



## COMBS TRADITIONAL ACADEMY

# FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

It is amazing how quickly the year has gone by and that we are already into February! This time of year is the time when we begin looking at next school year. Our 6th graders met with Combs Middle School's counselor in January and this month they will be registering for courses for next year. They are very excited and we are, too. Each year, we send a greater number of our students to the Middle School and all of them have experienced a great deal of success. In fact, we have our first students at Combs High School this year as freshmen!

This month is also the month when we reach out to you as families to determine your plans for next school year. In order for us to appropriately staff our campus, we need to be able to as accurately as possible roll over our numbers to the next school year. We are excited about the possibility that we will have two classes at every grade level from Kindergarten to 4th grade next year, but in order to ensure that this happens, we need you! So, please return the reenrollment forms as soon as you can and, if you do not plan to return, please speak with us so we can better understand your reasons for leaving and better address the needs and concerns of our community. Additionally, based on numbers in some of our grade levels, we do expect to have a wait list next year, and so it is doubly important that you get those back to us sooner rather than later!

We are also excited to announce that we will be offering Free All Day Kindergarten for the 2015-2016 school year! We have already started accepting enrollments for next school year and fully anticipate filling our Kindergarten classes. Priority for enrollment goes to siblings of our current students, followed by in-district enrollments, and finally to out-of-district enrollments. Please encourage your friends and families to contact us for a school tour. Our Kindergarten Roundup is scheduled for March 3rd, at 6:00PM. The Roundup serves as the school tour and gives families a chance to hear about our program and meet our staff, while also introducing their future kindergartner to the Kindergarten classroom and team. We hope to have a full house that night!

Thank you for making Combs Traditional Academy YOUR school of choice!

### Math & Science Night

You are invited to an evening of math and science at Combs Traditional Academy on Tuesday, February 24th from 6-7PM. Teachers and classes in Kindergarten through 3rd grade will have math or science activities for you to participate in, while our 4th-6th graders will be displaying and presenting their science fair projects. It's going to be a great evening and we hope to see you there!

Thank you!

Marcus Berkshire



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## Parent Reminders:

- ♦ Feb 6th- Progress Reports Go Home
- ♦ Feb 6th- Sweetheart Dance @ 6pm.
- ♦ Feb 9th-13th Jump Rope For Heart
- ♦ Feb 9th-12th Candy Gram Sales
- ♦ Feb 11th-Governing Board Meeting 6PM @ CMS
- ♦ Feb 13th- Kids Night Out 6:30pm-10:30pm@ Harmon
- ♦ Feb 13th- Flag Ceremony for Presidents Day @ 8:30am
- ♦ Feb 16-President's Day-  
**NO SCHOOL**
- ♦ Feb 24th- Math & Science Night @ 6pm

# PTO NEWS

## PTO NEWS

Thank you to the families who supported CTA during our January fundraising events! The Daily Bread Bistro & Baskin Robbins event were a success!

## BOX TOPS/CAMPBELL'S/LITTLE CESAERS

Thank you for continuing to support CTA by collecting and sending in your Box tops, Campbell's labels, and Little Cesaers' tabs! Keep sending them in!

Congratulations to Mrs. Rosenbaum's class! They were the November winner with 205!

## SWEETHEART DANCE

Mark your calendars for Friday February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 for CTA's annual sweetheart dance! This year each grade has come up with their own special "theme" for the silent auction baskets. You should have received a sign up genius from your classroom parent or teacher requesting items to be donated for these baskets. This is a great auction and your donations are greatly appreciated!!!

Free Entry and Photos! Face painting, Raffle tickets, and Carnation Grams will be available for \$1/each. We hope to see you all there! \*\*As always, PTO is looking for volunteers to help during our events! If you would like to volunteer, please contact PTO\*\*

## YEARBOOKS

Yearbook forms have been sent home! If you have not received a form please notify your student's teacher. Yearbooks are \$20/ each but will go up to \$25 as of March 1<sup>st</sup> so get those order forms in ASAP!

REMEMBER: PTO is not ordering extra yearbooks this year so if you don't get your order form in, you will not have a chance to order late.

