

Albert Schweitzer Gazette

Principal's Message...

February 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians:

With cold months ahead and some extra time on their hands, I would like to give you an overview of the on-line curriculum support programs that are available to you and your children. Please take a few minutes to review the list and encourage your child to work on the ones they need to improve their skills. These are ways your child can still work on their skills, even when they are stuck inside.

Dream Box: (Grades K-2) Dream Box is an online math program designed to help students build their math confidence and ability. Dream Box is an independent activity that is tailored to your child's learning so it is imperative that you encourage them to play on their own, without the help from another student or adult. Your child should play on Dream Box at least two-three times per week for thirty minutes. Your child's teacher may assign this as homework as well. Contact your child's teacher if you have not received login information.

To access Dream Box from home, please go to: <https://htplay.dreambox.com/login/yztw> from here you will select your child's school. Please note that some schools have two links, only one is active for this school year. After selecting your child's school, then click on their teacher's email address. This will take you to a page to log your child in. Students in grades K-2 will select their name and then a picture icon. Students in grades 3-5 will enter a username (typically first name/last initial) and a password that the teacher has provided.

Math Buddies: (Grades 3-5) Math Buddies is another online resource to your child's math curriculum. The Math Buddies program provides online tutorials, scaffolded practice problems and assessments for each math skill. This has been a valuable classroom tool for both students and teachers as Math In Focus has been introduced into our schools. Student accounts provide access to class assignments for extra practice and/or to make up missed work due to absences. This program will also provide students with opportunities to preview upcoming skills and topics as well as review lessons learned in class. All pieces of the Math Buddies program will be available for home use including the tutorial videos and extra practice pages. Additionally, parents can use the Math Buddies program as an in-home demonstration of the material being taught in class to help support their children at home.

Your child's teacher has been given the account information for each student in his/her class. If you have not received this information yet, please contact your child's teacher. To access the Math Buddies website, please go to the following page: <http://www.mymathbuddies.com>. From there you will enter your child's login information which will provide access to teacher provided assignments and course materials. You may also contact Math Buddies directly at: 1-800-821-9881 (Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm EST).

First In Math: (Grades K-5) First In Math is an online fact fluency program that encourages each child to continually strive towards the next level. The program encourages friendly completion between students and other classrooms. It promotes teamwork and collaboration within the school and at home. First In Math can be accessed from any computer with internet access. Your child should have received login information from his or her teacher. Please visit the following website for more information and to allow your child to login: <http://www.firstinmath.com>.

Super Kids Online Fun: (Grades K-2) SuperKids Online Fun is the website students use to play online games and read interactive books and magazines. The interactive games, books and magazines that are available to your children coordinate with classroom instruction. As teachers manage the settings when they begin a new unit library books, magazines and reader stories will appear for children in Superkids Online Fun. Children will be able to play online games at home after you have completed the set-up process for your parent portal account. This information is sent to you automatically after your teacher enters your e-mail address into their class roster. Super Kids is also available on iPad and other mobile devices.

Kindergarten: online games, interactive library books

First grade: interactive decodable readers, Super-Duper mini-magazines, library books and online games

Second Grade: Interactive decodable readers, Super magazines and backpack pages

You can launch Superkids Online fun through the Parent Portal at www.superkidsonline.org. The content will be much the same as what your child sees when they play at school with the following differences:

No student log-in: Children will not need to select their name and picture passwords at home.

No data reporting: Games that are played at home are not reported.

Delayed content release: In the parent portal, interactive decodable reader stories and magazines issues will be released a unit later than they are introduced in the program. This is to ensure children do not read stories and articles at home before they have been covered in class.

Summer Access: Students will have full access to the games and books in Superkids Online Fun over the summer through the parent portal.

SuperKids Parent Presentations: For an overview of the SuperKids program, please click on the following link and choose your child's grade level: <http://www.rowlandreading.org/parent-presentation/>.

Raz Kids: (Grades K-5) RAZ-Kids is an interactive reading tool for our students to practice reading fluency and comprehension. Each student should have received a log in and a password from their teacher to get into their Raz Kids account. Your child's teacher is able to monitor the students' progress and change their reading level. These levels are all individually based on each child's performance and are adjusted to reflect their abilities. The students can listen to a story, read a story out loud, record themselves reading, and then take a comprehension quiz. Each child earns points or stars to use for their RAZ Rocket which allows them to buy things for their rocket!

To register for Raz Kids please go to the website at <http://raz-kids.com/login>. For student login, they only need to click on their name and enter their password. From here they have access to all of the resources listed above. For parent login, please click on your student's name. When the page loads please click on "Parent" in the top right corner. Then click on "Register" on the left side of the screen. You will be prompted to enter a valid email address and click "OK." The program will then email you a unique password to the email that you provided. You must then login using that email and the provided password. You may change the password once you login to the account.

