

# Albert Schweitzer Gazette

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## Principal's Message

June 2013

Dear Albert Schweitzer Families:

The beautiful weather is an indication that the summer months are upon us and the school year is about to come to a close. It has been an exciting year for our students, and I would like to take the time to take you "down memory lane" as we reflect on our accomplishments this year.

Our school was the only elementary school in the district to fully implement the new math curriculum, "Math in Focus," at all grade levels. Every one of our students has experienced the new, rigorous curriculum, and we are pleased to say that they are beginning to change the way they think about mathematics. With great thanks to the district math coach for the elementary schools, Mrs. Shelley Rosen, our teachers were fully prepared to implement the program and assess how well our students were acquiring basic and problem-solving skills. The Smartboards were very instrumental in providing students with the visual representation of concepts, and on that note, I would like to announce that by the start of the new school year, every classroom teacher will have a Smartboard in their room.

Our primary grade students continue to work within a balanced literacy model that includes the "Superkids" program, as well as "Kid writing" in kindergarten, and Readers/Writers workshop in grades 1 and 2. Our literacy specialist, Mrs. Nicole Mascione, worked with teachers and students on the overall theme, "Reading is Thinking," and we have seen a marked improvement in the way students are approaching texts. They are more deeply engaged in reading both fiction and non-fiction text. Next year, our reading comprehension initiative will include professional development on the strategy, "reciprocal teaching." It is a constructivist view of the reading process whereby "ownership" of reading gradually moves from the teacher to the students. If you would like to learn more about reciprocal teaching and how we plan to implement it next year, please give me a call. I like nothing more than to discuss how children learn to read!

Our students experienced many amazing class trips this year, such as the Philadelphia Zoo, The Franklin Institute, William Penn Manor, The Academy of Natural Sciences, Independence Hall, The Please Touch Museum and the AMC Theater. Thank you to the teachers who planned the trips, and the parents/guardians who chaperoned the trips; we greatly appreciate it!

Thank you to Mrs. Exner for taking the lead on our greenhouse projects. She and the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers partnered with the Middletown Senior Center to grow herbs for donation. We are working on building the idea of civic responsibilities in our community. We have many exciting plans for community service next year. If you have any ideas that you would like to share, please contact me over the summer.

In closing, I would like to say a final farewell to four fabulous teachers who will be retiring at the end of this school year. Mrs. Notwick, Mrs. Scherf, Mrs. Murdock and Mrs. Warwick-Canning have served our school community to "exemplary" status! They are going to be missed dearly, but we wish them a fruitful, happy retirement, and hope that they know they have left an indelible mark on the Albert Schweitzer Elementary School community. I wish all of you a relaxing summer! Please encourage your children to read great books over the summer and to look for mathematical concepts...."everywhere!"

Yours truly,  
Ms. Kathleen Brewster



## SCHWEITZER SPRING CONCERT



On Thursday, May 9th, over 150 musicians put on a fabulous performance for our students, our families and the community. The Orchestra, Chorus and Band's hard work paid off as their performance had people in the audience humming and smiling.

A big thank you is extended to Miss Gabage, Mrs. Kirsch and Mr. O'Neill on a terrific job. Congratulations to all of our very talented Albert Schweitzer musicians and singers!

## PSSA MOVIE DAY

On Thursday, May 7th, grades 3, 4 and 5 went to the AMC Neshaminy Movie Theatre to see The Croods. This movie was a reward for all students who completed their PSSA Testing. A great time was had by all.

Many thanks to the PTO for sponsoring this special event!!!



# IUP STUDENT, BECKI BEADLING VISITS SCHWEITZER

Becki Beadling, a Neshaminy graduate who attends *Indiana University of Pennsylvania*, came in to speak to students in Mrs. Barr's and Mrs. Cridland's classes. Becki spoke about studying, attending college and the opportunities that are available to any student who wants to work hard.

Becki is an undergraduate student who recently received the 2012 Chung Soo Yoo Graduate Research Award. She received this award for outstanding graduate-level research on neutron diffraction. Her majors are Chemistry and Biology. Her passion is in Crystallography.

Mrs. Barr is also very proud to say that Becki is her niece!!



## Schweitzer Art Show



This year our annual Art Show was held on Thursday, May 16, 2013 from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm throughout the Schweitzer hallways. Below is a list of the art pieces that were featured throughout the show!

