



Treatonian



Volume 19, Issue 2
September 2016



Stephen N. Adubato

Robert Treat Academy Charter School

Two Campuses, One Community United by a Passion for Learning



Jackie Robinson

Principal's Message

Our Founder's *Vision* is Crystal Clear Twenty Years Later

Our twentieth-year anniversary logo, now featured on our school letterhead and in the banner of this newsletter, only serves to symbolize the incredible vision and work that has led to the initial and ongoing success story of Robert Treat Academy.



In 1997, when the State first issued charter school applications, my father, Stephen N. Adubato, was virtually first in line. Long before then, however, he had a vision for the children of Newark. He was unyielding in his conviction that provided the opportunity, children born and raised in an urban setting could learn and succeed in school and in life as more privileged students do. To that end, the school's mission statement called for giving children ages five and older an "opportunity to learn and grow in a safe and stimulating academic environment" and that in addition to mastery of core subjects immersion in core "values of self-worth, respect for one another, one's community, state and nation" were of equal importance.

After starting out in cramped quarters on Mt. Prospect Avenue, blueprints were drawn up for the North Ward campus, seemingly destined to occupy a long-vacant lot on Clifton Ave. That building, initially named for the founder of Newark, today is known as the Stephen N. Adubato campus. Designed then with 21st Century learning and comfort in mind, it was and is a prototypical modern school-house.

Now, two decades later there are two campuses; the second having opened in 2009 and named for

Jackie Robinson. And like that American baseball hero, our statistics and notoriety have grown impressively over the years. In 2005, RTA graduated the first 50 of about 550 eighth-graders to date. Hundreds have gone on to attend the most-prestigious high schools in New Jersey and around the country – many on full scholarships totaling more than \$40 million. We boast dozens of college grads now gainfully employed (several have come back here to teach) and other alumni in the military and dozens more currently pursuing their undergrad or graduate degrees.

Over the years, our students have consistently been top performers on standardized tests among charter and public district schools within Essex County and across New Jersey. Further, students and teachers have helped RTA earn Blue Ribbon status in 2009 and distinction as a Reward School based on outstanding student growth for the past four years.

It's interesting that our 20th year anniversary coincides with the graduation of our first eighth-grade class at the Jackie Robinson Campus.

Former and present RTA students and their families have "Big Steve" to thank for setting the wheels in motion. They have dedicated administrators, teachers, office staff and custodians – several still serving from the earliest days – to thank as well. Needless to say, I am proud and privileged to lead RTA into a new decade focused on the vision.

I have already shared with the children exciting plans for a 20th Anniversary celebration. Sometime during October students at both campuses will enjoy a carnival event featuring fun, games and food.

Stephen N. Adubato Students of the Month for August, 2016

Meagan Figueroa	104	Tamia Louissaint	207	Ryan Ramos	308
Jaison Pratts	107	Jocelyn Chavez	208	Chloe Reyes	310
Ishaan Myrie	201	Madison Serrano	210	Deyra Diaz	Art
Xavian Cintron	202	Genesys Ortiz	301	Devin Narvaez	Music
Nathalie Flores	203	Leah Garcia	302	Noah Rosario	P. E.
Zashenka Molina	204	Sophie Duthie	303	Massa Godbold	Science 6-8
Samantha Castaing	205	Nelson Santos	304	Camila Zamora	Technology
Maylynn Rodriguez	206	Alana Zarate	306		



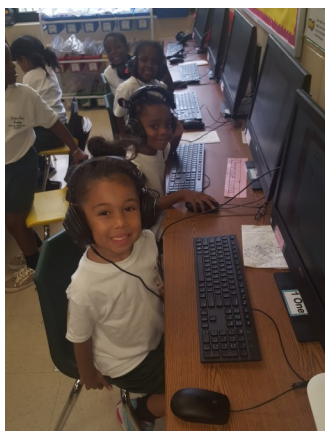
Jackie Robinson Campus Students of the Month for August, 2016

