

## COMBS TRADITIONAL ACADEMY

# February NEWSLETTER

### Principal's Message

While the weather outside may be cold, learning is heating up inside our walls and there's much to share!

Parent Teacher Conferences are this month. Our spring conferences are Student Led, which gives your child an opportunity to discuss with you their progress to date as well as their goals to finish out the year. For those families that require individual conferences with their child's teacher, we reserve the Friday conference sessions for private conferences. Please take the time to bring your child on Thursday, February 23rd, and celebrate their achievements! Conferences run from 12:00-4:30 and 5:30-7:00PM on Thursday, February 23rd and 12:00-4:00 on Friday, February 24th. Teachers will be communicating with you regarding private conferences on Friday and their layout for Thursday's conferences. Please contact them if you have questions.

Additionally, we are excited to be participating in the Arizona Sci-Tech Festival at Combs High School on Thursday, February 16th from 6-7PM! We invite you and your family to come and participate in our K-3 interactive science activities or see our 4th-6th grade Investigation and Invention projects that will be on display. There will also be many other science and technology related activities and vendors that evening. We hope to see you there!

We always want to hear acknowledgements about our staff. Last month, we had one for Mrs. Allen in 5th grade for "going above and beyond with helping my son do the best he can in class. She always keeps in contact with me if he is struggling. I appreciate everything she does!" Thank you for the kind words and keep them coming!

Our character trait for this month is Fairness. Fairness means to play by the rules, take turns and share, be open-minded and listen to others, don't take advantage of others, don't blame others carelessly, and treat all people fairly. We hope you can emphasize this character trait at home as well!

It's that time of year where we start making plans for next school year and, in order to do that, we need to make sure of your plans for next year! This year, we have gone digital and emailed out the Intent to Return forms. Please contact our front office if you did not receive it or have any questions. This information helps us as we determine our staffing needs for the upcoming school year. Additionally, if you have a kindergartener or know of someone that will have a kindergarten child next year, please remind them of our Kindergarten Round-up on Thursday, February 9th at 6:00PM!

Thank you for choosing Combs Traditional Academy and believing in our mission to provide a rigorous academic focus for all students in a collaborative environment that emphasizes responsibility and respect.

*Marion J. Berkshire*



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### Parent Reminders:

- ♦ Feb 3rd- Sweetheart Dance @ 6pm.
- ♦ Feb 8th- Board Mtg- CMS @ 6pm
- ♦ Feb 16th- District Sci-Tech Festival @ CHS 6pm
- ♦ Feb 17th- Flag Ceremony @ 8:30am
- ♦ Feb 20th- President's Day- **No School**
- ♦ Feb 22nd- Muffins w/ mom and family
- ♦ Feb 22nd- Little Caesar's Fundraiser
- ♦ Feb 21-24- Book Fair
- ♦ Feb 23-24- Parent/ Teacher Conferences

# PTO News



February is full of lots of fun events that we hope to see you attend. First we have our PTO Sweetheart Dance, then the Book Fair and Donuts with Dad. Be sure to check out the Book Fair during Donuts with Dad and after school.

- *PTO Sweetheart Dance* — February 3— 6pm-8pm
- *NO SCHOOL* — President's Day — February 20
- *Book Fair* — February 21-24 (Library)
- *Muffins w/ Mom & Family* — February 22 (Cafeteria)
- *Little Caesar's fundraiser*—February 22
- *Parent Teacher Conferences* — February 23-24

Keep up to date on PTO events by following us on Facebook at



**Help support our Students!**

## Message from the Nurse

Let's talk vomiting and fevers, colds and flu. This is the time of year that they are showing up in the home and at school. I wanted to take the time to send out a reminder about the school health policies on students being sent home and for students returning to school. If a student comes in with a fever of 100 degrees or higher or vomiting they will be sent home. Students who are returning to school after or recovering from an illness must be:

1. 12 hours free of vomiting
2. 24 hours free of fever (without the use of fever reducing medicines)
3. 24 hours of antibiotic treatment



We want everyone to have a healthy learning environment at school and at home

## Book Fair

The CTA Spring book fair is less than a month away! The theme is Happy Campers and dates are February 21st thru the 24th. We are in need of volunteers to help with set up, decorating, running the fair and packing up! If you are interested in lending a hand to make our fair the very best it can be, please visit the signup Genius link below and sign up for as many time slots as you can!

Our online fair will be running from February 13th to February 28th. Shop our book fair any time from the comfort of your home, all while helping out our school!

To view fair dates and times, preview the online fair, view volunteer information, or learn more about book fair goals and events, please visit our book fair homepage at the link below!

