



Combs Traditional Academy

APRIL NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message

AzMERIT testing is in full swing at Combs Traditional Academy and we are excited to continue to show why we are the top rated school in San Tan Valley! Thank you for all you do to ensure your children are prepared and ready to go each day! Testing will continue through April 25th, followed by Field Days on April 26th and 27th to celebrate being done with testing. We are also excited to cheer on our Battle of the Books Champion team of Samantha Bourland, Ella Rosales, and Jessica Valdez as they compete in the District Battle of the Books on April 25th.

On May 2nd, our PTO will be holding their final meeting of the year. The focus of the meeting will be on electing officers for the upcoming school year. Being an officer on PTO is a wonderful way for you to be involved in the school and I encourage you to consider nominating someone for one of the open positions. You should be receiving information about the elections and open positions soon.

We are currently accepting registrations for the upcoming school year. Please share the good news about Combs Traditional Academy with your family and friends! We would love to have them visit us for a school tour and share the great things going on here at Combs Traditional Academy!

Thank you for all you do!

Marcus Berkshire
Principal



Inside this issue:

PTO News	2
Transportation	2
Orchestra	2
Transportation Changes	2
Band News	3
Early Kinder Testing	3
Karate	3
Staff Acknowledgements	3
Counselor's Corner	4
Early Childhood Program	4
Cafeteria	4
District News	5
Awards	6
April Birthdays	7

Parent Reminders:

- ◆ *March 28-April 22nd—AZ Merit Testing*
- ◆ *April 12th—Little Caesars Night*
- ◆ *April 12th—Governing Board Meeting @ 6PM @ CMS*
- ◆ *April 14th—Spring Holiday/No school*
- ◆ *April 25th—Battle of the Books @ 6pm CMS*
- ◆ *April 26-27th—Field Days*
- ◆ *May 2nd—PTO Meeting/Board Elections*

Orchestra News



Parents Please Mark Your Calendar!

At 1:00 pm on May 3rd, all the Elementary Orchestra Students in our district will be bused to Combs High School to practice. Some of the Combs High School Orchestra Members will be there to provide mentoring for our elementary students, and some will even perform with us later that evening at 6:00 pm. Last year the PTO provided pizza and punch for our students. A letter will be sent home with more details with requests for chaperones. Please put this event on your calendar and invite friends and relatives; you will not want to miss this!

Sincerely,
Guido Lavorata

PTO News

PTO wants to thank each of you for making this school year Awesome! Your contributions have made a great difference in our school and will continue to do so! Thank you so much for your support.

*****Save the date***** PTO will have its final General Membership Meeting for the school year on Tuesday, May 2nd. At that time, they will hold elections for Executive Officer positions as well as final plans for the remainder of the school year and to begin planning for the next school year. We encourage you to attend and, if you have interest in a leadership role with PTO, please contact our PTO President or the front office for information on open positions.

- **PTO Meeting/Board Elections** — May 2, 2017 — 6pm — in the library — babysitting provided
- **Teacher Appreciation Week** — May 1 - May 5
- **Flipside** --- May 5th from 4-9pm. Come out and have some Family Fun!! 20% of sales go back to CTA and the teachers!!



Parking Lot Reminder

The playground does not open until 7:50AM. Please do not drop off students prior to that time and please only drop students off at the appropriate locations. We have had parents dropping students off outside of the line and the students have crossed the parking lot unmonitored. We want to ensure that your children are safe and using the drop off line or walking them to the crosswalk ensures that they are safe. We have teachers monitoring the drop off zone and the crosswalk to help maintain student safety. Thank you for your help!

Transportation Changes

Please contact our office prior to 1:00pm to notify our office of end-of-day transportation changes

If you need to make a change to your child's afternoon transportation, please be sure to contact our office prior to 1:00 pm to give us adequate time to notify your child's teacher. If you must call after 1:00 pm and are unable to get through, please be sure to leave a message. The end of the day has the tendency to become very busy; however, Ms. Lisa will always check the messages prior to the final bell of the day so she is able to contact teachers regarding changes in transportation. Thanks for your cooperation and assistance in this matter.