Jaidyn Tucker	12	Moises Castillo	22	Zion Ruffin	Science
Reward Afolabi	13	Britney Edionseri	23	Ishmeal Winston	Music
Avyanna Tuck	14	Janel Booker	24	Carlos Martinez	P. E.
Shaylla Gonzaga Torres	15	Sebastian Lopez	27	5th Grade	Technology
Carlos Martinez	21				



Flying into Learning Centers

Kindergarten Team, JR



Pictured are: Miavalentina Guerrero, Luis Familia, Nyla Van Dyke, and Matthew Duthie

Kindergarten students have flown right into our motivating and exciting learning centers! Learning centers are used daily in our classroom to reinforce important concepts in math, language and reading. Centers give small groups the opportunity to practice literacy skills with hands-on activities, play rhyming games, touch and match letters, build words with magnet letters, read books at the appropriate level, listen to books on tape and CD, use one of our many educational applications on the computer and I-pad, or practice writing their letters with a variety of different markers, crayons, pencils or paints.



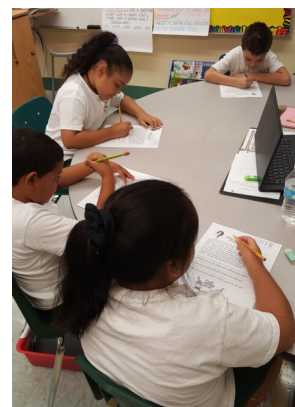
Hands-on games and activities keep our students engaged in the learning process. Centers are indeed an important piece of a kindergartener's early learning experience and our scholars definitely look forward to them daily.

Counting on Each Other in Math and other Subjects

Second-grade, Team SNA

August was a busy month for second-graders at the SNA Campus! We jumped right into our curriculum and students have already learned so much. We completed our first chapter in Math and learned about greater than, less than, ordering numbers, and skip counting.

Students are learning how they can become scientists in the classroom and all about America in Social Studies. We have worked on writing stories from our own lives and drawing pictures to accompany them. Students are enjoying centers and working together in groups.



Expert Pointers Provided for Interview Day

Eighth-grade Team, JR



Mr. Rohan Arjun, admissions officer of St. Mark's School in Southborough, Massachusetts, recently visited to speak with the first graduating class at the Jackie Robinson Campus. He told them what to expect during their high school application process.

Mr. Arjun also discussed many points regarding how to present themselves during interviews, making good first impressions, and how to handle difficult questions. Students were very excited and are looking forward to all the preparation ahead.

Looks like this year is going to be an exciting one for all involved.

Ms. McConnell, Recycling Coordinator

The Greatest Threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it.

ROBERT SWAN

Most items that are encountered at school can be recycled. This school year, RTA will begin to do their part in helping the environment.

In June, a poster contest was held at both campuses to kick off the new recycling program. Winners' work is featured here.

Third-grade Team, SNA

- 7. Set a good example.** Read for your own pleasure and information every day at home, in a room without television.



Centers of Attraction Lead to Learning

First-grade Team JR

Centers are an important part of our daily routine. Every day, we divide into small groups and rotate to different centers around the classroom to do small group work, partner work and independent work.



Nunana Dzokoto in the listening center

solving, fluent reading and comprehension. In our math center, we receive differentiated instruction depending on the math lesson of the day and our learning needs. We can work in our reteach books if we need more practice, or we can work in our enrichment books if we have mastered the content and need a challenge.

There's also a listening area. In this center, we'll listen to a book via CD and follow along with the book. We really enjoy listening to the stories and it helps us to listen to the readers' fluency. It inspires

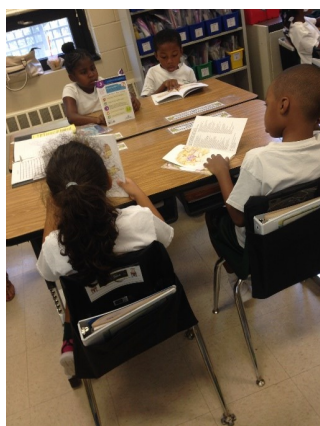
In one center, we'll focus on guided reading.

Guided reading helps us practice word

us to be more fluent readers!