Again, please encourage your child to access these resources to help them achieve their learning goals!

Sincerely,

Clarke Stoneback
Acting Principal

Service Learning Club

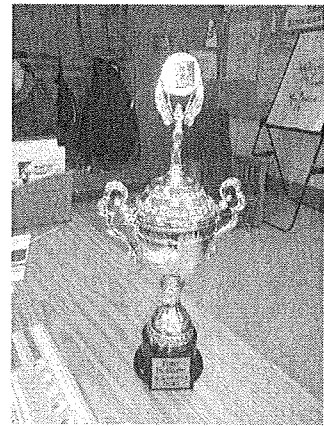
The Service Learning Club is an organization designed to "MAKE A DIFFERENCE" Students are encouraged to develop and implement programs to help in our community. The organization is just getting underway and will meet Tuesdays from 8:20 to 8:50 am. Our first meeting took place on January 20 in Room G10. Grades 3-5 are encouraged to join. Permissions slips were sent home.

Any questions can be directed to Ms. Hanley and Mrs. Exner.

Please return your parent permission slip and help with our worthy cause.



FIRST IN MATH CLASSROOM WINNERS!!!



Each week, your child's classroom has the opportunity to win the First In Math "Class of the Week" trophy! Encourage your child to play online each night and earn as many stickers as they can. This trophy is awarded to the class who has earned the most stickers in the previous week. Our winner for the first week in February was the students in Mrs. Janaski's class. They have won 2 weeks in a row.

Congratulations!

Principal's 200 Club

"Mystery Motivator" Winners

**Congratulations to all students who are exhibiting C.A.R.E.S.
Behavior!**

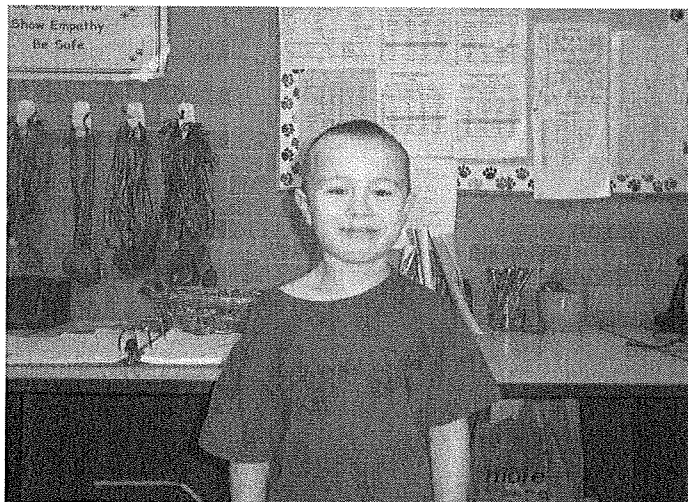
Many of you have been given C.A.R.E.S. stickers by teachers, bus drivers, custodians and our aides.

**We expect every member of our Schweitzer community to be
Cooperative, have a Positive Attitude,
be Respectful, show Empathy
and always be Safe!**

**Our winner for the month of January was:
Kyle Werkheiser**

He was awarded a Build-a-Bear Gift Card

Congratulations!!!



Who will be the next Mystery Motivator???