Combs Traditional Academy Staff Acknowledgement Form

Has a Combs Traditional staff member gone above and beyond for you or your child? We would love to hear about it! Please share your appreciation for a Combs Traditional staff member and turn it in to the front office.

I would like to recognize _____ for _____

I would like to recognize _____ for _____

I would like to recognize _____ for _____

Karate Class

Karate is a fun and exciting way for students to improve flexibility, muscle tone, speed, and strength. Students will also develop additional skills such as courtesy, respect, self-esteem, conflict resolution, discipline, goal setting, and leadership skills. Please see the CTA News/Events webpage for details. The six week class will meet after school on Mondays from 4/10 – 5/15.

Early Kindergarten Testing



Early Entry Testing

By law, students must turn 5 by December 31 of the school year to qualify for early kindergarten testing. The testing fee is \$30.00. If you are interested in early kindergarten testing, please complete the interest form by scanning the QR code below. The early kindergarten test will be administered on the following dates:

- Wednesday, April 26, 2017 3:45-6 pm at Harmon Elementary
- Wednesday, May 17, 2017 3:45-6 pm at Harmon Elementary
- Wednesday, June 14, 2017 1:00-3:30 pm at Ellsworth Elementary
- Wednesday, July 19, 2017 1:00-3:30 pm at Ellsworth Elementary

~Band News~



Congratulations to the District 6th Grade Honor Band! This group is made up of students from all 5 elementary schools. On March 23, they participated in the ABODA Area Concert Band Festival, whereas the youngest band in attendance, they received a rating of "Excellent". Great work, kids! Participating students from CTA include Jessica Valdez, Elena Golden, Justin Navarre, Roy Chavez, Isabella Loyola, and Sophia Byrd.

Mark your calendars for May 4th - on that day, ALL band students from the district will descend upon Combs High School for the annual Mass Band Festival. The event will conclude with a concert open to everyone in the CHS gym, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Come and see this spectacular con-



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 2ND
COMBS EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM
CHILD CARE EVENT

Story Time
Fun Activities
•Preschool
Experience



Open for Chil-
dren 3-5 years
Free Child care
Preschool Experi-
ence



It's Tiki
Time: Join us
for a Hawaiian
themed day



THURSDAY/FRIDAY APRIL 27/28
8-10:30 OR 12:15-2:00
COMBS HIGH SCHOOL ROOM 529

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL MRS.ALICE GOODRICK AT AGOODRICK@JOCOMBS.ORG
OR VISIT THIS LINK: [HTTPS://GOO.GL/FORMS/MQj0XLPBJD9RPI7](https://goo.gl/forms/MQj0XLPBJD9RPI7)

Our theme is Hawaii. This event is for children 3-5 years of age, is free of charge and is planned by my students. Children can come for one session or all four sessions. We provide snack but not lunch. Any questions can come to agoodrick@jocombs.org.



Counselor's Corner

This year CTA students have had classroom guidance discussions and activities focused on the following character traits: respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, caring, fairness and citizenship. In April we will discuss what it means to be a good person. The ideas we have on what character traits are important to us are our values. We will look at what each of us values and how that can be the same as others or different from others.



~Lost and Found ~

Please check our lost and found bin the next time you are on our campus. It is overflowing with lost jackets, sweaters, water bottles, and other items and we would like to reunite them with their owners! Unclaimed items will be donated at the end of the year.



~From the Cafeteria~

As of April 15th, students will not be allowed to "charge" meals to their accounts for the remainder of the school year. Food Service is trying to prevent students from carrying negative balances into the new school year and clear up any negative balances students are already carrying on their accounts. We will provide a list to each manager with the names of students who have negative balances as well as send families notices regarding the negative balances.

All students will be reminded of low balances and will be offered the courtesy meal.

