dolphin DIGEST
VOLUME 96, NO. 01, SEPTEMBER 2018

Character Counts!
AT KETTERLINUS

Welcome back KES families and friends!

Thank you, students and parents, for all of the hard work you put in last school year. Due to the teamwork of staff, students, and parents, Ketterlinus received a school rating of an "A" from the Florida Department of Education! A special thank you to our wonderful PTO who kept the love, motivation, and energy going for us when we "emptied our tanks". If you have never been part of PTO, please consider joining. PTO is comprised of a group of wonderful and dedicated parents. They are small, but mighty, and could always use a hand. Let me know if you are interested.

The 18-19 school year has been a very eventful start. Due to low enrollment in kindergarten and first grade, we downsized from four classes to three classrooms in each of those grade-levels. The students were fantastic in the transition with great parental support. Thank you! Several parents have asked me my thoughts on the low enrollment at Ketterlinus when as a district we are growing. It is true that our district is one of the fastest growing school districts in the state of Florida. However, I believe our school zone is still feeling the impact of the past hurricanes. Affordable housing is not readily available in our historic area or in the coastal area. Our district will be monitoring and working on this issue during the school year. I will provide you with updates as they become available.

Some of you may be aware of the SB 7026, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. Our district and school has worked very closely with the St. Augustine Police Department and the St. Johns Sheriff's Office to ensure that we have policies and procedures in place for school safety. This includes a full-time security officer. In addition, safety drills and presentation with local law enforcement have been conducted. KES will continue to practice safety drills on a monthly basis. If there ever were a real emergency, our district would use School Messenger's text feature and/or voice message. It is important that you keep your contact information up to date in our school system. Please do that through the front office – never the classroom teacher. Our front office enters the correct information in our school system's database that is also used for School Messenger.

Everyone that enters our school should have made prior arrangements or have scheduled appointment with their child's teacher. Approved School Access is required to enter passed the front office. We want to keep our hallways as clear as possible in order to keep an orderly and safe environment. If you have an appointment or are scheduled to volunteer, please sign in on the computer located in the front office lobby. The front office receptionist will call the teacher, announce that you have arrived, and direct you to the classroom. You will need to wear the yellow Volunteer badge on the top left part of your shirt while on school campus. This tells staff members and students that you approved 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. Finally, I love this Raise Craze! This is our PTO's biggest fundraising initiative this year. The focus of doing community service projects or acts of kindness fits perfectly into our Character Education program. We hope you find this fundraiser worthwhile. You do not have to purchase candles, cookies or wrapping paper!! Pledges go directly to the school and reinforce good character.

Thank you for your support and trust in having your child at our school. I am very proud of student body this year. They have made the start of the school year very smooth and fun!

Sincerely,
Kathy Tucker

School Advisory Council (SAC)

We are looking for leaders in area businesses, community leaders, and parent volunteers to become SAC members (School Advisory Council) for the 2018-2019 school year. Our group meets once per month to discuss the school improvement plan (SIP) and support growth in our students, school and community. If you are interested, please contact Kora Stoll or Bethany Hilbert. Kora.stoll@stjohns.k12.fl.us or Bethany.hilbert@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

Making Reading a Priority!

By Sue Brush, Instructional Literacy Coach

I hope that you are settling into the new school year. I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and say hello to our new families. My name is Sue Brush and I am the Instructional Literacy Coach at Ketterlinus Elementary School. In addition to helping with Professional Development, Curriculum, and the MTSS Team, I help with all things reading! If you have a question, need a book recommendation, or are seeking advice regarding how to help your child in reading, please feel free to reach out to me.

I would also like to encourage you to invest your time and energy at the beginning of the year in setting up reading routines at home. Once reading becomes "routine", your student's reading ability will grow while developing a love of reading. Your child will look forward to spending this special time with you.

I look forward to meeting you.- Sue Brush, ILC
Email-Suzanne.Brush@stjohns.k12.fl.us Phone-(904)547-8540

Remember at Ketterlinus Elementary School we believe, Readers are Leaders!

Ketterlinus Elementary School
Where we learn, love, and laugh.
67 Orange Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 547-8540

Important Dates at Ketterlinus

9/25	**SAC Meeting at 7:45 a.m.**
9/26	**PTO Chipotle Spirit Night 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**
9/26	**Dads Drive or Walk your child to school day**
10/3	**Coffee with a Cop Day**
10/4	**PTO Bojangles Spirit Night**
10/4	**Square One Art Due**
10/5	**Wear Your Words T-Shirt Day**
10/8	**PTO Meeting at 7:45 a.m.**
10/15	**No School for Student-Teacher Planning Day**
10/24	**Unity Day-Wear Orange**
10/25	**Dodgeball Tournament/Community Night 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.**
10/25	**SAC Meeting at 7:45 a.m.**

PTO is an organization made up of parent and teachers who work together to raise funds for our school. They purchased the AR program this year, provide support to our STEAM program, and provide yearlong morale boosters to our KES staff with surprise coffee carts, lunches and many other treats. PTO meets the second Monday of every month at 7:45 a.m. and always welcomes new members!

Raise Craze

This year, the main PTO fundraiser will be Raise Craze that starts September 6th and runs until September 24th. Families collect pledges to spread kindness by completing three Good Deeds. They can choose their own good deeds or acts of kindness, or work with a family member or friend at school to complete them. Raising money through community service. We are excited about this fundraiser as it promotes all of the qualities of our existing Character Counts! Program and gives our students the chance to shine with their acts of kindness.

Dodgeball Anyone??