### Fifth Grade

Line Drawings of Shoes, Papier Mache' Armature Masks, Pastel Self-Portraits, Wire Sculptures, Radial Symmetry Designs, Textured watercolor perspective landscape paintings, 3D design paper mache' design hot air balloons

### Fourth Grade

Symmetry Name Aliens, Painted Tessellations, Recycled Styrofoam Sculptures, Papier Mache' Armature Masks, Pastel Birds, Still Life bonsai trees with oil pastels & watercolors, "Art Meets Math" - students used math skills to measure and create 3D paper airplanes from 2D paper/pattern & design, 3D Bodies, "My Dream Self" - students created their bodies (out of plaster) as adults doing their dream job of the future

### Third Grade

Scribble Portraits, Yarn Weavings, Crayon Resist Masks, Clay Pinch Pot Animals, 3D Recycled Robots "Art Goes Green" - use of household materials to recycle & create art, Camouflaged Animals - practice in pattern & design, use of color/water color & contour lines, Sailboats in the style of Claude Monet - use of chalk pastels, landscape

### Second Grade

Paper "Stained Glass" Flowers, Color Wheel Snails, Abstract Watercolors, Clay Pinch Pot Animals, Papier Mache' Relief Masks, Woven Paper Oceans, In the style of Keith Haring life size contour line bodies/positive & negative space, 3D Linear web designs/oil pastels & shades (paint), Background & foreground "Lost World" designs with 3D dinosaurs, practice carving 3D design

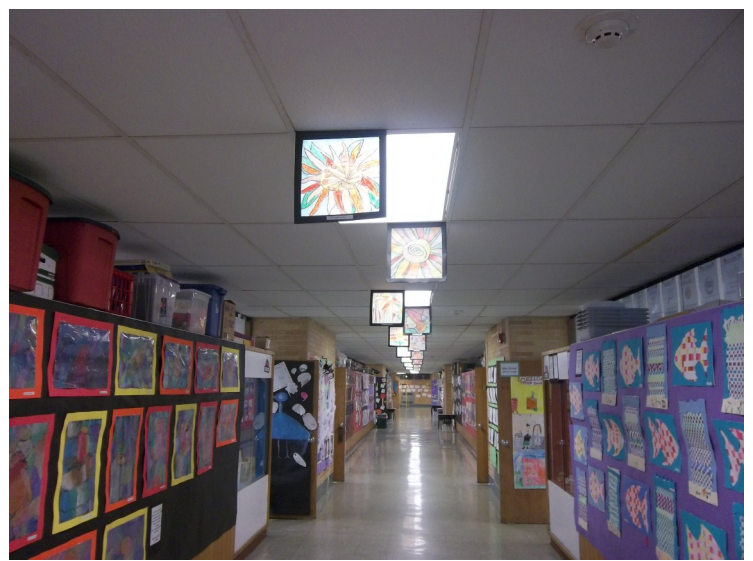
### First Grade

Watercolor Genies on Flying Carpets, Self-Portraits in Leaves, Clay Pinch Pot Fish, Oil-Pastel Vase of Flowers, Chameleon on an Arm, Woven Paper Fish, Self portraits, Primary & secondary color caterpillars collage, Winter Trees/use of value to show distance/mixing shades, Secondary colors/Fall leaf printmaking, Spring tinted gardens/mixing tints

### Kindergarten

Abstract primary color shapes painted with crayon resist & tempera paints, Contour line pumpkins using secondary colors/oil pastels and tempera paints, Textured landscape/snow scene using oil pastels, Textured patriotic eagles/primary colors, Spring tinted flowers using tints & shades

