



KETTERLINUS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Where we learn, love, and laugh.
67 Orange Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 547-8540

Principal's Corner

Dear Ketterlinus Family & Friends—

Thank you for a wonderful start of the school year. The kids have been amazing! They have quickly adapted/learned the routines of the school. Our kindergarten classes continue to grow! We have (5) classes this year! Thank you Kindergarten Parents for allowing your youngest “dolphins” to swim by themselves down the hallway. They are doing amazingly well. As our student numbers have increased, so has the number of staff. Since our last newsletter, we have added the following staff members to our KES family:

Renee Glinski, 4th grade teacher

Kymerli Bowers, Kindergarten teacher

Carolyn Fountain, ESE teacher

Kristen Krzywonski, ESE teacher (60%)

Caroline Sugero, extended day aide

Kimberly Bennett, cafeteria worker

Everyone that enters our school should have made prior arrangements or have scheduled appointment with their child’s teacher or staff member. We want to keep

our hallways as clear as possible in order to keep an orderly and safe environment. Our mornings are extremely busy with having 480+ students entering our school in a short span of time. In addition, we want to account for every adult entering the building and know their purpose for being in the school and being near your child. If you have an appointment or have made arrangements to be at the school, please sign in on the computer as a VOLUNTEER and the front office receptionist will call the staff member, announce that you have arrived, and direct you to the classroom/office. You will need to wear the yellow badge. This badge tells staff members and students that you are cleared to be in the school.

Please know that my intentions are never to create procedures and policies that offend or inconvenience others, but to create the safest and most secure environment for our students, staff, and volunteers.

Many thanks to all our parents for supporting our polices and procedures. Your kids are wonderful and we feel very fortunate to have your trust in educating your child(ren).

Sincerely,

Kathy Tucker, Principal

Keeping Our Kids Safe

We feel privileged that you trust us with your child. We take that responsibility seriously and have implemented a more secure entry system. The exterior doors of the school will remain locked during school hours, preventing anyone from entering the building unannounced. The front office doors will have a buzzer/intercom system that you will use to enter the building. This is not to cause an inconvenience but to provide a secure and safe learning environment for your child. Thank you for helping to make KES a safe place to learn.

Don't Be Left Out

We would love for you to be involved in the memories being made each and every day at Ketterlinus. In order for you to enter the school passed the front office, an APPROVED School Access Form must be on file. This form can be found on our school website or on the St. Johns County School District website. The approval process can take up to 4 weeks, so please submit as early as possible. This approval is needed for you to attend special events, enter your child’s classroom, go to lunch with your child, or to chaperone field trips. Please contact Michelle Moore, our Volunteer Coordinator, with any questions regarding clearance. She can be reached by emailing michelle.moore@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

Getting Off to a Great Start!

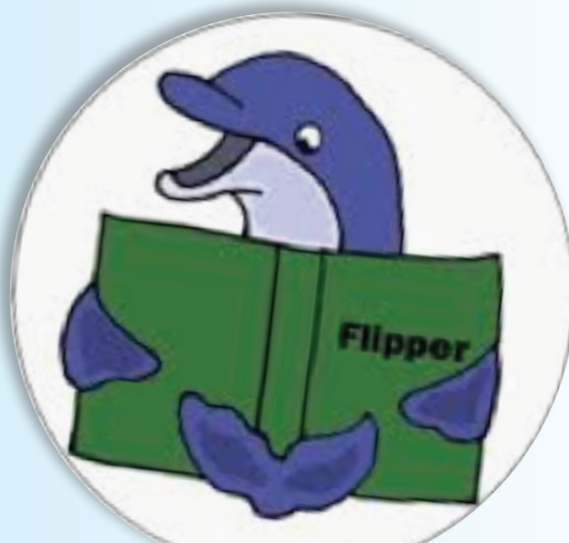
By: Suzanne Brush

One of the most important things you can do to help “set up” your child for a successful school year is to establish consistent home routines. Reserve a time, quiet work area, and be a motivator and a monitor during this special time with your child.

Please remember to:

- Review your child’s homework and provide feedback.
- Sign your child’s planner or homework folder (Organizational Tool).
- Read with your child and discuss what you are reading.
- Model how you “think” as you read.
- Show excitement for reading.
- Monitor your child’s progress toward his/her reading goal each quarter.

Remember at Ketterlinus Elementary School we believe Readers are Leaders!



Important Dates at Ketterlinus

September 1st
Bruster’s Spirit Night
(4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

September 5th
Labor Day-No School for Teachers and Staff

September 9th
Grandparent’s Day Breakfast
(7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.)

September 13th
Individual Picture Day

September 13th
Chipotle Spirit Night
(4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

September 14th
Intake Conferences

September 15th
PTO Meeting at 7:45 a.m. in the Media Center
Volunteer Orientation

The Teaching of Character

Welcome back!! It has been wonderful seeing all of the students settle in to their classes and begin another year. My name is Sandy McCutcheon and as the School Counselor, I have the awesome job of getting to know ALL of the students. I am here to offer support to students so they can be successful academically, socially, and behaviorally. During the first week of school, I visited all 1st–5th grade classrooms and talked about Character Counts! and how to start off the school year with kindness. I also visited with the kindergarten classrooms and introduced myself and talked about what a school counselor does. During the month of September, I will be visiting with classes to teach social-emotional skills such as communication, problem solving, friendship, perseverance, and self-awareness. I am also available to work with students through small group sessions, individual sessions, and with teachers, and parents by providing resources and education regarding issues that affect students. Please feel free to call me at (904) 547-8545 or email at sandy.mccutcheon@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

Quality Care

Here at the Cove we pride ourselves on the quality of care we provide for our students. Whether it's instructing students in our homework lab, or playing capture the flag on the playground, our attention to detail, and level of supervision, can't be beat. We don't just plop the kids in front of a movie or a swing set each day, we organize monthly lesson plans to engage the kids in a hands-on learning experience. Just ask any of Ms. Pura's class from last year about the life cycle of a bee, or Ms. April's class about the order of the planets and you'll see what we mean, but you don't have to take our word for it...