## From the Nurse

Flu season is upon us, please help us keep all of our students healthy by working with your student on eating healthy, getting plenty of rest and good hand washing. Reinforce with your student to use soap and warm water and wash for at least 20 seconds. An easy and fun way to help encourage this with your child is to teach the hand washing song which is to the tune of Row Row Row Your Boat.

Hand Washing Song:

*Wash, wash, wash my hands / Make them nice and clean.*

*Rub the bottoms, and the tops / And fingers in between.*

Also, as a reminder. If your child must borrow any items from the nurse's closet, please wash and return those items so we are able to have them on hand for future incidents that occur. We appreciate your cooperation and assistance in this matter.

Thank you. -Keeli Engel, District RN



## February is National Children's Dental Health Month...

February is National Children's Dental Health Month...

And here at Combs Traditional Academy we will be celebrating! First the Tooth Fairy will be visiting our classrooms on February 17<sup>th</sup> with helpful information on Dental Hygiene and that day information on the dental program through Access Arizona Smiles will be sent home. Arizona Access Smiles offers dental cleaning here on location, check it out and see if you are able to utilize this great program. If you have any questions please contact Keeli in the nurse office, 480-987-5323



## 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 9th—13th**

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 disease and stroke.

## Kindergarten Round-up

We are currently accepting enrollment registrations for the 2015-2016 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 March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00PM in the gym for prospective Kindergarten families. At the roundup, we will introduce the staff and Ms. Briggs will take the incoming Kindergarten students to her room 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!



## STUCO Candy Grams

**Who will your valentine be?**

For **50¢** you can send a friend a **BLOW-POP** or for **\$1.00** you can send them a box of Candy Hearts. Get your orders in quick because quantities are limited! You can buy as many as you want! So show someone how much you care by sending them a **Valentines Candy Gram**. You don't have to tell them who it's from... it can be our secret! Student council will be selling them **before school** in the **Cafeteria February 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**. Everything will be delivered on February 13<sup>th</sup> to classes and passed out during party times!

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

## Registrations for 2015/2016



It's that time of the year to start looking to next year and we need your help! We have begun accepting enrollment registrations for next year, pre-enrollment paperwork will go home the first week in February. Our growth as a school depends on our families and their positive reviews of the school. You can help us by telling others in your community about your positive experiences with Combs Traditional Academy and by visiting [greatschools.org](http://greatschools.org) to submit a review. We have had a lot of phone calls expressing excitement and interest in our school and in our new Tuition Free All Day Kindergarten program! Please help us to spread the word! Thank you for your help! For more information call the office, 480-987-5320.

## Tuition Free All-Day Kindergarten

We, here at Combs Traditional Academy are excited to announce a tuition free all-day kindergarten program beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Our enrollment is ongoing, so any interested family may enroll at this time. If you or anyone you know is interested in this program please have them call the office at 480-987-5320. We will be hosting our Kindergarten Round-Up on March 3rd at 6:00 p.m., which includes a tour of our school. For more information, please call 480-987-5320.

## Math & Science Night

You are invited to an evening of math and science at Combs Traditional Academy on Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> from 6-7PM. Teachers and classes in Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will have math or science activities for you to participate in, while our 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders will be displaying and presenting their science fair projects. It's going to be a great evening and we hope to see you there!

## Kids' Night Out

Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm-10:30pm your children can come enjoy crafts, Wii games, a dance party, active games, a movie, and popcorn. Register online at [www.jocombs.org](http://www.jocombs.org) under "Community Ed" before February 11<sup>th</sup>. Registration cost before February 12<sup>th</sup> is \$20 and \$25 at the door. Kids' Night Out will be held in Gym at Harmon Elementary. For questions, contact Community Education at 480-987-5310.

## February's Student Drawings



Thank you to Melanie Gross for the very lovely Heart picture and Sammy Vasquez for the awesome Knight Picture!



## Band & Orchestra

The annual Spring Band Concert will be on Tuesday, April 7, at 6:30 p.m., at Simonton Elementary. All are invited! Any 4<sup>th</sup> graders that are interested in joining band next year should try to come out and check it out! It might help you decide which instrument you might like to play!