Signup Genius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044fa8aa22abf85-spring>

Homepage: <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/combstraditionalacademy>

## Kindergarten Round-up

We are currently accepting enrollment registrations for the 2017-2018 school year. Please let your friends and community know about our program and invite them to stop by for a tour. We will be hosting our Kindergarten Roundup on February 9th from 6:00 – 7:00PM in the gym for prospective Kindergarten families. At the roundup, we will introduce the staff and Ms. Hrubec and Ms. Galvan will take the incoming Kindergarten students to the classroom for an activity. There will then be a short presentation on our program, specifically for Kindergarten, followed by a tour of the school and ending in the Kindergarten classroom. We will also be able to take registration forms that evening. We hope to see a lot of new faces that night!

♥ Welcome to Kindergarten

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## Counselor's Corner

We are off and running in the new year at CTA! During the months of January and February, students participated or will participate in classroom guidance activities regarding Careers and showing Positive Behavior Choices.

Younger students were introduced to recognizing all the career options that exist. Middle aged students were asked to identify different tools for various careers. Older students completed interest inventories that spoke to career areas they may be best suited to explore. Our 6th grade students enrolled in the Arizona Career Information Systems program and now all have an online academic and activity portfolio. This portfolio is web based. Students can access it at their choosing to complete career activities, post-secondary training/education options and record all the accomplishments they earn. The portfolio is theirs to use from now until graduation from high school. The JO Combs district identified enrollment in AzCIS at the 6th grade level to support students planning for middle school and high school courses and extra-curricular activities.

Positive behavior choices in the classroom and throughout campus is a focus at CTA. Students participated in discussions on the different forms negative behavior can take; bad manners, aggression, bullying behavior. We also talked about how to assertively respond when negative behavior is around you. Ultimately, our hope is for students to show self-control over their words and actions so that respect for self and others is maintained at all times.

We see many Combs Traditional Academy students showing rigor, responsibility and respect on a daily basis. We are excited that so many of our students are earning Knights Notes and moving their way up the level of Knight!



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## District Spelling Bee



All three of our spellers were amazing last week! A special congratulations to Isabella Loyola who came in 3rd place and will be competing in the Pinal County Spelling Bee in February! Great job and good luck! *Knight!*



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## Enrichment Classes

Combs elementary students have a variety of after school enrichment classes to choose from right on their campus, directly after school! Parents can also get fit and have fun after school! Read on for more information:



Chess Emporium will not only teach your beginner or advanced chess enthusiast rules and strategies of the game, but will also develop visualization, problem solving, and analytical skills. This class is offered at Combs Traditional Academy but is open to all K-6th grade students (transportation not provided). See more at [www.chessemporium.com/clubs](http://www.chessemporium.com/clubs).

SWCMA is a specially designed training program that teaches more than just karate. Students are evaluated on techniques and skills that they have learning and are presented with a Rank Certificate at the end of each session. The next session starts 2/6. See more information at [www.swcma.com](http://www.swcma.com).



Keep up to date with all enrichment classes at [www.jocombs.org](http://www.jocombs.org).

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## Dress Code Reminder



Combs Traditional Academy has some basic expectations when it comes to Dress Code and we ask that you help us with enforcing it. During the week, students may wear any color jacket outside, but if they are going to be wearing a jacket or sweater inside, it must be a **solid** red, white, or navy color. Also, on Fridays, student may dress down by wearing **blue denim** and a **solid red, white, or navy background t-shirt**. They may also wear their normal uniform clothes on Fridays. Students not in appropriate clothes will be asked to change. Students that habitually are out of dress code may receive an office referral.

Thank you for your help with this!

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## Orchestra

Dear Parents,

I was so happy for the great job our orchestra students did at our last performance. We are busy working towards our next performance on May 3 at Combs High School. Some musical concepts that our Beginning Students will be working on are: Eighth Notes, Accidentals, Medley, Pinky "A," and  $\frac{3}{4}$  time signature. Advanced students will work on the following musical concepts: Slurs, Dotted Rhythms, Playing Harmonies in rounds and songs, mastery of the "C" Scale, Accidentals, and Syncopated Rhythms.

Mr. Guido Lavorata,  
Director of Orchestra:  
Combs Traditional Academy, Ellsworth, Simonton, and Harmon Elementary Schools

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## Band News

Band students are working hard to prepare for their next concert, which is coming up. The Spring Concert will be on Tuesday, March 7th, at 6:00 p.m. We will again be combining CTA and Harmon, and will be performing at Harmon.

4th grade parents - please consider bringing your 4th grader out to one band and one orchestra concert this semester, to help them get excited about joining one of these great ensembles next fall! It's not too early to generate that enthusiasm!