"Working for The Cove has changed my life in so many positive ways. Being able to teach, help, and watch the kids grow as students over the past few years while I myself learn and grow alongside them has been amazing. There is nothing more rewarding than knowing I can have a positive impact on the kids lives and provide them with a safe and fun environment. I am thankful each day that I get to come to work and I cannot wait to see what lies in store for this school year!"

—April Walker, 2nd Grade Cove Teacher

"A few things that make the Cove great are that kids get to make new friends, engage in physical activities, and get their homework done before they go home (usually)!"

—Mia Snyder, 5th Grade Cove Student

"Just knowing that they had fun after school, that their homework is done, and that the teachers work to establish good relationships with them really gives me peace of mind."

—Erin Arnold, mother of Tim (5th) and Eloise (3rd)

"He always says I pick him up too early!"

—Mrs. Stall, 5th Grade Teacher about her Kindergartener Landon

"At The Cove the students are our number one priority, when the students are happy, we're happy. I love letting parents know what their little ones are up to, whether it's playing soccer or discovering magnets, we always keep them busy. I am so grateful to my staff for providing such quality care to the student here at KES"

—Mrs. Janet, Extended Day Coordinator

Music Class at Ketterlinus

Music is often a central part of our daily lives; sometimes for leisure sometimes for performing. For our children, it is an experience where imagination and creation can become unleashed. From a very early age, children begin speaking their native tongue; and so should they be singing, moving, and playing so that music can be a second language. During music classes at Ketterlinus, our students will sing, play, move, and create. Students will use speech, rhythm, rhyme, game and movement to learn, experience, and play music. The Orff-Schulwerk approach is similar to child's play of how they learn their language and many other behaviors from seeing, hearing and doing. I have loved teaching with the Orff-Schulwerk approach to experiencing music at the elementary level.

Students in second grade will begin learning a wind instrument, the Flutophone, using proper technique, breath support and fingerings of different notes. Our students in third, fourth and fifth grade will be natural players of the recorder. All of our students will be drumming and playing barred instruments like the xylophone and glockenspiel. Elemental music starts in kindergarten with lots of moving and singing, using symbols and color to differentiate pitch and rhythm. Many activities are based on speech like poems or rhymes. This child's play centered ideology will continue through all the grades gradually increasing the elemental level with more comprehension of music theory, performance, history, and composition as they get older. It is my hope that your child will increase their love of music and ability in creation, improvisation and imagination during their time at Ketterlinus.

300 Meals a Day!!!

Yikes! 300 meals a day? 50,000-plus meals this school year? Serve 3 students per minute? VERY Scary!

But... We are so EXCITED! We LOVE to see the hungry and growing Ketterlinus Dolphins visit the Dolphin Cafe! Miss Angie, Miss Kimberly and Mr. John are here to serve TONS of great pizza, cheeseburgers, chicken nuggets, veggies, fresh salads, apples, oranges, bananas and many other good treats each day! Milk is optional, but includes chocolate and strawberry!

Breakfast offerings are the best, including hot choices like pancakes and omelets, or cereals including Cocoa Puffs, Lucky Charms, Cinnamon Toast Crunch and Cheerios, plus fresh fruit or juice! Real grape juice for the best purple mouth! And real Orange Juice!

Treats, such as 'Baked-Fresh-Daily-Double-Chocolate-Chip-Cookies', or ice cream, are also available at a small charge for students with good attendance and schoolwork.

We ask that all lunch accounts be paid in full via PayPams and discourage sending cash with students. Thank you to all of the little angels that learned their lunch account numbers. Free and reduced lunch applications must be completed each year, and are available on the school web site, or with paper forms in the front office.

We are committed to ensuring a safe, nutritious, and pleasant meal environment and encourage parents, guardians, grandparents, and other family to join us. Remember that you MUST have an APPROVED School Access form prior to attending lunch with your child.

Lunch Box Goodies

When packing your child's school lunch, please consider packing items that your child is able to open by themselves. This will help him/her to build confidence and to become an independent "little Dolphin". There are so many new and fancy lunch boxes that have special compartments and clips; however, the clips are very difficult for some of the children to operate. Please practice with them at home. Several students are forgetting their water bottles in the classroom because they are clipped to their backpack. Unfortunately, we are unable to allow them to go back to the classroom. Please pack a drink inside their lunch box to eliminate the possibility of a forgotten drink. Also, due to safety reason, glass containers cannot be sent to school.

Volunteer Orientation

Please join Michelle Moore, the KES Volunteer Coordinator, for a brief Volunteer Orientation on September 12th, beginning at 7:45 a.m. She will discuss ways to volunteer, KES policies, and helpful guidelines to follow while at KES. We look forward to meeting our new parents who are interested in being part of our KES volunteer family.

Do You Need an Interpreter?

We ask that if you are in need of an interpreter for you or your child while at Ketterlinus, to please make your request at least two weeks in advance. This will give us the time necessary to schedule the appropriate interpreter.