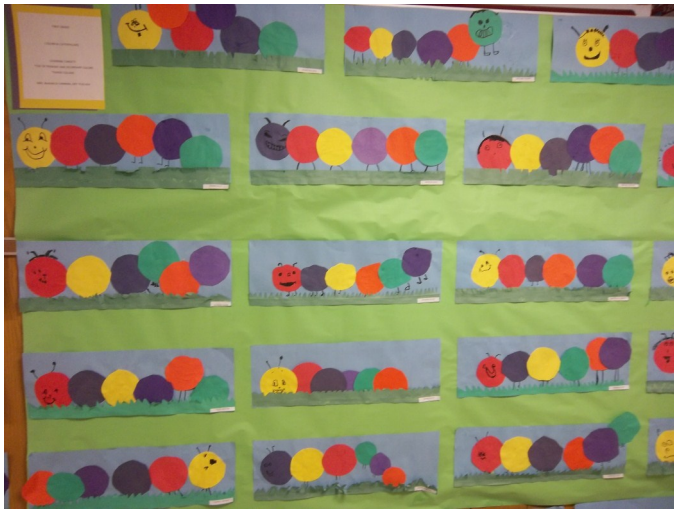
















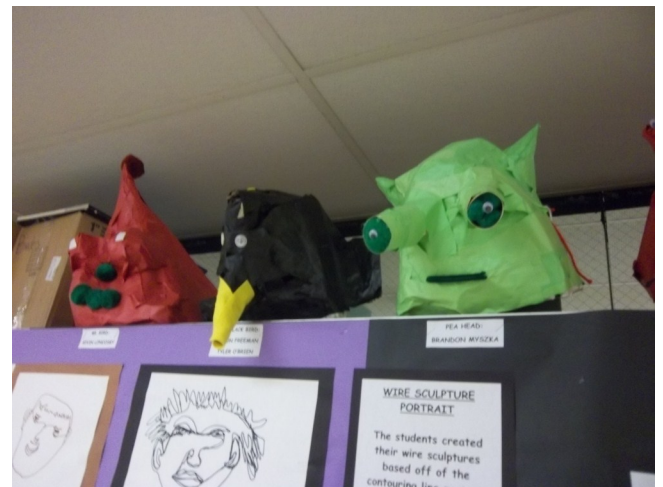
















## When Art meets Math

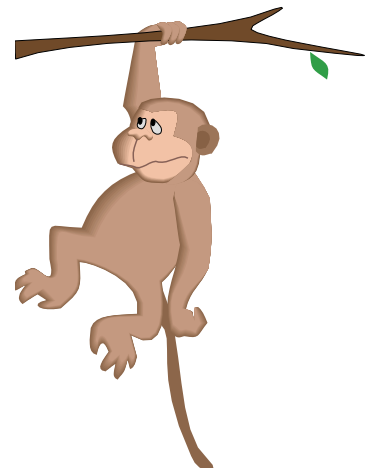
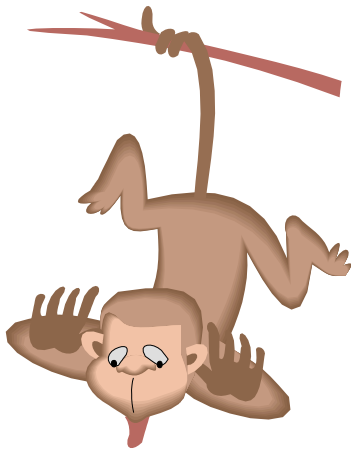


Our 4th grade students had to use their math skills to measure angles and design egrets and pelican paper airplanes..



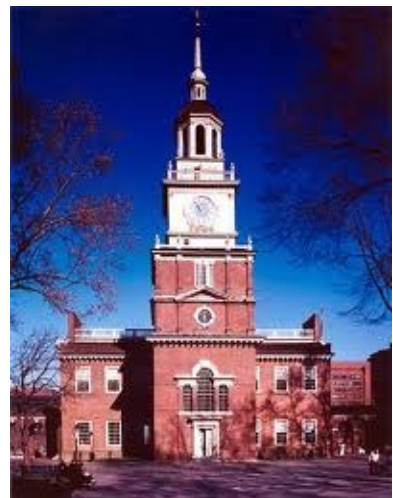


Mrs. Exner's  
Class  
visits the  
Philadelphia  
Zoo!!





# Fifth Grade Field Trip to Independence National Historic Park





# Albert Schweitzer's Third Annual Talent Show

Congratulations to everyone who participated in our 3rd Annual Talent Show! The students at our school showed talent in so many ways---singing, dancing, acting, magic, and playing musical instruments.

Thank you again to Mrs. Phillippe for organizing the event, and to the parents who volunteered their time to help with practice sessions....Carol Martino, Jennifer Tindall, Bonnie Leck, Kim Kebert, Trish Stressman, Keon Moore and Denise Ballantyne. We truly appreciate their support and dedication to the program.

We look forward to next year's talent show, so start practicing everyone!





