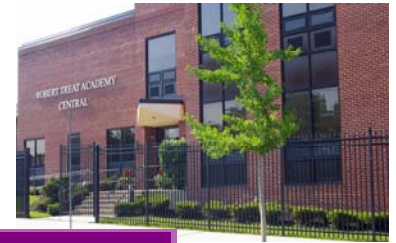




# The Treatonian



ROBERT TREAT ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL  
NORTH CAMPUS AND CENTRAL CAMPUS

Volume 14, Issue 8

April 2012

## North Campus Students of the Month for March

Student	Rm./ Activity
Raquel Rodriguez	104
Briana Martinez	107
Avani Jimenez	201
Narena Nerahoo	202
Magin Melgar	203
Dorothy He	204
Francisco Perez	205
Jordyne Bouza	206
Yanelli Maysonet	207
Elisha Godbold	208
Brianna Terrero	210
Emanuel Morales	301
Emily Padilla	302
Jasmin Velez	303
Izabelle Herrera	304
Symya Smith	306
Alain Beade	308
Zashenka Molina	310
Kaylah Lee	Art
Jordan Geronimo	Music
Tiana Barkley	Physical Ed.
Henry Negron	Science
Jonathan Ballester	Tech.



## *Our Principal's Message*

### Dear Parents/ Guardians:

This is to remind you of the following schedule for NJASK testing in grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Grades 3 and 4**  
May 7, 8, 9, 10, 11  
**Grades 5 and 6**  
April 30, May 1, 2, 3  
**Grades 7 and 8**  
April 23, 24, 25, 26



It is very important students attend school on these dates and arrive on time. If a child is absent due to illness, you must be very diligent in contacting the school as early in the morning as possible.

While it may sound obvious, I remind you in order for them to be able to stay focused during testing, a good night's sleep and an appropriate breakfast are essential.

Please talk to your children about the testing by reminding them they have been expertly prepared through daily and Saturday instruction. They have

## Central Campus Students of the Month for March

Student	Rm./ Activity
Mark Yancey	12
Dexter Phillips	13
Genesis Billups	14
Shayla Miller	15
Osayonamen Notemwanta	Music
Moises Castillo	Physical Ed.
Carlos Martinez	Tech.

worked hard and it is time for them to show what they know. Our teachers have been giving them the same message. It is a very fine line between encouragement and making students overly concerned especially when it comes to our younger students. If any of your children are showing signs of anxiety, or if you feel they could use extra encouragement, please feel free to call me and I will speak to them personally.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,  
*Theresa Adubato*



## March Students of the Month



# High School Placement News

Submitted by Mr. Trillo, Vice Principal

Congratulations are in order!!! I am very pleased to announce that through the efforts of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, our dedicated High School Placement staff, and the cooperation and support of our parents, we have collectively exceeded our highest expectations. Below is a listing of the results of all of our labors over the past eight months (not to mention the nine years of an RTA education). The class of 2012 has had the greatest success of all the graduating classes to date. We anticipate 17 students will be attending private day or boarding schools with significant scholarships. In addition to the impressive number of acceptances the amount of scholarship and financial aid awarded this year is the most any class has been awarded.

We are still awaiting word from all the public schools regarding acceptances. We believe all decisions will be made by May 15<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to keep the Office of High School Placement informed about any correspondence you receive in the mail or via telephone. All 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents will be asked to confirm their high school choice before the end of the school year.



## 2012 RTA GRADUATE BOARDING SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

School Name	# of Applicants	# of Acceptances	Scholarship Amount	# Expected to Attend
Blair Academy	9	0	None	0
Canterbury	1	0	None	0
Cheshire	3	2	\$160,000	0
Choate Rosemary Hall	8	2	\$282,160	1
The School at Church Farm	7	3	\$468,000	1
Deerfield	5	1	\$50,000	0
Emma Willard School	2	0	None	0
Episcopal High School	4	2	\$344,000	1
Ethel Walker School	6	4	\$491,700	0
The George School	9	3	\$232,000	0
Groton School	2	1	\$135,624	0
The Hill School	2	1	\$157,600	0
The Hotchkiss School	3	0	None	0
The Hun School	6	2	None	0
The Knox School	2	1	None	0
Lawrenceville School	8	3	\$366,360	1
Loomis Chaffee	2	1	\$186,400	1
Mercersburg	4	1	\$60,000	0
Middlesex	2	0	None	0
Miss Porter's School	5	1	\$182,220	0
Northfield Mt. Hermon	3	2	\$226,400	0
Peddie School	5	2	\$188,000	1
Pennington School	1	0	None	0
Phillips Academy Andover	4	1	\$178,000	0
Phillips Exeter	3	2	\$8,600	0
Portsmouth Abbey	2	1	\$72,000	0
Purnell	2	1	None	0
St. Andrew's	6	1	\$192,400	1
St Paul's	5	3	\$651,140	1
Suffield	5	0	None	0
			total boarding =	\$4,632,605

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT ALL SCHOOLS  
\$5,912,144.00

(Continued on the next page)

