

**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 6th, 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 1st 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 later.

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 17th 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 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 3rd 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 9th -12th**. Everything will be delivered on February 13th 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 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 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!

Kids' Night Out

Friday, February 13th 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 under "Community Ed" before February 11th. Registration cost before February 12th 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



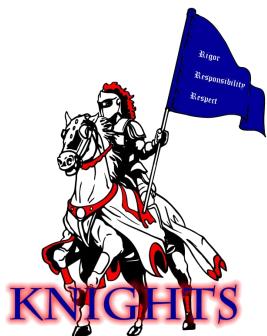
Thank you to Melanie Gross for the very lovely Heart picture and Sammy Vasquez for the awesome Knight Picture!



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 4th 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!

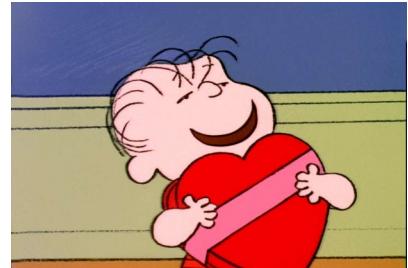
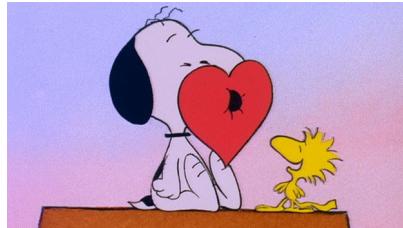


COMBS TRADITIONAL ACADEMY

37327 N Gantzel Rd
San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

Phone: 480-987-5320
Fax: 480-987-3473
Website:
www.combstraditional.jocombs.org

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

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 90th 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 or via e-mail at dsant@jocombs.k12.az.us

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 – 6th 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 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

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, Fabrizio
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