In another area, we have our word work center. Here different activities include puzzles and games that reinforce our knowledge of letters and letter sounds. We practice our letter blends and our word building. We also work on our writing and sentence building. Rotation on the computers and iPads ensures that everyone spends time on various learning platforms, such as Successmaker, Redbird, Middlebury, and Learning.com.

Integrating technology into our learning is a fun way to learn at our own pace!



Students in a guided reading group

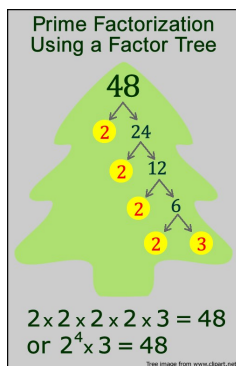


Julian Cruz using manipulatives (counting cubes) to help complete number bonds

Factors are Treerific

Fourth-grade Team, JR

The fourth graders have been learning about factors in math class. They have learned that *factors* are the two numbers that are multiplied together to get a given number. This is the foundation of learning how to find greatest common factors, which will be used later to help them simplify fractions.



To show off their knowledge of how to find the greatest common factor (GCF), the students have created factor trees. First, they picked two numbers and wrote them on the trunks of two trees. Then they figured out all of the factors for each of their numbers and placed each number on a leaf and glued it to their tree. Finally, they looked at their work and found the GCF and wrote it on their project.

Students really enjoyed this 'tree'rific project to help them practice and demonstrate their learning of factors.

Personal Best is Goal for Fitness Test this Month

Mr. Bush, Physical Education

September is "fitness month." Students will have several opportunities to for activities that will build their flexibility, cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength and muscular endurance. At the end of the unit, each will start their physical fitness tests. They will be encouraged to try their best, rather than aiming for the best score possible.

Looking Back on Colonial Times in History

Seventh-grade Team, SNA

This August, seventh-grade students embarked on their first month of United States history, covering the period of colonial settlement. We discussed the arrival in the Americas of European settlers and of some of their initial interactions with the Native American nations they encountered.

In the students' first project of the year, they compared the geographies, climates, early histories and cultures of the thirteen English colonies that would become the first thirteen states. They learned how the Puritan founding of Massachusetts differed significantly from the establishment of Georgia as a haven for debtors.

Moving forward, students will be studying how the thirteen colonies entered the French and Indian War, and how the mounting taxation that followed the war led to agitation for independence among the colonists. We have also emphasized how, even at this early stage, the agricultural South's economy was heavily reliant on slave labor, and how this was already creating a fissure along what would become the Mason-Dixon Line.



Ways Eighth-graders Can Demonstrate Leadership

Eighth-grade Team, SNA

Eighth-grade students at Robert Treat Academy have begun their school year by demonstrating responsibility and leadership.

It always seems to be the case that eighth grade comes with certain fears and excitement. That is natural as students are of course held to extremely high expectations, the courses are difficult, leadership is expected and the high school placement process is in high gear. However, this group has demonstrated the necessary characteristics of their age and position within this school.

We are pleased with grades overall, level of participation, ability to take responsibility for their actions, and the display of maturity that we expect. These standards will be held to them throughout the course of the year and the pressure on each student will intensify as the year progresses.

Students have been repeatedly informed of the importance of eighth-grade from so many standpoints and to this point, we are pleased with what we have seen.

Advice from the teaching staff:

- Stay focused
- Stay determined
- Set your goals high
- Give your best effort

Following this formula eighth-graders certainly will have a productive, enjoyable, and successful school year.



Art Experiences Abound for All

Ms. Krinner, SNA

August flew by in the art room!

Kindergarteners have begun their color unit and first-graders are starting their line unit.

Most students have had the opportunity to use paint and all older students gained more experience with measuring and using rulers.

During the week of September 12, Art Club and Art Portfolio begin. If your child received an

James A. Pinaire Scholarship Fundraising Bogey Exceeded Golfers and Sponsors Swing True for RTA's Third Annual Golf Outing

A new course, a new, cooler weather pattern, and a new fundraising focus were important hallmarks of Robert Treat Academy's third and most-successful golf-outing event. In fact, when the spray of sand trap sand settled, \$20,000 was raised – above and beyond expenses and projection.