## PICTURES ON PAGE 2

**TOP PHOTO, NORTH CAMPUS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FROM LEFT TO RIGHT AND BOTTOM TO TOP:**

**ROW 1: SYMYA SMITH, ZASHENKA MOLINA, MAGIN MELGAR, ISABELLE HERRERA, AVANI JIMENEZ, JASMIN VELEZ AND EMANUEL MORALES**

**ROW 2: JONATHAN BALLESTER, ALAIN BEADE, YANELLI MASONET, TIANA BARKLEY, EMILY PADILLA, FRANCISCO PEREZ AND ELISHA GOIDBOLD**

**ROW 3: DOROTHY HE, HENRY NEGRON, BRIANA MARTINEZ JORDON GERONIMO, RAQUEL RODRIGUEZ, JORDYN BOUZA AND NARENA NERAAHOO**

**BOTTOM PHOTO, CENTRAL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:**

**DEXTER PHILLIPS, GENESIS BILLUPS, MARK YANCEY, CARLOS MARTINEZ, MOISES CASTILLO, SHAYLA MILLER AND OSAYONAMEN NOTENWANTA**

# Central Connection



**Submitted by  
Mr. Parada,  
Central Campus  
TA and Physical  
Education Teacher**

I'm happy to report that the RTA Central "Tree of Kindness" is filling up nicely. Students are excited about the opportunity to be acknowledged for their random acts of kindness. This activity acts as a spring-

board for genuine thoughts of generosity that will contribute to creating a better world.

March was a great month to celebrate school spirit and perfect attendance with "Themed Fridays." The school participated in activities like crazy hat day, crazy hair day, crazy tie day, and crazy sock and t-shirt day. In addition to the themes, the classes with the best attendance for the final two weeks of the month celebrated with an ice cream party. Congratulations to the classes with the best attendance and to all who participated in "Themed Fridays."

All of us at Central would like to wish the rest of the RTA family of students, parents, and staff a wonderful and safe holiday break and we look forward to spending time with you at our International Dinner on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

**(Continued from page 3)**

## 2012 RTA GRADUATE DAY SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

School Name	# of Applicants	# of Acceptances	Scholarship Amount	# Expected to Attend
Delbarton School	6	2	\$251,200	2
Golda Och	1	1	None	0
Lacordaire Academy	6	3	\$80,400	1
Montclair Kimberley Academy	14	1	\$114,000	0
Morristown Beard	11	7	\$66,740	0
Newark Academy	10	7	\$436,800	2
Pingry	7	2	None	0
Seton Hall Prep	10	7	\$190,000	2
Villa Walsh	1	1	None	0
			total day = \$1,139,140	

## 2012 RTA GRADUATE CATHOLIC SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

School Name	# of Applicants	# of Acceptances	Scholarship Amount	# Expected to Attend
Immaculate Conception	23	23	\$19,200	2
St. Vincent Academy	13	13	\$34,000	3
St. Peter's Prep	10	8	\$46,000	0
St. Benedict's Prep	13	12	None	6
Mother Seton Regional High School	2	2	\$4,000	0
Benedictine Academy	1	1	\$4,000	0
Mount Saint Dominic Academy	2	2	None	0
St. Mary's Rutherford	4	4	\$17,200	1
Marylawn of the Oranges	1	1	\$16,000	0
			total catholic = \$140,400	

## *“RTA Central 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders Discover a New Version of ‘Hide & Seek’*

### **Submitted by the Central Campus Second Grade Team**

“48, 49, 50. Ready or not, here I come!” We’re all familiar with the rules of hide & seek. The seeker closes his eyes, counts to an agreed-upon number while everyone runs to hide, and the last person to be found is the winner. But what if the rules were changed? What if being found meant being eaten for dinner? No, it’s not the premise for a new reality TV show. It’s life in the wild for camouflaged animals, whose ability to “hide” by blending with their surroundings means the difference between life and death.

Second graders at RTA Central are finishing a Unit on Animal Camouflage that has given them a new perspective on animal “hide & seek.” They’ve learned that predators like snow leopards and jaguars rely on pattern camouflage to sneak up on prey. But their prey have more than a few tricks for remaining safely invisible -- from changing fur color to matching the seasons, to mimicking the shape of the twigs around them, to creating a “costume” of bits of sponge and seaweed.

In addition, our second graders have learned that camouflage is simply *one* of the strategies that animals use to adapt to the Earth’s five different types of “ecosystems”: dry deserts, freezing tundra, rustling grasslands, fertile forests, and watery aquatic regions. Our students have worked in small

groups to create lists of animals living in each ecosystem and decorated their classroom Concept Question Board with background collages of the different ecosystems and drawings of the different camouflaged animals that inhabit them. Concept Question Board highlights include **Jamie Horne’s** quivering green frog, sitting silently on a freshwater lily pad while waiting for unsuspecting flies, and **Joshua Negron’s** Perringuey’s Adder, lying coiled in the sand next to a bristling cactus under a cloudless turquoise sky.

Finally, our students capped off their Unit with an animal camouflage project. They used internet resources to research 25 intriguing animals, ranging from Tawny Frogmouths to Rock Ptarmigans. **William Abou-Rjaili** reports that the Malaysian Orchid Mantis’ “pinkish-white” body is “the same color” as this “orchid’s petals.” According to **Jibril Shumate-Edwards**, the Mata Mata Turtle’s “top shell” looks “like the rough bark of a tree and its neck and head mimics tree leaves, so its prey never suspects he is there until it is too late.” **Carlos Martinez** “sure wouldn’t want to be a Wobbegong” carpet shark, because “I would be made into fish and chips in Australia.” Stop by RTA Central’s front hall to check out our students’ reports and creative dioramas showing their animals in their native habitat. They’re a good reminder of our responsibility to protect these habitats, so endangered animals can continue to be “found” on the Earth.