# Greenhouse Community Service Project

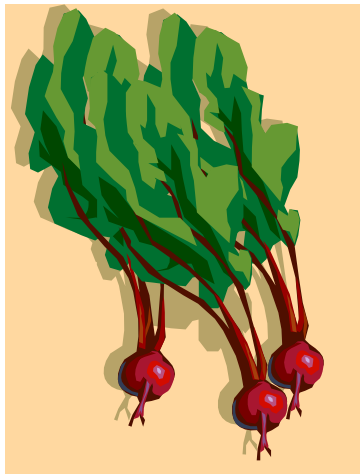
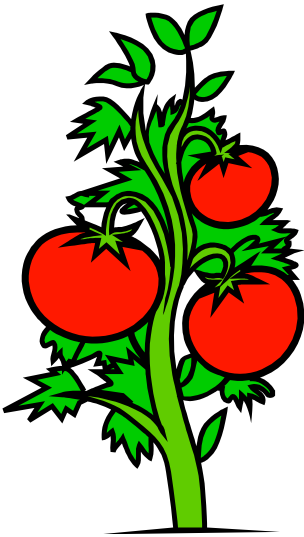


As a special "Community Service Project," Mrs. Exner's Life Skills class, along with our third grade students, grew starter vegetable plants in our school's greenhouse.

The plants were donated to the Middletown Community Center. Once the plants are fully grown and vegetables are produced, they will be donated to local families in need.









# CYSTIC FIBROSIS FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

This year our school ambassadors selected the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as their charity of choice.

The fundraising drive ran for approximately one week. Every morning Ambassadors collected loose change that was generously donated by our students, families and staff.

The grand total collected at the end of the drive was \$700. !!!

Congratulations to our school ambassadors on a job well done!



## EARTH DAY RECYCLING DRIVE

We are happy to announce that Mrs. Scherf's class won the Earth Day Paper Recycling Drive. The amount of paper collected was 44 feet!!! WOW!!! As a result, students in Mrs. Scherf's class won a PTO sponsored Pizza Party for the most paper collected throughout our entire building. A big thank you to all students for participating in this collaborative effort.





# Children's Book Week

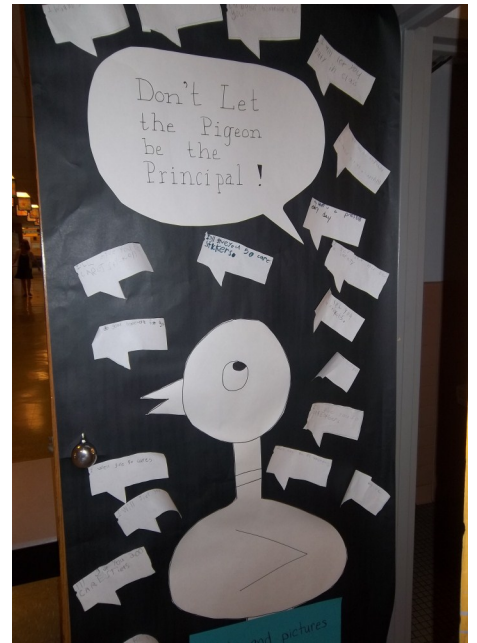
In celebration of Children's Book Week (May 13 - May 19), Mrs. Mascione, our Reading Specialist, asked all students to participate in a "Classroom Door Decorating Contest." Classroom doors were to illustrate a book that was read.

The two classroom winners were:  
Mrs. Janaski's class for "No David!" and  
Mrs. D'Intino's class for "The Very Hungry Caterpillar."

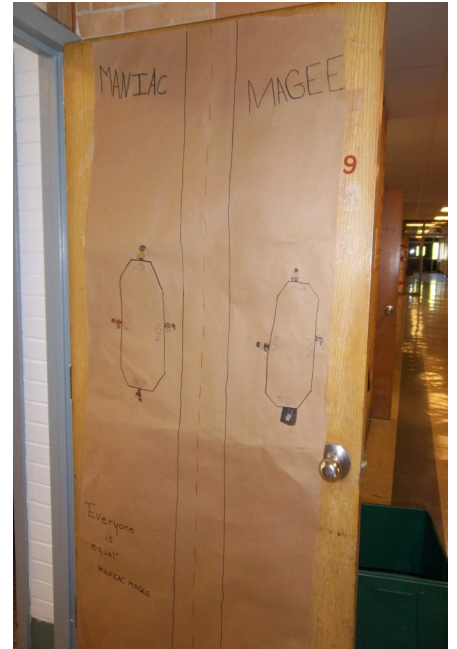
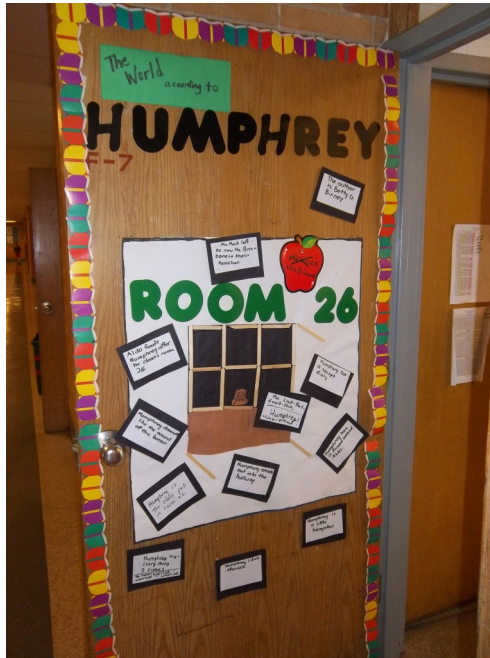
Fresh soft pretzel treats were awarded to the winning classrooms.