Friends of RTA, including those from local government and the business community, converged for the first time to play and enjoy the legendary Essex County Country Club course in West Orange, NJ. What arguably is a golfer's nirvana, the tree-framed verdant rolling fairways offered amazing vistas and challenges galore for even the most-seasoned players. Warm temperatures and low humidity provided ideal playing conditions.

Before heading to the tee box, 91 golfers and other guests enjoyed a patio barbecue lunch. Even a masseuse was on hand for those who opted to loosen up for a smoother swing. Afterwards, everyone gathered for refreshments and dinner followed by a raffle of more than 70 prizes, thanks to generous RTA supporters including our vendors and local businesses.

But the day's real focus was fundraising for the newly-established scholarship fund in memory of James A. Pinaire, a young seventh-grade math teacher. Although he taught only briefly at RTA, he left a lasting impression on his students and colleagues. Through this fund, eligible eighth-grade RTA graduates will receive money to help with their high school expenses.

RTA's Golf Outing Committee, led by Mr. Parada and Mr. Trillo, worked tirelessly for months in advance to market the event, secure the venue, attract golfers and sponsors, acquire raffle prizes, and set up attractive



prize tables in the dining room. The work was well appreciated.

"Besides their responsibilities as teachers, member of the committee put in a lot of time to make the event successful," said Mr. Parada.

"Thanks to everyone's effort and the support of our sponsors and participants, we exceeded our fundraising goals."



Golf Outing Committee and other staff members who supported the event



Pledging Responsibility in Fifth Grade Eighth-grade Team, JRC

This month in character education, the fifth-grade students at the Jackie Robinson Campus have been learning about responsibility. Through class discussion, they focused on ways to be responsible in school, at home, and with their friends. The students

created responsibility pledges in which they traced their hand and wrote different ways they are responsible. To further their knowledge of responsibility, they are working in groups to create Google Slides presentations. Each student in the group is responsible for creating two slides that portray different aspects of responsibility.

Students Make Self-Discoveries While Sailing

Seventh-grade Team, JR and SNA

During August, seventh-grade students from both campuses spent two beautiful, warm summer days out at the Belmar Harbor experiencing the joy of sailing. Thanks to the Friends of Belmar Harbor volunteers, children learned how



to sail or drive a power boat, and kayak in the waters of the Shark River. Students also explored and examined the wildlife that inhabit the harbor. Many were fascinated by the eels, crabs and fish that they captured and then released safely back into the water.

Aside from having fun, students were given the opportunity to develop teamwork and leadership skills, increase swimming skills, build their self-confidence, perform rescue techniques and understand the responsibilities of aquatic personnel and first responders. They also assisted their captain in working the sails and piloting the boat.

This was first time sailing or even in a boat for many students. This was truly a great experience for our Robert Treat students!



Gabriely Acosta



Skyla and Cristina



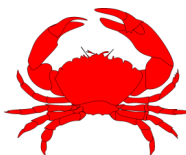
Reading and Sailing Get Year Started in Sixth

Sixth-grade Team, JR

After working hard and finishing up their first novel of the year, *Holes*, on August 25, the JRC sixth graders went to sailing school at the Shark River Inlet in Belmar, New Jersey. Students had a blast getting into the water, learning to crab, and going out in boats!



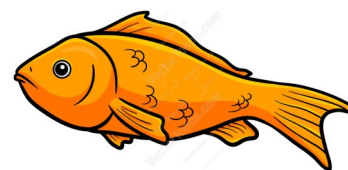
The SNA and JRC sixth-graders coming together at the Shark River Inlet.



JRC 6th graders, Jamoni Ellis and Jordan Jones having fun during a team-building exercise.



JRC six-grader, Gael Zambrana, paddle-board extraordinaire!



Students Should Appreciate Their Chance to Audition or Participate

Ms. Walker, Music, JR

Congratulation to 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 and little voices 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.