# ***Manners Matter!***

**Submitted by the Fourth Grade Students  
(done as a class project)**

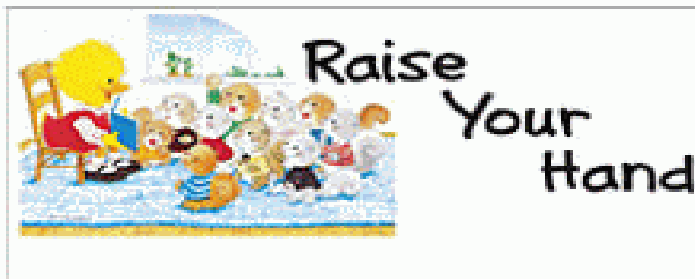
Do you know what it means to be polite? Do you usually use good manners? Sometimes kids just don't realize how important this is. They don't say "please" when they ask for something or "thank-you" when they are given a treat. They might not realize that it's impolite to interrupt when someone is talking, or not to say "excuse me" when they bump into someone. Maybe they snatch papers from the teacher's hand as they are being passed out or forget to cover their mouths when they cough.

You may know students who are very polite. Look around the lunch room the next time you are there. You will quickly be able to tell who is polite and who is not. Your friends who talk quietly are polite. Your friends who chew with their mouths closed show good manners. Those who are not polite might play with their food or talk in very loud voices. Those kids usually are getting into trouble at lunch time with the teachers.

Why is it important to be polite and use good manners? It shows others you respect them. It also tells others that you know how to act properly. You will feel good about yourself when you are polite to others. Using good manners will get you noticed – for all the right reasons. To help you improve your manners, we put together a list of ten manners every kid should know:

1. When asking for something, say "please."
2. When someone gives you something, say "thank you."
3. Do not interrupt grown-ups who are speaking with each other unless there is an emergency.
4. If you *do* need to get somebody's attention right away, the phrase "excuse me" is the most polite way for you to enter the conversation.
5. Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze.
6. Chew with your mouth closed, and always use a napkin when you eat.
7. Even if a play or an assembly is boring, sit quietly and resist the urge to talk to your friends.
8. If you bump into someone, say "Excuse me."
9. As you walk through a door, look to see if you can hold it open for someone else.
10. When someone helps you, say "thank you." That person will probably want to help you again. This is especially true with teachers!

We hope this article will help our students to realize that MANNERS MATTER!



# *Kyla Greene wins Essex County Park Essay Contest*

Kyla Greene, fourth grade student in room 201 won the Essex County Park Essay Contest; "Why My Essex County Park Is Important to Me". Please be sure to read her entry which appears below:



**KYLA GREENE**

Many of us have very special memories of our favorite park, but here is my story.

I recall passing by Branch Brook Park when I was about 8 years old. I was having a lovely stroll through the park. Then I stopped in front of a huge pink tree. I stopped my mom from jogging, and I just had to ask her about this tree.

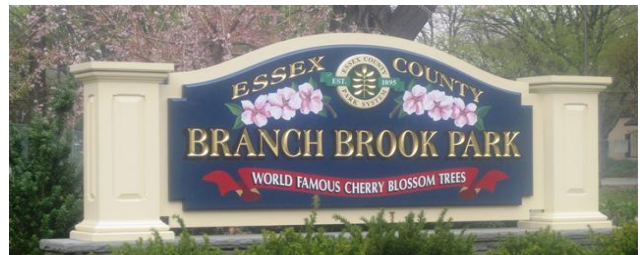
"You have never seen a cherry blossom tree before?!" My mom exclaimed.

After we left the park, we saw a few more parts of Branch Brook Park, and those fluffy trees were everywhere. I asked my mom if she could stop the car at another part of the park, with my best glowing smile; so of course she pulled over. I ran over to another tree immediately. I felt it and it was like I was in a pink, fluffy dream. I took a flower and put it in my hair. I felt like a cherry blossom queen!

"Kyla, snap out of it! Don't make me come over there! We have to go home to eat." My mom yelled, waking me out of my dream.

When we got home I could not eat or sleep until I found out about this mysterious tree. Maybe I was exaggerating there, but I did research it. I found out extraordinary facts about this fabulous tree.

After that day, I have never forgotten Branch Brook Park. It is a very important landmark in Newark. Now those memories of this special park will stick in my mind my whole life. Almost everywhere I go I think of these amazing trees.



## *The RTA Staff*

*will be looking for you at*

*The International Family Dinner*

*on Thursday Evening, April 19, 2012,*

*at 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM*

*at both the North and Central Campuses.*



# *Physical Education Classes on the Move*

**Submitted by Mr. Z. Ontell, North Campus  
Physical Education Teacher**

During the month of March our PE classes had the opportunity to learn about tennis, which has just been included in the program. The lessons were a great success and our goal is to implement a Tennis Clinic after school for students to take their game to the next level! Parachute challenges requiring teamwork and communication were also

conducted. This is definitely a favorite among the primary grades of RTA. Meanwhile, the upper grades were able to practice their hockey skills through drilling stations, which would eventually lead to game play. Finally, many classes have been able to take advantage of the warm weather by exercising outside on the track and turf field.