There is much more happening in the band room – way too much to put here! Mrs. Steele has sent out an email to band parents with all of the band news, and is also sending it home on Friday with your child. Please read it through, and sign the back page – it needs to be returned for a grade!



**COMBS  
TRADITIONAL  
ACADEMY**

37327 N Gantzel Rd  
San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

Phone: 480-987-5320

Fax: 480-987-3473

Website:

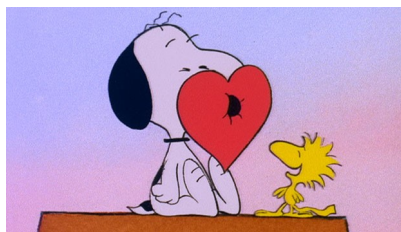
[www.combstraditional.jocombs.org](http://www.combstraditional.jocombs.org)

**Rigor, Responsibility, &  
Respect**



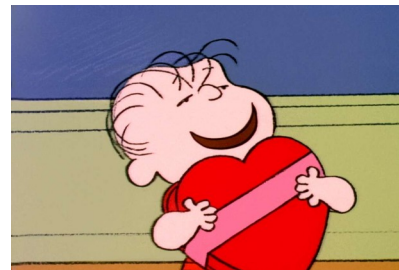
**Mission:**

**To provide a rigorous academic  
focus for all students in an  
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.**



# **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!**

Lapham, Cole K  
Williamson, Joshua B  
Septer, Abbie G  
Coronado, Eric J  
Hasty, Aiden W  
Scarlett, Preston D  
Gross, Melanie R  
Engle, Justice S  
Rhodes, Alani J  
Rosado, Ella  
Graham, Blake M

Hutson, Evelyn G  
Piriz, Isabella S  
Benjamin, Lyla J  
Kennady, Kobe M

**Staff:**

Karen Steele



# Blanket Gifted Testing for 2nd Grade / Spring Gifted Testing

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## Blanket Gifted Testing

Dear Families,

We wanted to make you aware of the upcoming Second Grade Blanket Testing that will be administered during the school day in March. Listed below is preliminary information for your reference. **Students will take home a letter in February that provides additional information about the specific dates for testing at your child's school, along with the opt-out form, should you decide that you do not want your son/daughter to participate in testing.**

### Second Grade Blanket Testing for all Second Grade Students

Week of March 23-27, 2015



- Students will take the Nonverbal battery of the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)
  - Test will be administered by the classroom teacher
  - Schedule of testing will be provided in the letter that students take home in February *will also be available on the J.O. Combs Website under the Curriculum and Instruction tab*
  - Students who already qualify as gifted will not test
  - Parents may have child opt-out of testing
- ⇒ Opt-Out form will be sent with letter to parents in February *will also be located on the J.O. Combs web site under the Curriculum and Instru*
- ⇒ Opt-Out form must be received by classroom teacher **NO LATER than Friday, March 6**
- Students who score at the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or above on the Nonverbal battery will be given the remaining two portions (Verbal and Quantitative) of the CogAT during the week of **April 27 – May 1**

**Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher with any additional questions, or you may contact Debbie Sant at [480-987-5300, extension 1050](tel:480-987-5300) or via e-mail at [dsant@jocombs.k12.az.us](mailto:dsant@jocombs.k12.az.us)**

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## Spring Gifted Testing

**Saturday, March 28 at Combs Traditional Academy**

**Students arrive between 8:00 and 8:20; testing begins promptly at 8:30**

This Saturday testing date is for ***students who are new to the district or missed a testing opportunity*** this past school year.