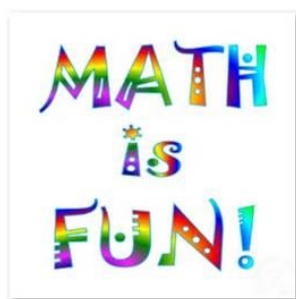


Students who are chosen to participate, remember you are making a full year commitment to the program in which you decided to participate. Do not take for granted the privilege you were given by your teachers. Many students wish they had the opportunity you were given. Maintain a "B" average, practice to perform better and remember to have fun learning something new.

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

Working Diligently with Manipulatives Toward Mastery

Third-grade Team, JR



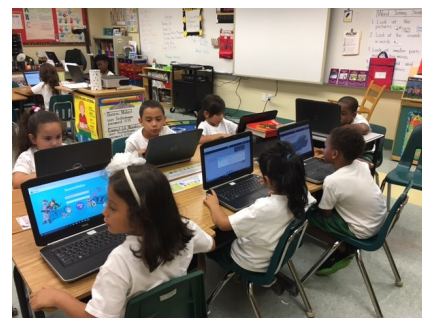
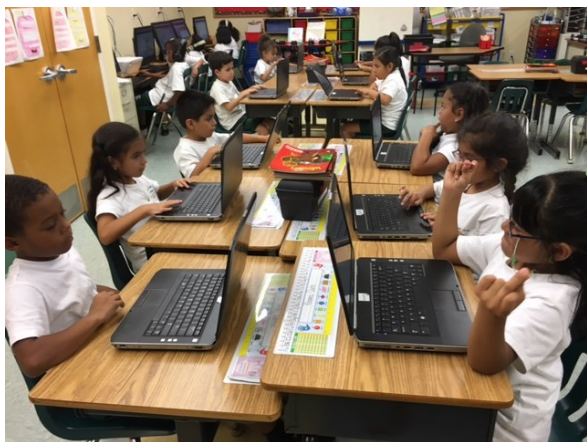
The third graders at Jackie Robinson have been working diligently on mastering place value in math. The students understand that there is a difference between naming the place value the digit is in and how much it is worth. They have been using place value strips as a manipulative to discover the different place values and where the digits belong. This tool helps them with a visual representation of place value and helps them develop better number sense.

Students will continue to work on concepts and skills involving place value in order to extend their understanding. We are having tons of math fun!

Becoming Tech Savvy? There's an App for That!

First-grade Team, SNA

This month, first graders have become technology savvy. Every day, students have the opportunity to work with I-Pads, computers and our interactive white board. Students are acquiring computer skills such as navigating the internet and working through numerous programs. They have also been completing assigned activities



in Redbird Math and Success Maker, which are online resources that support our reading and math curriculum. The students especially enjoy using our I-Pads, which are loaded with interactive educational apps to enhance learning. We are happy

to equip first graders with 21st century skills and knowledge to help prepare them for the future. The next Google executive may be sitting in our class!

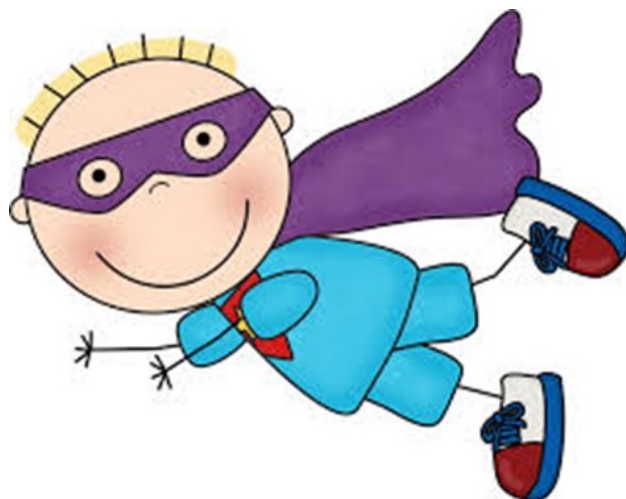
We Soar and Explore Kindergarten!

Kindergarten Team, SNA

Our new “superhero squad” 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!

