

# Albert Schweitzer Gazette

## Principal's Message...

February 2014

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This has been an interesting month of wintry weather. The arctic temperatures and snowy days have kept our students indoors for weeks at a time. It has also meant that school has been cancelled or delayed. With those issues in mind, 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 not in school!

**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.

**Think Central:** (Grades K-5) Think Central is online access to your child's textbook, workbook and virtual manipulatives for Math In Focus. These resources are provided to students and parents to support the learning in the classrooms by reviewing information or making up lessons due to absences from school. Please do not work ahead of your child's teacher. If you have not received login information for Think Central, please contact your child's teacher.

**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](http://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,

Kathleen Brewster

# Service Learning Club

The Service Learning Club wrapped utensils and made mini-hygiene bags for the Trenton Soup Kitchen. Mrs. Abromowitz, our Hearing Specialist, was kind enough to deliver them all for us.

The Club also made packages of scarves, hats, gloves and a children's book for Cradles to Crayons which was also delivered. We continue to make dog/cat treats and toys for the Women's Humane Society.



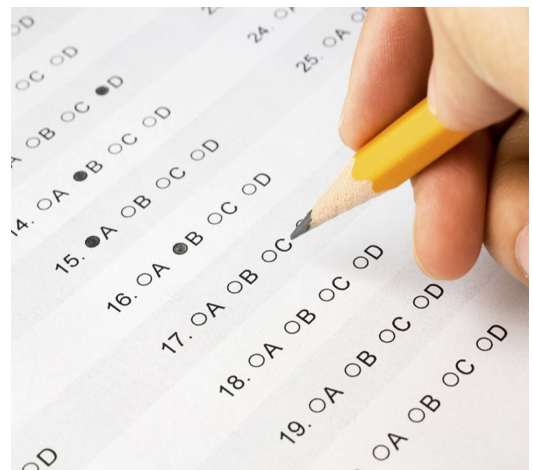
## PSSA TESTING

Students in grades 3-4-5 will be taking the PSSA tests for Reading and Math during the week of **March 24th through April 4th**.

Grade 4 will take the Science PSSA during the week of **April 28 through May 2**.

Grade 5 will take the Writing PSSA during the week of **March 31-April 11**.

Testing will occur in the morning, so please do your best to have your children to school on time and well rested.





# **FEBRUARY SAFETIES OF THE MONTH**

**JEFFREY SAAYBE**

**BREANNA BARCAY**

**RYLEIGH MCGINTY**

**BRIANNA PEZZOLA**

**SELENA RONQUILLO**

**MICHAEL LASCALA**

**JASON JIANG**



Mrs. Exner's Primary Life Skills class was awarded the Target Field Trip Grant at Albert Schweitzer Elementary school. This class, along with two other life skills classes, will be taking a field trip to the Howell Living History Farm in Lambertville, NJ. The students in these classes will be given a hands-on opportunity to learn about farming and farm life during the 1890-1910 period.

# 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. Mrs. Bowman's students are the first winners of the trophy!! 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 winners this month are:**

**Kadir Moore**

**and**

**Aditya Patel**

**Philly Pretzel and Giovanni Pizza  
certificates were awarded!**

**Congratulations!!!**



## Who will be the next Mystery Motivator???

# ART NEWS

Wow! What a great 1<sup>st</sup> semester!

Where is *all* of my child's art?



Mrs. Loizos & Mrs. McGuigan are beginning to store the art projects for the year so that the kids can reflect on them and choose their favorite pieces to be included in the Art Show that will be held in the spring. Our students had an extremely successful and strong beginning to the school year as we focused on Line, Space, & Pattern. Not only did we produce art, we sketched our thoughts and plans and practiced new techniques and skills. Check out some of the work!



## 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 on February 7th. 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**

<b>FEB 4</b>	<b>After School Sports—Cheerleading</b>
<b>FEB 10</b>	<b>After School Sports Spectacular</b>
<b>FEB 11</b>	<b>After School Sports—Cheerleading</b>
<b>FEB 14</b>	<b>Valentine Cookie Order Delivery</b>
<b>FEB 14</b>	<b>PTO Valentine Day Dance</b>
<b>FEB 17</b>	<b>President's Day - SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
<b>FEB 18</b>	<b>PTO Market Day Pickup</b>
<b>FEB 18</b>	<b>After School Sports—Cheerleading</b>
<b>FEB 21</b>	<b>K-9 Demo &amp; Anti-Bullying Assembly</b>
<b>FEB 24</b>	<b>PTO Claire's Gourmet Fundraiser Kick-Off</b>
<b>FEB 24</b>	<b>After School Sports Spectacular</b>
<b>FEB 25</b>	<b>After School Sports—Cheerleading</b>
<b>FEB 28</b>	<b>PTO School Store</b>

***Kindergarten Registration - Friday, March 7, 2014***



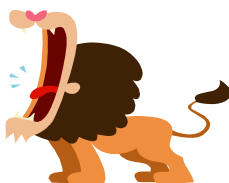
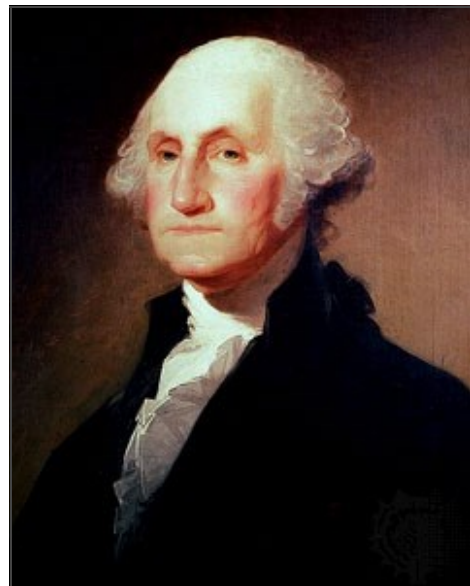
## GROUNDHOG DAY– SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2014



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. What is your prediction???

## PRESIDENT'S DAY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2014 (SCHOOL CLOSED)

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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