**Room 201**



**Room 107**



**RUBIEN TORRES AND MICHAEL TORRES**



**Room 306**

**Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and has a good breakfast during the NJASK testing.**

## Away We Grow!

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

During our current reading unit, the first grade has been learning all about plants. They have learned about the different parts of a plant and what a plant needs to grow. In order to take this a step further, the first grade has been participating in a science project.

In order to watch a plant grow from a seed, the students were each given a plastic bag, a paper towel, and three lima beans. The students were asked to explore the lima beans and write down any observations they had. Then the students put the lima beans in the paper towel inside the plastic bag and watered them. The class hung their bags on the windows so the plants could get sunlight.

After two days, the class checked on their seeds and they noticed that some of them started to sprout. Students came up with different reasons why some students' beans sprouted and some did not. We are still watching our lima beans grow and hope that soon we will have little bean plants!



## Do You Feel Lucky

**Submitted by the  
Central Campus  
Kindergarten Team**

March has been a lucky month for Kindergarten! We have been busy writing about what we would do if we found a pot of gold. There were many great ideas, but sadly there could only be a few chosen. Here are some quotes from several of the students in room 13. Kiayara Goodson said, "I would help people and buy them stuff they need." Another lucky kindergartener Saladin Small explained, "If I found a pot of gold I would buy shelter for my cat." Finally, Isamar Martinez explains "I would buy everything for poor people." We hope you enjoyed a few samples of our writing and we hope you can stop by and read them right outside our classroom. So... What would you do if you found a pot of gold?



# Ready for Spring?

**Submitted by the North Campus  
Kindergarten Team**



Let's get ready for a new season! With spring here, things are blooming around us. Students are discovering that many changes are taking place. So, what does spring bring? Here's what we're learning:

People are planting in their gardens. Garden-

ers need to take extra care to make sure their plants are receiving enough sunlight and water. We also see leaves growing back on trees and beautiful flowers sprouting.

Baby animals are born in the spring. Baby lambs, chicks, bunnies and more.

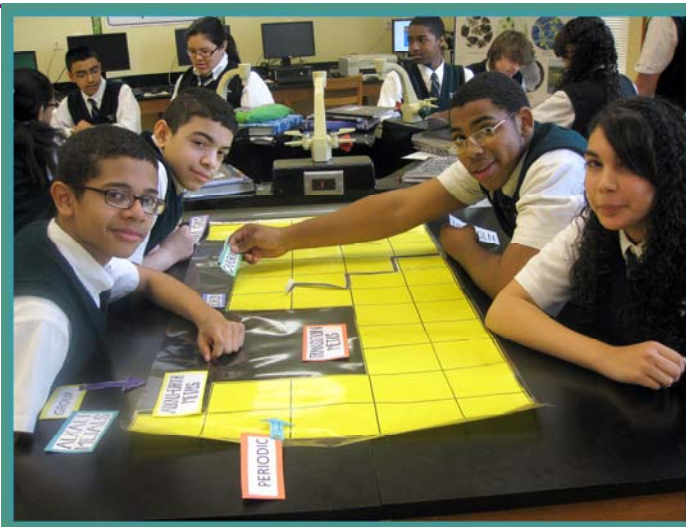
Temperatures are on the rise. With the weather getting warmer, we can switch from playing inside to playing outside.

What spring changes have you observed? Go outside and get some spring!

## Periodic Table of Elements

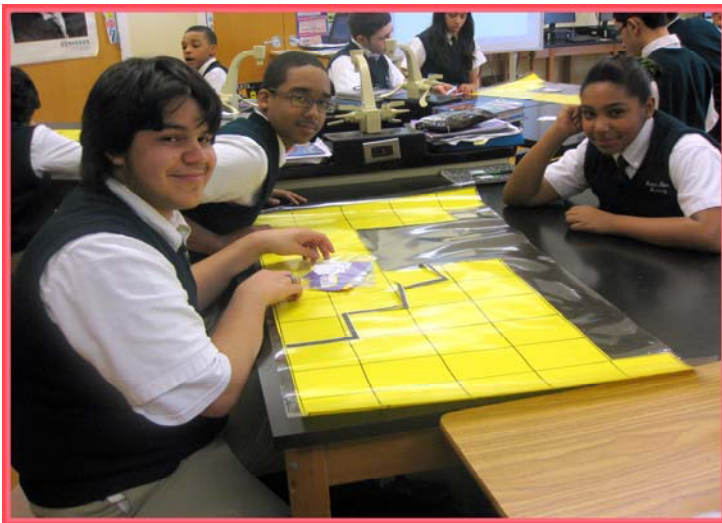
**Submitted by Ms. Kelley-Kemple  
Science Teacher**

Grade eight students are studying the Periodic Table of Elements. They have learned some of the history of the development of the table and about the scientists who worked to create this tool. In addition, the students spent time learning a little about the characteristics of the elements that are in each group and period. One of the fun activities, created by Ms. McGorry, was designed to reinforce the students knowledge of the complicated table. Each small group was given a blank periodic table and an envelope of labels, elements, and markers to recreate an accurate periodic table. With lots of cooperation and several attempts, all of the groups successfully completed the task.