Testing is open for Kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Permission to test is required

Permission slips may be obtained from the child's teacher or can be located on the J.O. Combs website under the Curriculum and Instruction tab *(will be available in February)*

Permission slips are due to classroom teacher or via e-mail to [Dsant@jocombs.k12.az.us](mailto:Dsant@jocombs.k12.az.us) **NO LATER than Friday, March 6**

Students may test only **ONE TIME** in 12-month time period

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher or Debbie Sant at 480-987-5300, extension 1050 or via e-mail at [dsant@jocombs.k12.az.us](mailto:dsant@jocombs.k12.az.us)



# Second Quarter Honor Roll Students

## Honor Roll

Parker Bell  
Noah Sedillo  
Pief, Jaydon  
Vasquez, Adrian  
Walag, Taylor  
Chavira, Josiah  
Hannan, Kylie  
Katz, Evangeline  
Morales, Michael  
Steven, Fabrizioo  
Zavala, Andy  
Knopp, Jackson  
Miller, Haydin  
Acosta, Andy  
Hubbard, Ashtyn  
Mault, Christopher  
Moreno, Fabian  
Ta, Wilson  
Young, Kane  
Cisneros, Derek  
Curtis, Aeden  
Fontan-Juarez, Alanie  
Foster, Luke  
Herrick, Haylee  
Jensen, Brooklyn  
Jimenez, Jonathan  
Keesler, Austin  
Mabey, Ashley  
Rosenbaum, Ethan  
Tolar, Cooper  
Yost, Tori  
Turner, Peyton  
Ubosi, Chisom  
Torres, Adan  
Rodriguez, Carlos  
Septer, Abbie

Sterling, Sylvia  
Piriz, Bella  
Safcik, Tea  
Curwin, Dawson  
Deel , Anissa  
Garcia, Monica  
Harris, Isabelle  
Holmes, Dinay  
Kelley, Ezra  
Kok, Anjali  
Damon, Cole  
Jimenez, Isabelle  
Rodriguez, Alex  
Vasquez, Arthur

## Principals Honor Roll

Atalie Aldama  
Mackenzie Anthony  
Ashley Bean  
Hailey Bean  
Natalie Bonilla  
Ayden Budish  
Julien Clark  
Justice Engle  
Kade Graham  
Aaliyah Howard  
Noel Irwin  
Alfonso Jaime  
Christopher Jimenez  
Delaney Macias  
Isabella Marines  
Dariana Nunez  
Carissa Ochoa  
Willow Paterno  
Tennysen Rodgers  
Arianna Washington  
Benjamin, Addie

Golden, Elijah  
Poole, Amaya  
Williams, Tristan  
Fajardo, Cara  
Kizier, Ariana  
Lustgraaf, Emily  
Mikkelson, Kaden  
Munoz, Aayden  
Ubosi, Chinonye  
Andrew, Thomas  
Barbeau, Jacob  
Bell, Michaela  
Brian, Milana  
Clare, Kenli  
Cox, Brenna  
Gross, Melanie  
Hutson, Evie  
Lord, Preston  
Marviglia, Sammi  
Minson, John  
Paterno, Kemper  
Poole, Alauna  
Quinata, Isabella  
Spears, Zane  
Thompson, Nevaeh  
Vasquez, Andrew  
Briggs, Gracie  
Galang, Arielle  
Hannan, Thomas  
Litviak, Breanna  
Loyola, Isabella  
Tapia, Camren  
Valdez, Bianca  
Walker, Londyn  
Williamson, Tyler  
Sanders, Ben  
Urso, Joseph

Vasquez, Alexis  
Byrd, Sophia  
Finn, Roman  
Pierson, GG  
Turk, Krista  
Williams, Ashley  
Clare, Hunter  
Golden, Elena  
Herrick, Danny  
Kramer, Kam  
Lord, Tatum  
Valdez, Jessica  
Walag, Shelby  
Brian , Kole  
Cama, Jayden  
Jensen, Alyssa  
San Miguel, Leanna  
Williams, Kateland  
Bonilla, Alfredo  
Brown, Dalton  
Cisneros, Brendon  
McPike-Woodrey, Stone  
Moylan, Samantha  
Pelayo, Vivian  
Pierson, Paris  
Ta, Kelvin  
Scholar of  
Distinction  
Alexandra Garcia  
Alana Patubo  
Stinecipher, Carter  
Brian, Jadyn  
Pina, Kennedie  
Rhodes, Alani