(If they have siblings at the same school kitchen managers can check sibling accounts to transfer funds if needed)



~District News~

Combs Kidz Summer Camp is a fun and safe place for your students this summer. They will enjoy field trips, guest speakers, specialty classes, and much more! Check out the flyer for details.

The Combs Education Foundation was formed in July with the mission of providing scholarships to graduating Combs High School Seniors and mini-grant to Combs teachers. We are very excited to be awarding the first \$1000 scholarship to a senior at the May 16th Awards Night. Watch for future ways that you donate to the Combs Education Foundation and make a difference in students' lives.

Enrollment for the next school year is ongoing, and we need your help spreading the good news about our schools to your neighbors! Registration packets are accepted at all schools until June 8th and then the district office until July 14th. Register early to help us in planning for the next school year. Check out the latest edition of the [J.O. Combs newspaper!](#)




At Ellsworth Elementary
Monday-Friday
May 24-Aug 1

Camp Hours
6:30 AM-6:00 PM

Camp Rates
Registration Fee
\$25/student

Full Day
Daily rate \$30.00
Weekly rate \$120.00

Half Day
Daily rate \$15.00
Weekly rate \$70.00
(Half day is 6:30-12:30 OR
Noon-2:00 No exceptions)

All Field Trips \$7.00

Summer School rate
Attend After Summer
School
\$100.00 / week

20% Sibling Discount
20% Employee Discount
DHS approval


Questions?
call 480-987-0810

SUMMER FUN AT COMBS

Weekly Themes
Field Trips to:

*Peter Piper Pizza, Harkins, Laser
Tag, Sea Life Aquarium, Bowling,
Swimming and many more to come*

Arts & Crafts
Ping Pong
Technology
Indoor & Outdoor Activities
Science Experiments
Wii Games

Register Online!

Look for the "Camp Programs" page under the "Community Education" tab on the www.jocombs.org website. If you already have a DayCare Works account, please log in to the existing account and use the "Registration" tab.

Camp can be paid on a weekly basis. Choose and pay for camp days by 4:00 pm on Friday for the upcoming week.

J.O. Combs Unified Sports

J.O. Combs is excited to begin its 3rd season for Unified Basketball. Unified Sports are sponsored by Special Olympics and are AIA supported.

Unified basketball games are conducted in 8 minute quarters with a running clock. The team consists of "Athletes" and "Partners." Athletes are students with special needs specifically with intellectual delays. Partners are typically developing peers and can be students with IEPs without intellectual delays. The team practices at Combs High on Mondays and Thursday. The athletes are from both our middle and high school.

For 3 years consecutively our Co-Coaches have been Varsity Basketball Coach, Mr. Kirk Fauske, and Previous Varsity Girl's basketball co-coach, Ms. Jette Thompson. Mr. Fauske has been teacher special education at Combs since the fall of 2009 and Ms. Thompson is a Counselor at both the high school and Combs Traditional Academy and is in her 4th year at Combs.

The Unified Teams play 5 games and then have the opportunity to participate in a Saturday tournament held at Perry High School in Chandler. This season we play against Higley, Chandler, Queen Creek.

Away vs. Florence High 4-13 @ 6:00pm
Home vs. Higley High 4-20 @ 6:00pm
Home vs. Hamilton high 4-27 @ 6:00pm
Home vs. Queen creek (Senor Night) 5-4 @ 6:00pm
Away vs. Chandler High 5-11 @ 6:00pm