**TOP-L. TO R.: JOSUE SOLORZANO-PICHARDO, CHRISTIAN MOLINA, MAURICE WARE AND YASKARY RODRIGUEZ**

**BOTTOM-L. TO R.: BRANDON CACERES, MATTHEW AQUINO, HENRY NEGRON AND KAYLAH LEE**



**L. TO R.: EMMANUEL PEREZ, RAFAEL MUNZO-LEBRON AND JENILEE JAQUEZ**

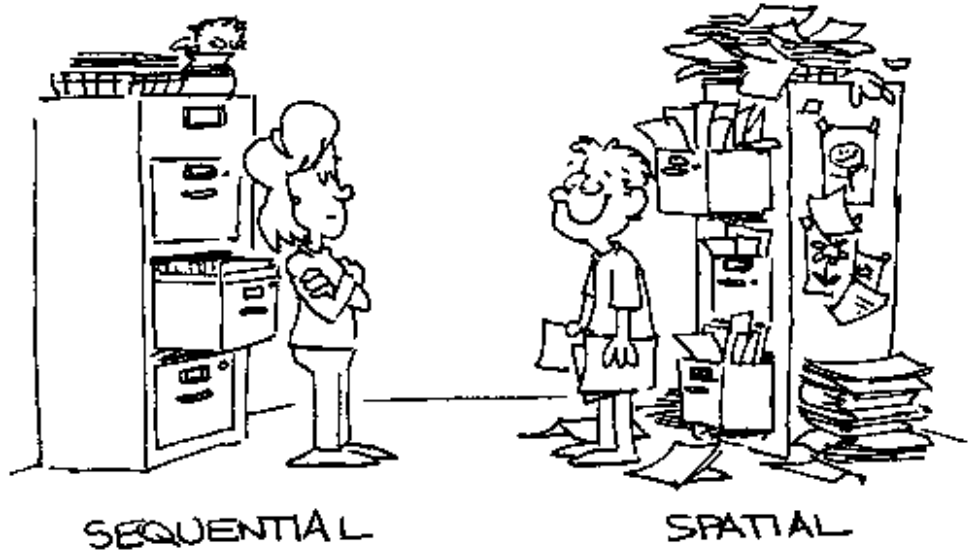


# Tricks of Organization

**Submitted by the Seventh Grade Team**

The seventh grade students at Robert Treat Academy are learning about the importance of organizational skills in their academic and social lives. It may not sound like a huge deal, but it certainly is. As the 7th graders develop their organizational skills. They are finding how much it improves their self-confidence and reduces their stress level. As their workload becomes more difficult and consistently focuses on high-order thinking skills, they are realizing just how beneficial being organized is. This is an essential skill that requires practice. Students are realizing that organization is routine; it is one of those "KEYS"

to success. As their 8th grade year approaches, and high school beyond that, it is a skill they can appreciate both now and in the future.



## Spring Book Fair

Tuesday through Friday

from May 29th

until June 1st

at the North Campus

**ALL STUDENTS WILL ATTEND!**



This is an excellent opportunity to pick up some books for summer reading.

# Parent Council Meeting Attendance

## Central and North Campuses

### 2011-2012 Academic Year

HOMEROOM	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.
301	84%	76%	p	36%	64%	68%	56%	p
303	96%	76%	a	60%	56%	48%	76%	a
308	84%	89%	r	65%	62%	69%	69%	r
310	88%	96%	e	65%	66%	64%	72%	e
304	100%	76%	n	76%	56%	35%	73%	n
306	83%	79%	t	52%	63%	48%	70%	t
302	88%	77%		60%	77%	50%	65%	
203	96%	73%	C	60%	73%	65%	56%	C
201	92%	72%	o	52%	64%	48%	64%	o
202	83%	79%	n	58%	71%	79%	75%	n
205	88%	73%	f	96%	54%	44%	56%	f
208	84%	48%	e	100%	60%	52%	60%	e
204	66%	54%	r	52%	56%	48%	70%	r
206	73%	73%	e	21%	63%	50%	46%	e
207	84%	40%	n	44%	68%	40%	60%	n
210	60%	48%	c	52%	52%	40%	44%	c
104	79%	63%	e	50%	42%	52%	57%	e
107	92%	68%	s	40%	56%	48%	52%	s
C-13	92%	88%		76%	48%	76%	64%	
C-12	100%	96%		100%	84%	88%	64%	
C-14	92%	86%		76%	72%	88%	80%	
C-15	88%	100%		64%	72%	76%	68%	

Cumulative to Date	86%	74%	100%	62%	63%	57%	63%	100%
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## News from the North Campus Music Room

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

We have had warm weather since February, but only now can we say officially that spring is here. Come to the Pavilion to dance "The Bunny Hop" or sing "Let's Go Fly a Kite" while flying a homemade kite! You might even witness students singing and playing the recorder to a traditional Japanese folk song entitled "Sakura" meaning "cherry blossom". Indeed, Newark and Japan have in common the festivals celebrating the beautiful blooming of their cherry trees. (And speaking of blooming, the keyboard and guitar skills of the middle school grades are flowering fantastically.)