*Future band performance dates include:*

~Thursday, March 23 - District 6th grade honor band performance at Arizona Elementary Concert Festival, Arcadia H.S., Phoenix.

~Thursday, May 4 - Annual Mass Band Festival - Combs High School. This involves ALL band students from all schools, and will culminate in a gala concert beginning at 6:00 p.m.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



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## 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.



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## 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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***SAVE THE DATE!***



***It Takes Heart  
to be a Hero!***



Our school is proud to partner with the American Heart Association to help kids with special hearts! Mark your family calendars NOW for our upcoming Jump Rope For Heart event taking place the week of:

**February 13-17**

You can help the American Heart Association by helping your child make a web page. It's *safe, effective and saves YOU time* by raising life-saving donations online.

Visit [www.heart.org/jump](http://www.heart.org/jump) and click on '*Students Sign Up*' to get started today.

*The American Heart Association's Mission: To build healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke.*

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## Sweetheart Dance

*Come join the fun!*

*Friday, February 3rd*

*6:00-8:00pm*

*Snacks/Drinks available for sale*



## District News



The 2nd Annual Combs SciTech Festival is February 16th from 6p-7p at Combs High School! Students from all schools will show off what they have learned about Science & Technology in Society. Attendees will have fun learning about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) with hands-on activities. Get your passport stamped at key locations on campus to receive your special treat! See the flyer for all the great businesses partnering with Combs.

We offer gifted blanket testing for 3rd grade students. We have scheduled testing at each elementary school the week of February 13th. 3rd grade families will receive additional details including information on how to opt out of this testing via email.

If you or someone you know is looking for a career in education, plan on joining us March 21st from 4pm - 7pm at the Combs Job Fair. Open positions include cafeteria staff, bus drivers, paraprofessionals, and classroom teachers. Please see the flyer for more details.



February is National CTE Month! Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes are a great way for high school students to get a jump on their future and learn marketable skills. New classes have been added for the 2017-2018 school year! Check out the CHS course catalog for more information.



**J.O. Combs  
Unified  
School  
District**

**Job Fair**

### Positions Available July 2017

- ♦ Teachers
- ♦ Special Education Teachers
- ♦ Teacher Substitutes
- ♦ Classroom Aides/Paraprofessionals
- ♦ Bus Drivers
- ♦ Custodians
- ♦ Food Service
- ♦ Support Staff Substitutes

**Walk-Ins  
Welcome!**

**March 21, 2017**  
**4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**

**Combs High School Library**  
**2505 E. Germann Road**  
**San Tan Valley, AZ 85140**

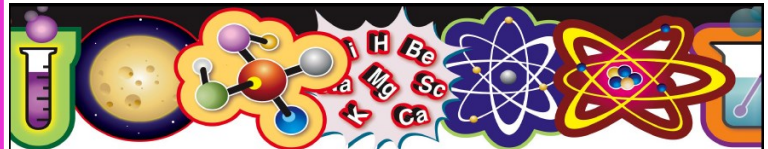
**Apply online by March 15  
to be guaranteed an  
interview**

[www.jocombs.org](http://www.jocombs.org)



**Call 480-987-5305 for further  
Career Fair Information**

**Combs**  
J.O. Combs Unified School District  
Learning Today. Leading Tomorrow



**JOIN US FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL**

**Combs**  
J.O. Combs Unified School District

Learning Today. Leading Tomorrow



**FEBRUARY 16TH 6PM-7PM**

**AT COMBS HIGH SCHOOL**

**STUDENTS FROM ALL SCHOOLS WILL DEMONSTRATE  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY IN SOCIETY**

COMPUTER TROUBLES? COMBS IT DEPARTMENT WILL BE THERE TO CHECK IT OUT!

### **SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCES AND BOOTHS:**

AZ SCITECH	CENTRAL ARIZONA COLLEGE- STEM & SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS
BANNER IRONWOOD RADIOLOGY	RADICAL REPTILES
AZ SCIENCE CENTER	GAME TRUCK
MAD SCIENCE	MESA UTILITIES
AZ FARM BUREAU	AND MORE!
STRATUM LASER TAG	





# **~Congratulations Knights~**

## **2nd Quarter Honor Roll/Perfect Attendance**



### **~Scholars of Distinction~**

Katelynne Andrew  
Jillian Barbeau  
Jace Byrd  
Faith Erickson  
Kyle Knopp

Preston Lord  
Lahna Rosenbaum  
Dario Turk  
Uchechi Ubosi

### **~Principal's List~**

Thomas Andrew  
Brenna Cox  
Makayla Oberg  
Christopher Pinckard  
Landin Simpson  
Kamari Stewart  
Wilson Ta  
Micaela Amoako  
McKenna Benfield  
Piper Busch  
Steven Erickson  
Ady Howard  
Azrielle Pava  
Easton Payne