*The more that you read,  
the more things you will know.  
The more that you learn,  
the more places you'll go...*



## 5TH GRADE SCHOOL SAFETIES







# ANNOUNCERS AND AMBASSADORS





# FIRST ANNUAL TECH TROT

We are proud to report that the students of  
Albert Schweitzer Elementary School raised  
\$3,197.57 in support of our first annual Tech Trot.  
What an amazing job !!!

Thank you so much to Mr. Gerry Krauss  
for orchestrating this event and for  
doing a fabulous job!

1st place winner: Davon Willie - raised \$200.00  
\$25.00 Barnes & Noble gift card

2nd place winner: Allen Golden - raised \$130.00  
\$15.00 Barnes & Noble gift card

3rd place winner: Sophia Oliver - raised \$121.00  
\$10.00 Barnes & Noble gift card

Special Class Recognition:  
Mrs. Rittler's class raised a total of \$425.00  
and has won a Pizza Party!











# **FIELD DAY 2013**



**ALBERT  
SCHWEITZER  
LIONS  
ROAR!!**





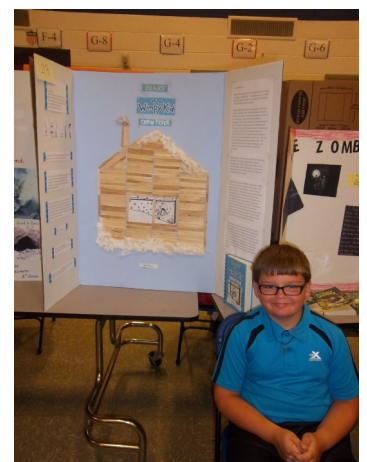
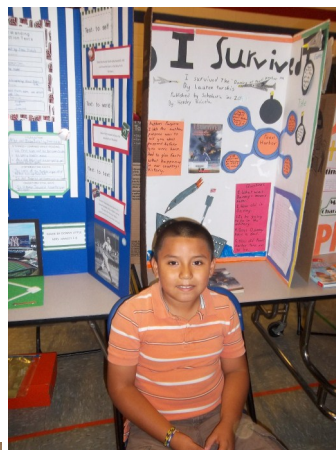








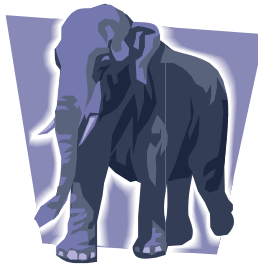
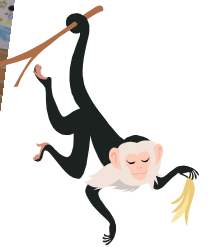
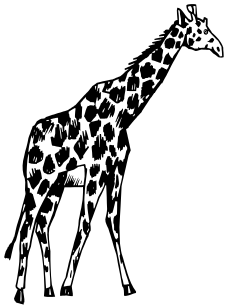
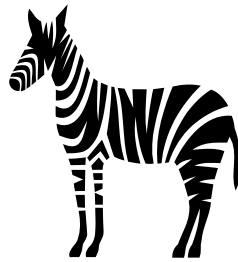
# THIRD GRADE READING FAIR





# COME VISIT THE FIRST GRADE ZOO!!!

On Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, Miss Flynn's class exhibited their zoo projects. Earlier this year, the class took a field trip to the Philadelphia Zoo. Before going on the trip, each student chose an animal that they wanted to research. After completing the research in class, at home, and at the zoo, students wrote a non-fiction book and created a display. Each student was a Zookeeper for their animal. They shared information with their reading buddies from Mrs. Mancini's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class and other guests. Guests used the information that they learned about their animals to complete a Scavenger Hunt.