~Congratulations Knights~



~Scholars of Distinction~

Uchechi Ubosi	Jillian Barbeau
Preston Lord	Dario Turk

~Principal's List~

Sophia Byrd	Jayden Boyle	Lyla Benjamin	Kaden Lewis
Aeden Curtis	Joseph Flores	Faith Erickson	Jace Machowski
Isabella Loyola	Cristian Garcia	Aydenn Galang	Rebecca Munoz
Ashley Mabey	Sherman Mabey	Nicholas Gandarilla	Dominic Vasquez
Ethan Rosenbaum	Sopheya Pina	Alyssa Navarre	Addie Benjamin
Chisom Ubosi	Ariana Sanchez	Lahna Rosenbaum	Sophia Figueroa
Alexis Vasquez	Kaya Stewart	Ashley Williams	Jack Knopp
Micaela Amoako	William Stinecipher	Katelynne Andrew	Alana Patubo
Piper Busch	Kolton Zahn	Ashley Bean	Sophie Riley
Jace Bryd	Elena Golden	Alexandra Garcia	Carter Stinecipher
Ady Howard	Thomas Andrew	Elijah Golden	Lucy Tran
Kyle Knopp	Brenna Cox	Adrian Vasquez	Tristan Williams
Azrielle Pava	Makayla Oberg	Cole Lapham	Pierina Palma
Danny Ta	Kylie Ryan	Peyton Humbert	Andy Zavala
Calista Willey	Chinonye Ubosi	Alyssa Hood	

~Honor Roll~

Alanie Fontan-Juarez	Fabian Moreno	Malachi Chavira	Julien Clark
Lucian Simpson	Landin Simpson	Elijah Gonzalez	Delaney Macias
Joseph Urso	Kamari Stewart	Mackenzie Anthony	Haydin Miller
Mckenna Benfield	Wilson Ta	Nicodermus Holmes	Arianna Washington
Easton Payne	Andrew Vasquez	Natalie Bonilla	Matthew Howell
Arman Galang	Paige Culver	Ayden Budish	Ariana Kizier
Emery Huffaker	Julia Federle	Dane Riley	Emily Lustgraaf
Dominique Jaime	Tachiinii (Ty) Holmes	Andrew Lemus	John Minson
Jessica Valdez	Gavin Leonard	Aliyah Miranda	Nevaeh Thompson
Shelby Walag	Darlene Moreno	Violet Tanner	Christoper Wiley
Jacob Barbeau	Krista Turk	Samantha Wolfe	
Roger Earley	Christopher Allen	Hailey Bean	

~Perfect Attendance~

Micaela Amoako	Elijah Golden	Michael Morales	Camren Tapia
Jaelynn Robinson	Healdfene Riley	Alessandro Ruvalcaba	Gabhen Dorman
Arman Galang	Hailey Bean	Zane Spears	Justin Navarre
Dominique Jaime	Sophia Figueroa	Angelia Graham	Shelby Walag
Ariana Sanchez	Delaney Macias	Christopher Pinckard	Christian Williams
Bradley Watson	Alana Patubo	Kamari Stewart	Ashlyn Allen
Dylan Cornell	Sophie Riley	Britney Allen	Sara Anderson
Aydenn Galang	Lucy Tran	Arielle Galang	Deborah Amoako
Jace Hubbard	Arianna Washington	Lenny Tran	Gabrielle Figueroa
Christopher Allen	Emily Lustgraaf	Isabella Loyola	Alden Graham
Lillian Robinson	Ethyn Macias	Lucian Simpson	Cicada Martinez



Sparkle On!





**Combs
Traditional
Academy**

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San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

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Fax: 480-987-3473

Website:

www.combstraditional.jocombs.org

**Rigor, Responsibility, &
Respect**



Mission:
**To provide a rigorous academic
focus for all students in an
environment that emphasizes
responsibility and respect**



Vision:
**Students will develop the essential
skills to become higher level
thinkers that will empower them
to become respectful, self-
disciplined, conscientious, and self-
motivated leaders of society.**



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!!!**

Students:

Andrew Lemus
Caleb Chavez
Darlene Moreno
Jaelynn Robinson
Britney Allen
Alexis Vasquez
Jace Byrd

Cicada Martinez
Alexander Martinez-Lopez
Jaquarius Robinson
Joshua Cabezas
Sophia Figueroa
Dmitri Klimek
Piper Busch
Evelina Fedyuk
Dylan Cornell

Staff:

Mr. Marcus Berkshire
Mrs. Shalyn Rosenbaum
Jeremy Scherer
Bianca Laguna