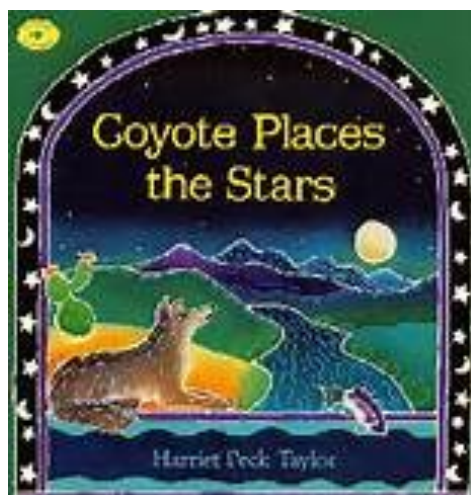
We can’t wait to show all of Robert Treat what the Kindergarten can do.



Fourth-graders Not Fooled by *Trickster Tales*

Fourth-grade Team, SNA

As a stepping-stone toward reading myths, students have been enjoying reading and writing about “trickster tales.” These stories have featured a Coyote, which is an animal known to be naturally curious, wily, and at times mischievous.



Titles have included *Coyote Places the Stars* and *Coyote Puts the Stars in the Sky*. As you might imagine, these stories were conceived by Native Americans “many moons ago” to explain natural phenomenon at a time when there was no scientific explanation for what happens in the heavens.

In addition to being entertaining and thought-provoking, these stories have served to help students engage their listening and writing skills. They’ve been challenged to examine and identify character traits, write in responses to open-ended questions, and work at comparing and contrasting different versions of coyote trickster stories.

Understanding trickster tales will prepare students as they next take on reading Greek myths.

The Sound of Music Begins Anew

Mr. Comanda, Music, SNA

We’re off to a great start here in the music pavilion.

Kindergarteners are adjusting smoothly into the new school year and are proving to be very gifted young musicians. The older grades are all picking up right where we left off and are gearing up for another great year of music.

I genuinely feel bad for our neighbors downstairs because come September we’re going to be making a lot of noise (music) day in and day out, especially with band, orchestra and chorus starting up.

I’m very much looking forward to what this year has in store.

Make Plans to Attend the RTA Parent Workshop

**Wednesday, September 28, 2016
6:30 p.m.**

Topic: Helping Children with Homework

Become better able to assist the learners in your household with their homework.

You will enjoy a presentation prepared by your student’s homeroom teachers.

Feel free to take notes!

Second-grade Team, JR



For example, in the picture provided, Miracle Hamilton, Layla Pintado, and Juan David Ramos rolled the digits 1, 6, and 3. The standard form was 163, the word form was one hundred sixty-three, and the expanded form was $100 + 60 + 3$.

Preparation Underway for Interview Day

Welcome back parents and students! The High School Placement office is excited to introduce Ms. Cynthia Cruz who will be joining the High School Placement team.

Please mark your calendars! **Interview day is scheduled for Friday, September 23.** Eighth-grade students will have two interview workshops with admission officers before interview day. High School Placement will schedule a meeting for parents this month to discuss expectations for applications and interview day.

Students Create *Heart Maps* to Share What's on Their Mind

For the past month, the fifth-graders at the SNA campus have been working diligently in their English/Language Arts classes. They started the year learning about “being a writer” with the Being A Writer curriculum. The emphasis for these past few weeks was to learn about the importance of writing down their thoughts and expressing themselves. They also read the novel, *The Color of My Words*.



A heart-shaped artwork by a child, featuring a large tree, a bridge, and a sunset. The word "Love" is written in large, colorful letters, and the word "Family" is written in a yellow circle. The child's name "Sylvia" and the year "2004" are also visible.

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The nurses at Robert Treat Academy would like to familiarize you with some of our Health Office Policies.