## Coach Connected?

### **Submitted by the Fifth Grade Team**

The Math department here at RTA has a new tool to help support our ASK preparation; it's called Coach Connected. Coach Connected is a computer program that breaks down math concepts into sections for students to work on. Students work on their own laptops and can work at their own pace. The teacher is able to see each

student's results and look at each individual problem for each student and see what the students are having difficulty with. This enables the teacher to concentrate specifically on concepts that are weak and know what the students have mastered. Coach Connected is another excellent learning tool we have at RTA that helps the students prepare.



**L. TO R.: CHRISTIAN LOPEZ-GOMEZ,  
JAZLYNN ALVARADO AND  
YAMISHA BRACONIEL**



**MICAH RIVAS**

## News from the Art Room

### **Submitted by Ms. Winter, Art Teacher**

This month RTA students are extremely happy to be back in the art room once again! Everyone is actively pursuing watercolor painting! The fifth through eighth grade students are painting their Asian style scroll paintings, and they are coming out beautifully! The



younger students in grades K-2 are creating various underwater themed paintings. First graders listened to the song "Yellow Submarine" by the Beatles and created their own underwater yel-

low submarine paintings, which are currently on display on the art bulletin board. They also listened to the Beatles song "Octopus' Garden" and created underwater garden paintings with a myriad of underwater creatures. Grades kindergarten through second read many underwater themed books, such as **Swimmy** and **Pout Pout Fish**, and **Does a Dolphin Squeak?** Students in grades K-2 learned a song about Dolphins then drew families of dolphins, called pods.



**All students must be in school on time during the NJASK**

# *Tir Na nOg: An Irish Mythical Land*

## **Submitted by the Sixth Grade Team**

Studying Irish myths and legends seemed a perfect way to spend the month of March. The 6th grade Literacy classes investigated legends of rainbows, changelings, banshees and leprechauns, discussed kissing the Blarney Stone and watched "Riverdance" in order to learn the history of Ireland. Throughout this unit, they engaged in reading and writing which used the legends as a jumping off point for quote analysis and creative writing. The entire unit was interesting and thought provoking for students. However, perhaps the most fascinating aspect of their study was learning about the legend of Tir Na nOg and recreating what that world looked like.

Tir Na nOg is a very beautiful land. In Tir Na nOg the leaves don't fall from the trees or die. The flowers bloom all year round, and you can smell the scent of them miles away. If you are ever lucky enough to go to Tir-Na-nOg, you would see young, happy people there. If you spent five days in Tir-Na-nOg, it would be about three or more years in Ireland. Tir-Na-nOg has a stream going through it and green hills all over. The people there have beautiful clothes, and you would eat off of gold plates and drink out of crystal glasses. Tir Na nOg translation means "THE LAND OF EVER YOUNG." In Tir Na nOg people don't live forever, but they do age very, very slowly. In most legends, it is a wonderful place to live, as long as you don't leave it. Once you leave this land and return to

Ireland, you will immediately become the age you were supposed to be; usually a very old person. In some darker Irish legends the people of Tir Na nOg managed to maintain their youth by sucking the youth, fun, vigor out of children in Ireland.

Using these details as a starting point, the 6th graders, divided into three groups, decided to artistically recreate this place. One group drew the entire landscape, complete with the river, the flowers and trees, and the area in which the darker parts of the legend occurred. Another group colored the landscape, using photos of Ireland as visuals and combining the images viewed with their own ideas of how the place looked. Finally, a third group created paper fairies, trees, and Irish symbols to place on the landscape for a three dimensional look. All of the artwork was student produced and the final board is a stunning artistic work, on display on the second floor. Stop by and take a ramble through Tir Na nOg.



**"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you."**

**B. B. King**

## *“Play Ball” With Speculative Writing*

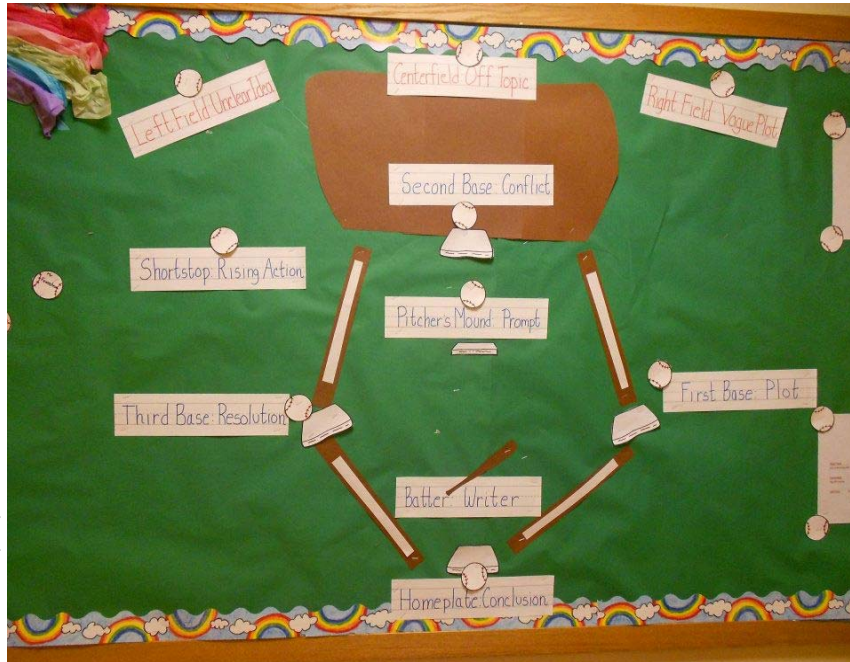
### **Submitted by the Sixth Grade Team**