Jaelynn Robinson  
Danny Ta  
Calista Wiley  
Sophia Byrd  
Aeden Curtis  
Alanie Fontan Juarez  
Isabella Loyola  
Ashley Mabey  
Lucian Simpson  
Chisom Ubosi  
Alexis Vasquez  
Krista Turk  
Ashley Williams  
Brylie Hartman

Alyssa Hood  
Peyton Humbert  
Cole Lapham  
Andrew Lemus  
Kaden Lewis  
Rebecca Munoz  
Dominic Vasquez  
Samantha Wolf  
Elijah Golden  
Alexandra Garcia  
Jayden Boyle  
Cristian Garcia  
Sherman Mabey  
Sopheya Pina

Ariana Sanchez  
Kaya Stewart  
William Stinecipher  
Kolton Zahn  
Lyla Benjamin  
Aydenn Galang  
Nicholas Gandarilla  
Kobe Kennady  
Autumn Lance  
Alyssa Navarre  
Matthew Howell  
Ariana Kizier  
Emily Lustgraaf  
John Minson

Zane Spears  
Nevaeh Thompson  
Chrisopher Wiley  
Andres Zavala  
Addie Benjamin  
Sophia Figueroa  
Alana Patubo  
Sophie Riley  
Carter Stinecipher  
Lucy Tran  
Tristan Williams  
Elena Golden  
Jessica Valdez  
Shelby Walag

### **~Honor Roll~**

Jacob Barbeau  
Roger Earley  
Cara Fajardo  
Ashtyn Hubbard  
Fabian Moreno  
Kylie Ryan  
Rowan Jentsch  
Bam Miller  
Ethan Rosenbaum  
Adan Torres  
Dominic Barthell  
Christopher Allen

Savannah Emerson  
Elijah Gonzalez  
Mylee Hubbard  
Shevonne Johnson  
Violet Tanner  
Avrianna Williams-Whitaker  
Mackenzie Anthony  
Ashley Bean  
Natalie Bonilla  
Ayeden Budish  
Dane Riley  
Brooklyne Davis

Joseph Flores  
Emery Huffaker  
Dylan Cornell  
Paige Culver  
Tachiinii Holmes  
Olivia Minson  
Darlene Moreno  
Waylon Deel  
Trevor Hood  
Ethyn Macias  
Pierina Palma-Barros  
Tessa Vander Wall

Broden Mathus  
Hailey Bean  
Julien Clark  
Alfonso Jaime  
Jackson Knopp  
Delaney Macias  
Isabella Marines  
Haydin Miller  
Nathan Pinckard  
Samantha Bourland  
Roy Chavez  
Daniel Herrick

### **~Perfect Attendance~**

Sara Anderson  
Trinity McCallum  
Liat Hubbard  
Cicada Martinez  
Miley Quick  
Azrielle Pava  
Uchechi Ubosi  
Calista Wiley

Dominique Jaime  
Audrina Flores-Ramos  
Nicholas Gandarilla  
Tachiinii Holmes  
Jace Hubbard  
Nicodemus Holmes  
Elijah Golden  
Alfonso Jaime

Delaney Macias  
Alana Patubo  
Matthew Howell  
Ethyn Macias  
Michael Morales  
Christopher Wiley  
Jacob Barbeau  
Brenna Cox

Angelia Graham  
Kylie Ryan  
Wilson Ta  
Destiny Douglas  
Alanie Fontan Juarez  
Isabella Loyola  
Chisom Ubosi  
Jalil Westmoreland



# **Sparkle On!**





First grade Artwork by:

McKenna



Logan



Micaela



Danny







**COMBS  
TRADITIONAL  
ACADEMY**

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Fax: 480-987-5009

Website:

[www.combstraditional.jocombs.org](http://www.combstraditional.jocombs.org)

**Rigor, Responsibility, &  
Respect**



**Mission:**

**To provide a rigorous academic  
focus for all students in an collaborative  
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 lead-  
ers of society.**



# **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**



**Students:**

William Stinecipher

Cole Lapham

Dominique Jaime

Abbie Septer

Adelyn Howard

Tessa Vander Wall

Gavin Leonard

Matteo Sanchez

Lucian Simpson

Ella Rosado

Lyla Benjamin

Kobe Kennady

Trinity McCallum

Maya Villalvazo

Savannah Emerson

Angelia Graham

Kylie Ryan

Samuel Fedyuk

Kaden Lewis

Amy Monzon

Marco Mendoza

Arianah Sherwood

McKenzie Sherwood

Uchechi Ubosi

**Staff:**

Karen Steele

Jordan Dahl