, the students wrote their name on a paper. Then they had to decide what they could turn each letter into to disguise it. They may have turned their "M" into a mountain, their "O" into a cookie, or their "R" into a hose. The class had a lot of fun looking at all the pictures and trying to guess whose name it was.



## **Acceptable Use Policy**

**Please be reminded that both you and your child have signed the above policy which relates to the use of Internet in school. This limits the use of school computers to only educational projects or tasks assigned by the teachers. Students may not go on line to send or receive emails or literature that would not be appropriate for school use.**

**Students should be reminded that if they choose not to obey the policy that they signed, there will be consequences.**



# 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

September 19	Monday	8th Grade Interview Day
September 20	Tuesday	7th Grade to Far Hills
September 21	Wednesday	Central Campus Parent Council Meeting at 6:45 pm in the Multipurpose Room
September 22	Thursday	North Campus Parent Council Meeting at 6:45 pm in the Multipurpose Room
September 23	Friday	Awards Assembly 1:30 PM in Multipurpose Room  Board of Trustees Meeting

### **Target's Take Charge of Education Fundraising**



Every time you use your Target Visa or Target Guest Card® at a Target store or target.com, Target will donate an amount equal to 1% of Target Visa and Target Guest Card purchases made at Target and target.com, and 1/2% of Target Visa purchases made elsewhere, to the eligible K-12 school of your choice. Thanks to the



Target School Fundraising program, more than 114,000 schools have been able to pay for computers, playground equipment, field trips and uniforms for students whose families couldn't afford them. (Details a target.com. Click on the Target Guest Card link under Financial services)