Ms. Moje and Mr. Feinstein are throwing the pitches. Each student has the chance to step up to the plate and take a swing. Circling the bases, steering clear of fly balls in the outfield, and sliding on home, the young men and women in the sixth grade are engaged in an almost constant game of baseball in Literacy each day. Are they ready for the major leagues? Maybe not just yet, but what they are ready for is Speculative Writing! Using baseball diamonds

as a brainstorming tactic, the students are quickly becoming experts at writing short stories. The pitch is the prompt. It is being thrown to the writer, who is standing at the plate. Once the writer hits the pitch, off he or she goes to first base. What's first base? Why the beginning elements of a short story, of course. Stop at first to develop plot and

characters. Then, it's off to second base, where conflict is added to the story. Swing around to short stop to include some rising action. At third base, the writer resolves the conflict and then, heads for home for a conclusion that scores! The writer knows to steer clear of hitting the pitch to right field, which leads to too many characters, center field, which leads to unclear ideas, and left field, which sends the writer off topic.

A perfect brainstorm technique for visual learners, this seems to be an outstanding motivating technique for writing excellent speculative stories. So, stop by the sixth grade this spring, view their Baseball Bulletin Board which clearly explains how the brainstorm works, and cheer them on as they knock speculative writing right out of the park. "The Sixth Grade Wins...THHHHEEEEE Sixth Grade



## *Sun, Moon and Earth in Third Grade?*

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

The students have enjoyed reading selections about the sun, moon, and earth in our reading unit. They've explored stories that provided them with fascinating information and facts about the Solar System, planets, and stars. They've read about the phases of the moon, the first man on the moon, and how Earth travels in space rotating and revolving around the sun. The students have learned how day and night are created by the movement of Earth and how the movement of Earth around the sun creates seasons. The students have contributed to our classroom Concept/Question Board with illustrations, journal writing, books, and magazines about these topics. They've learned a great deal about space!



## New to the RTA Staff

Ms. Erin Clancy is a graduate of Georgian Court University in Lakewood, NJ. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Elementary Education. She has a Kindergarten through Fifth Grade certification, as well as a Special Education Certification. She is excited to be a part of the Robert Treat family. She is working with Mrs. Del Toro in the third grade at Central Campus. In her spare time, Ms. Clancy enjoys traveling, reading, going to the beach, and spending time with family and friends.



## Important Reminder

**On June 28th, 2012, our last day of school, we will hold our eighth grade commencement at the Sacred Heart Basilica.**

**We have always wanted our student body to be part of this most joyous celebration but past venues did not have the seating capacity.**

**I am most pleased to announce all of our students from our North and Central campuses will take part in this event. I cannot think of a better way to end the school year!**

**Out of respect for the graduates, on that day all students will be required to wear their full uniform.**

**If you have not already done so, please complete the permission slip and return it as soon as possible.**

# SATURDAY CLASS SCHEDULE 2012

April 21st (3rd through 8th grades)

April 28th (3rd through 6th grades)

May 5th (3rd and 4th grades)

NJASK Testing for Grades 7 and 8 will begin Monday, April 23rd and end Thursday, April 26th .

NJASK Testing for Grades 5 and 6 will begin Monday, April 30th and end Thursday, May 3rd .

NJASK Testing for Grade 3 will begin Monday, May 7th and end Thursday, May 10th.

NJASK Testing for Grade 4 will begin Monday, May 7th and end Friday, May 11th.

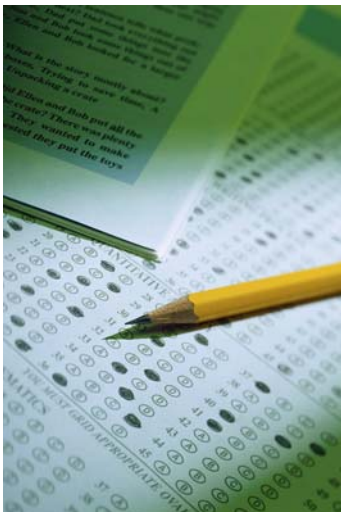
## SATURDAY DAILY SCHEDULE

3rd and 4th Grade – 8:15 – 10:30

5th and 6th Grade – 8:45 – 11:00

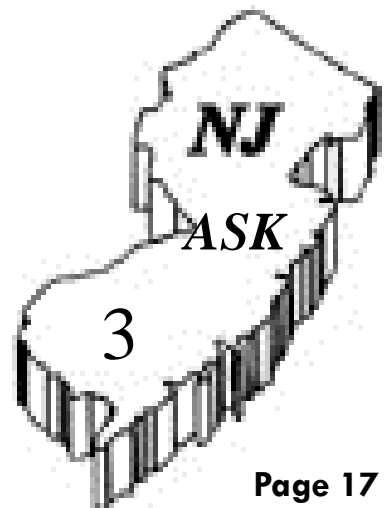
7th and 8th Grade – 9:15 – 11:30

## Getting Ready for the ASK!



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

The third graders at the North campus are working hard to prepare for the NJASK. We are writing stories and essays almost every day. Our ideas are growing and our writing is getting stronger. We practice reading and comprehension and we are improving these skills also. The third graders are improving their effort and understanding the importance of learning. We often talk about how their effort and focus will allow them to succeed. Good luck to all of our third graders!