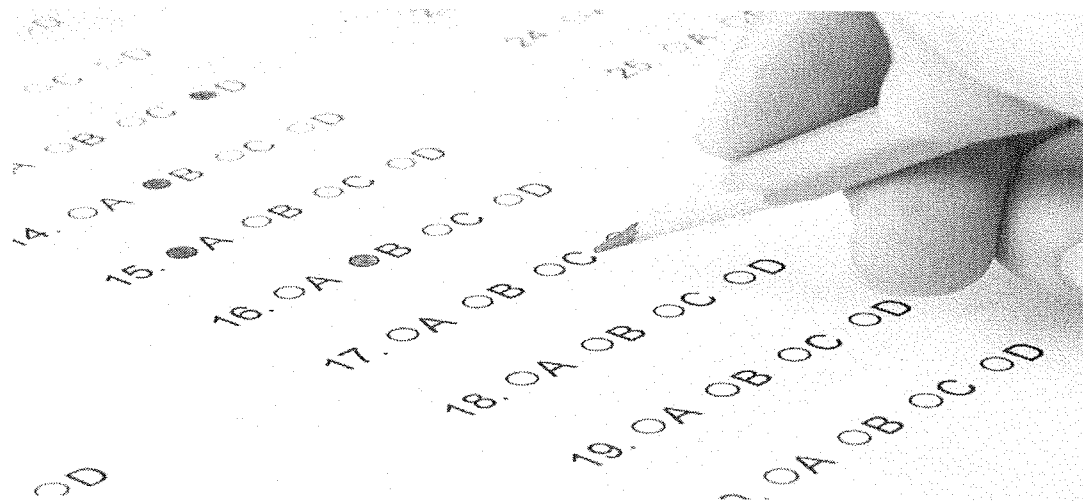
UPCOMING TESTING SCHEDULE

PSSA English/LA Grades 3, 4 & 5 April 13—16 2015

PSSA Mathematics Grades 3, 4 & 5 April 20—22, 2015

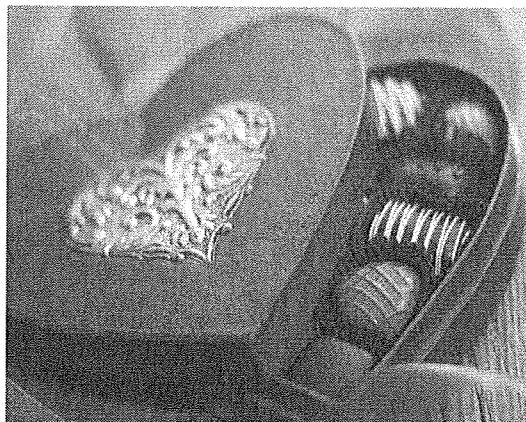
PSSA Science Grades 4 April 27 & 28, 2015

Please be sure your child gets plenty of rest and is present every day of testing.



Progress Reports (Report Cards)

Since the second marking period has now come to a close, please be aware that the district will NOT be sending home a hard copy of your child's report card. Report cards can now be accessed through the Home Access System first week in February. If you have not already done so, please sign on and get acquainted with this valuable resource. You can also check your child's attendance as well as make changes to your emergency contact information. You were mailed (at the beginning of the school year) your user name and password. If you are unable to locate this information, please contact our office at 215-809-6380. If you also find that you are unable to update any contact information, please call our office and we will gladly make changes for you.



FEBRUARY SCHOOL EVENTS

FEB 4	PTO Meeting—Library 6:00 pm
FEB 5	Valentine Cookie Order Due
FEB 13	Valentine Cookie Delivery
FEB 13	PTO Sweetheart Dance
FEB 16	President's Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
FEB 17	NO SCHOOL
FEB 20	4th & 5th Grade Memory Book Info & Pics due
FEB 27	CHUCK-e-CHEESE Spirit Night 3-9 pm
FEB 27	Chuck-e at school during dismissal
FEB 27	PTO School Store

*Kindergarten Registration -
Friday, March 13, 2015*

GROUNDHOG DAY— MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2015

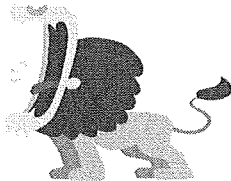
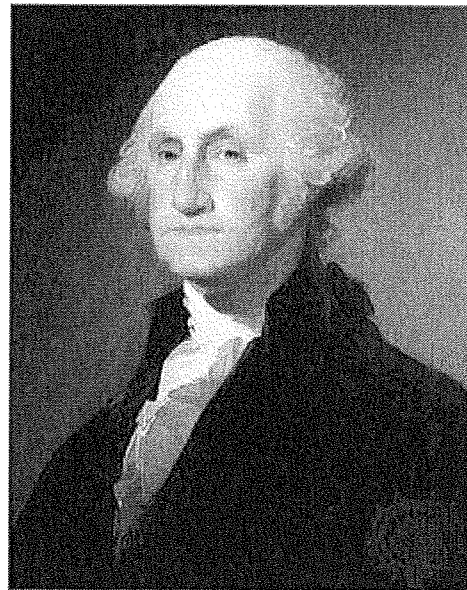


Groundhog Day is an annual holiday celebrated on February 2 in the United States and Canada. According to folklore, if a groundhog emerging from its burrow on this day fails to see its shadow, it will leave the burrow, signifying that winter will soon end. If on the other hand, the groundhog sees its shadow, the groundhog will supposedly retreat into its burrow, and winter will continue for six more weeks. Well the groundhog did see his shadow and therefore there will be 6 more weeks of winter.

BBBBRRR—Bundle Up !!

**PRESIDENT'S DAY
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2015
(DISTRICTG CLOSED)
Tuesday, February 17—No School**

President's Day, officially George Washington's birthday, is celebrated as a holiday and always held on the third Monday in February. This day is popularly recognized as honoring George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. This day is also sometimes understood as a celebration of the birthdays and lives of all United States Presidents.



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