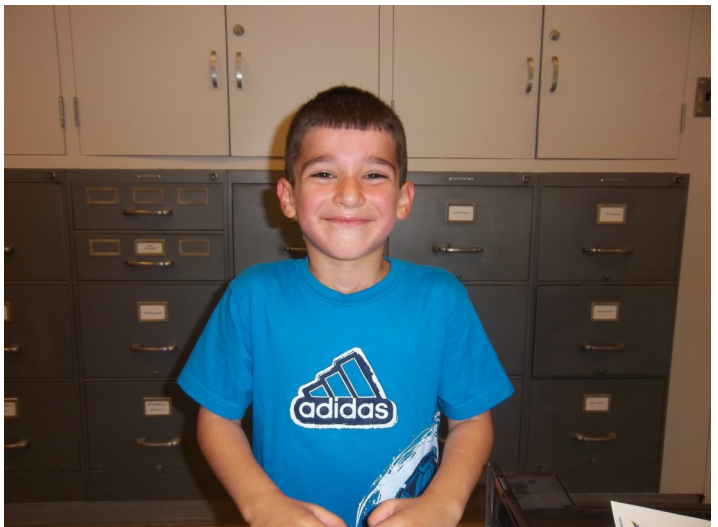
## Principal's 200 Club *Mystery Motivator*

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, aides, bus drivers and our custodians throughout the school year.

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

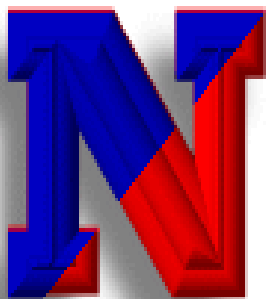
Our *Mystery Motivators* for May and June are:  
Charlie Weik and Arda Erdem

Congratulations on your accomplishments!



Who will be the winner of the next  
***Mystery Motivator???***





# Neshaminy Takes Pride

## “Esteem Building”

June’s “Takes Pride” theme is “Esteem Building.” The definition of “Esteem Building” is to honor ourselves or another for having a particular positive quality. When an individual has a high self-esteem, he/she has self-respect and self-confidence. We esteem others when we have a high opinion and appreciation of them. We can always find something positive about ourselves and others. This month, practice “self-esteem” by listing your talents and the reasons you or others respect you. Build the esteem of others this month by paying them a sincere compliment or by letting them know how they have helped you. Building your own self-esteem and that of others will help you to make friends. People respect those with a healthy self-esteem and they will be grateful to those who take the time to help them feel good about themselves.

## JUNE EVENTS

JUNE 7	5TH GRADE NESHAMINY SHORE PICNIC PARK FIELD TRIP
JUNE 14	FLAG DAY
JUNE 16	FATHER'S DAY
JUNE 18	LIFE SKILLS GRADUATION & PICNIC
JUNE 19	KINDERGARTEN MOVE UP DAY
JUNE 19,20,21	1/2 DAYS ALL STUDENTS
JUNE 21	5TH GRADE MOVE UP DAY LAST DAY OF SCHOOL







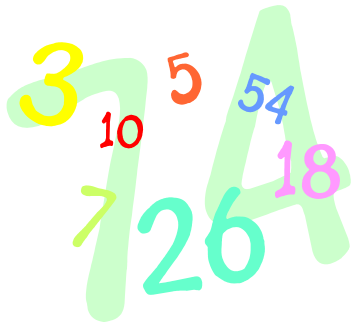
## FOND FAREWELLS

A Fond Farewell.....

We are excited for Mrs. Scherf, Mrs. Notwick, Mrs. Warwick-Canning and Mrs. Murdock as they head toward new adventures during their retirement.

They have served our school community and the Neshaminy School District for many years and will leave an imprint of love and devotion for our students. We thank them for their dedication and wish them much success and happiness in their future endeavors.

Happy Trails!!!

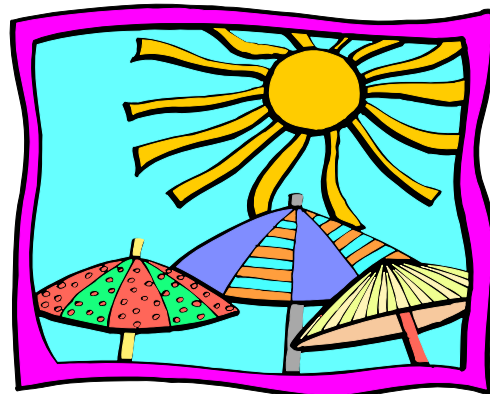


## MATH MATTERS!!!

Remember to do your “math facts”;  
First in Math and Dreambox everyday!!!



WE HOPE YOU  
ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!



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