# What Is “Bucket Filling”?

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

The second grade, at Robert Treat North continues to build our character education program. We use a concept called, “Bucket Filling” to create a positive culture in our classroom each and every day. Bucket Filling teaches us how to be caring and happy. It shows us how to reach out to express love, respect and the appreciation of others. Bucket Filling has helped our class to be “other-centered” rather than self-centered.

We all have feelings that are good and bad. Bucket Filling helps us express feelings in a healthy manner, and helps us protect our feelings from being hurt. You may not know this, but everyone has an invisible bucket. You fill it by simply being kind. Every time you say or do something caring or thoughtful, you add good thoughts and feelings to someone’s bucket. If you’re not having a good day, sometimes it’s difficult to sort out feelings. This is when we sometimes “dip” into someone’s bucket or our own. When we say or do anything that is rude or mean, we remove the

good thoughts and happy feelings that are in our buckets. When you’re feeling frustrated, angry, or impatient, how do you handle it? It’s best if you don’t say or do anything when you are upset. You can avoid “dipping” by learning how to pause, take a deep breath, calm down, and think carefully before saying a word. You may even say, “Can we talk about this later?” It’s important to know that it’s okay to feel angry, but it’s not okay to act mean.

There is a way to protect your bucket when dipping is occurring. You can “use your lid.” Everyone has a bucket and everyone has a lid. And there are times when you will need to use it. You can use your lid to guard and protect the good thoughts in your bucket. Think of your bucket being filled with your most valuable belongings. Do you want other people to reach into your bucket and take out your things? NO WAY! The very moment you stop, think, and visualize the people dipping into your bucket, and understand why they are dipping, you are using your lid. And when your lid is on, you can think of good choices. These good choices will help you lead a happy life!



# WRTA Staff Shares News With Students

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

In the month of March, the news teams from WRTA-Channel 1 took the stage for morning announcements. The news team consisted of our very own first grade students. Every morning, WRTA, the world's most trusted news team, went live at 8:00 a.m. In the first week of broadcasting live, our field reporters traveled around the world and shared live footage of animals in different habitats.

In each continent a different animal and

habitat was explored. Besides reporters out in the field, WRTA- Channel 1 had news anchors and even an advice columnist famously known as "Freida". This year, WRTA also included a special segment on healthy living. Many famous guests stopped in to share healthy living tips with us. Some of these guests included Dr. Oz, Suze Orman, Jillian Michaels, and Dr. Phil. First graders really enjoyed being part of WRTA's news team. Thanks for tuning in!



*The Robert Treat Academy Spring  
Concert and Art Show*



*will be held at the North Campus*



*on Thursday evening, May 31st at 6:45 P.M.*

# Calendar of Events

April 19	Thursday	International Dinner Night at both Campuses
April 23-26	Monday-Thursday	NJASK Testing for Grades 7 and 8
April 30-May 3	Monday-Thursday	NJASK Testing for Grades 5 and 6
May 7-10	Monday-Thursday	NJASK Testing for Grade 3
May 7-11	Monday-Friday	NJASK Testing for Grade 4
May 31	Thursday	Spring Concert and Art Show at North Campus at 6:45 PM Parent Council Meeting at Central Campus at 6:45 PM
May 29-June 1	Tuesday-Friday	Spring Book Fair at North Campus Central Campus will attend!
June 5, 6, 7	Tuesday-	Terra Nova testing for Grades Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd
June 27	Wednesday	Kindergarten Promotional Ceremony 9:00 AM Eighth Grade Awards Assembly at 1:30 PM
June 28	Thursday	Eighth Grade Graduation at Sacred Heart Basilica at 12 noon Last Day of School

## Study Skills

### **Submitted by the Eighth Grade Team**

Eighth graders have been reviewing study skills that will assist them in their classes, not just now, but in the future as well. Having good study skills is an invaluable asset in all areas of life, not



just school. The term "study skills" encompasses a broad range of skills and abilities: time management, reading, writing, verbal communication, and many others. Essentially having well de-

veloped study skills will help you become a more confident, effective, productive and intelligent person.

We found that it is best to review new material right after class when it's still fresh in your memory and not to do all of your studying the night before the test. Instead, space out your studying, review class materials at least several times a week, focus on one topic at a time. Having all of your study material in front of you such as lecture notes, textbooks, study guides and any other relevant material is a must. Most importantly, find a comfortable and quiet place to study with good lighting and few distractions. Cramming for exams should be avoided at all costs. It's hard to take in and retain a large amount of information in a short period of time. With these strategies in mind, the eighth grade is working toward success.