1. Medications **cannot** be given to a child without a completed authorization form signed by the parent and the physician with a diagnosis.
2. Students are **not allowed to carry medications**. A responsible adult should deliver medications to the Health Office.
3. Students who have been ill with **a fever, diarrhea or vomiting should remain at home until symptom free for 24 hours without antipyretics** (Tylenol, Motrin, etc.).
4. Students who are diagnosed with **streptococcal infection (strep throat)** are to be excluded from school for **24 hours** after the start of antibiotic therapy.
5. Students diagnosed with **Ring Worm need to remain home for 24 hours after the start of antibiotic cream**. Upon return to school, the rash needs to be fully covered until the rash is gone.
6. Students with **conjunctivitis (Pink Eye) should remain home until free of purulent drainage from eyes**. If the student leaves school with the suspicion of pink eye, the student must return with a doctor's diagnosis and if the condition is contagious. If the doctor confirms the student has pink eye, the student must be on the medication for 24 hours before returning to school.
7. Students with a **persistent cough, should remain home** until the student's cough is manageable.
8. Please be sure to report your child's absence prior to the start of the school day by calling the main number. For the Stephen N. Adubato (North) campus – 973-482-8811 and for the Jackie Robinson (Central) campus – 973-286-1020. Please state the child's name, grade, and reason for absence.
9. Please note that this is a **"PEANUT FREE SCHOOL"**. Please do not send in any food or candy that contain nuts for your child to eat or class parties.
10. Should the nurse or the office call a **parent/guardian to pick up their child** due to an illness, they **MUST pick up the sick student from school within 1 hour**.



Please feel free to contact your child's nurse with any questions or concerns. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. The health and wellbeing of your child is important to us. Healthy children learn better!

Shirley Land, Certified School Nurse - Stephen N. Adubato Campus – North
Abigail Alcantara, School Nurse - Jackie Robinson Campus – Central

Parent Council Schedule & Upcoming Events

Stephen N. Adubato & Jackie Robinson Campuses

2016-2017 Parent Council Meeting Schedule—All meetings begin at 6:30 pm

Thursday, September 15, 2016	Board of Trustees Meeting 5:30 pm
Wednesday, September 28, 2016	Parent Workshop
Week of October 17 th – October 21 st Wednesday (Late night 10/19/16)	Parent Teacher Conferences K-8
Thursday, October 27, 2016	Annual Title I Meeting
Wednesday, November 16, 2016	Thanksgiving Play – Second Grade
Wednesday, December 14, 2016	Holiday Play / Winter Concert
Wednesday, January 25, 2017	Parent Workshop
Week of February 27 th – March 3 rd (Wednesday (Late night 3/1/17)	Parent Teacher Conferences
Tuesday, March 14, 2017	State of the School @ Stephen N. Adubato Campus 443 Clifton Avenue, Newark, NJ <u>Parents of both campuses may attend either meeting</u>
Wednesday, March 15, 2017	State of the School @ St. Benedict's Prep 520 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd., Newark, NJ <u>Parents of both campuses may attend either meeting</u>
Wednesday, April 26	JRC International Dinner
Thursday, April 27	SNA International Dinner
Wednesday, May 24, 2017	Spring Concert

Robert Treat Academy Charter School Calendar

Stephen N. Adubato & Jackie Robinson Campuses

SCHOOL CLOSING		2016-2017	# OF DAYS
DATES			STUDENTS/TEACHERS
<u>2016</u>			
July	28	ORGANIZATIONAL DAY – All Staff Members Report (8:00 am)	0 / 2
	29	Professional Development	
August	1	School Year Begins for grades K through 8	
	12	School Closed	
	19	School Closed	
	26	School Closed	
	29 -31	School Closed – Summer Recess	17 / 17
September	1 - 5	School Closed – Summer Recess / Labor Day	
	6	School Reopens	19 / 19
October	10	School Closed – Columbus Day	20 / 20
November	11	School Closed – Veteran’s Day	
	24-25	School Closed – Thanksgiving Recess	19 / 19
December	26 – 31	School Closed – Winter Recess	17 / 17
<u>2017</u>			
January	2	School Closed – New Year’s Day Observance	
	3	School Reopens	
	16	School Closed – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday	20 / 20
February	20	School Closed – President’s Day Observance	19 / 19
March			23/23
April	10-17	School Closed – Spring Recess	
	18	School Reopens	14 / 14
May	26-29	School Closed – Memorial Day Observance	21 / 21
June	21	Last Day of School – 8 th Grade Graduation	15/ 15
TOTAL # of Days – STUDENTS			204
TOTAL # of Days – TEACHERS			206



To order online go to the following link

<https://www.floridaindianrivergroves.com/ecommerce/103375>

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, 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.