Do you like Dodgeball? If so, we have a fun night planned for you!! On 10/25, our PTO will host the 1st Annual Dodgeball Tournament and Community Night. Sixteen teams made up of 5-7 adult players will battle it out in a double elimination tournament. The entry fee is $75 per team. There will be prizes for the Best Team costume and Best Team names. Start assembling your team, creating your costumes, and coming up with an awesome team name. Contact PTOketterlinus@gmail.com with any questions.

Welcome Back…. Welcome Back…From Coach Allen

Here are a few important things you need to know for PE Class.

SAFETY is always FIRST!

For PE class you should have/wear:

- Tennis shoes
- Hair pulled out of your face - clips or hair bands (girls and boys)
- Water Bottles (water only!!)
- No Dangling Jewelry (Long earrings, necklaces, and bracelets) want to avoid being hooked on something and broken
- NO GUM or CANDY allowed. It is a safety hazard and is not good for the gym floor

I want the Dolphins to have FUN, Be SAFE and Come PREPARED!!!!

Come and join the fun at The Cove

We have many exciting things planned for our Extended Day programs this school year. We will have Fun Friday, Cove Special, Cove store, arts and crafts and much more.... This month the Cove special is "Back to School Bash". Also, help us to welcome back familiar faces as volunteers to the Cove! The boys and girls are recent graduates of Ketterlinus and are excited to help the Cove students. They have been instrumental in reestablishing routines, helping students with homework, and coming up with fun activities. Welcome Sophie, Autumn, Mia, Chris, Kaleigh and Nathan!

School Safety

The Always Rule

We have taught our students to ALWAYS follow the Always Rule in an Emergency Situation as part of our school safety plan. We know that when students know what to do and how to react to an emergency, they are able to keep safe and make good decisions. Ask your child to tell you what they have learned.

Car Tags

As a part of our school safety plan, we will monitor who is parking in our school parking lot. Please display your Ketterlinus car tags at all times when in the parking lot. This will allow us to know what car belongs and what cars do not.

School Access

Please remember to submit a School Access form. This form is on our school website and on the school district's website. Once approved, this will allow you to enter the building passed the front office. The district is not allowing anyone to enter the school passed the front office who does not have an approved School Access form on file. This includes going to the classroom for parent/teacher conferences, attending special events such as Character Count Programs and school performances, having lunch with your child, and chaperoning field trips. This rule applies to ALL adults entering the building including out of town grandparents, aunts, uncles, and family friends who are only here for a day. Visitors (those that do not have approved School Access) will no longer be allowed in….no exceptions. Please keep in mind that the approval process can take up to four weeks to complete, so please submit early!

Ketterlinus-Flagler College Partnership

Flagler College's Education Department wishes all their pre-service teachers could be part of the great goings on at Ketterlinus. Now, thanks to a school partnership with Flagler College, more pre-service teachers will have this opportunity.

Currently Flagler College has four interns spending 16 weeks in Ketterlinus classrooms, as their capstone experience before graduation this December. In addition to interns, Ketterlinus will welcome a number of pre-internship students, who will spend focused time with KES teachers and staff, honing their skills, learning high yield strategies for student success, and assisting teachers with lessons and classroom activities.

"This partnership between the college and Ketterlinus is a dream opportunity for our students. There is no better training than on the job. When our students have opportunities to learn from exceptional teachers in actual classrooms, they are able to connect theory to practice. Their skill sets are enhanced and the growth we see in them as educators is tremendous," says Beth Upchurch, Coordinator of Field Placement and Supervision at Flagler College. Flagler is producing incredible teachers, thanks to the opportunities Education majors have in local schools.

Got Peace? We do…

By: Sandy McCutcheon, School Guidance Counselor

Hi from the School Counseling world at KES. This year I will be introducing the curriculum Peace First to all classrooms. Peace First teaches children how to act peacefully, inspires and enables teachers to teach peacemaking skills, and encourages all of us to see and celebrate the role that young peacemakers can have in changing their own lives, their schools, communities, and the world at large. Each session I meet with a class, we will be engaging in an action activity that gets students to think and feel. These three components working together allows students to utilize peacemaking skills.

This program helps students both to discover within themselves the skills and strengths of peacemakers—cooperation, communication, helping others, and resolving conflicts—and to practice them in order to make their school and community more peaceful. So, ask your child what they know about peacemaking ad how they can use these in their lives.

We are so thankful!

We are so thankful for each one of our parents, students, and community members. If we could, we would give each of you an individual "shout out" for all that you do for us. This month we would like to recognize the following community partners who have offered a helping hand:

Coquina Community Church- for providing snacks for our neediest students, helping our kindergarteners the first week of school during lunch and proctoring for us during testing.
Reverb Church- for providing much needed supplies to our clinic, helping our kindergarteners the first week of school during lunch, and proctoring for us during testing.
St. Augustine Police Department and the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office- for ensuring that Ketterlinus is a safe place for our staff and students.
Leonard's Photography Studio- for providing the new banner located in the front office and around the school and for providing photo staff badges.
Ancient City Art- for printing "The Importance of Reading" posters for each classroom.

B-I-N-G-O! We hope you are enjoying our Bingo cards for parents. We have great prizes that parents can win for showing their support for their child (ren)'s learning. Make sure you are marking off the squares as you go!

save the date

We love the three large events that we hold each year and don't want you to miss out!! Please Save the Date for the following:

We are Thankful for our Grandparents Breakfast- NOVEMBER 16th from 7:15 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. This event is in conjunction with the School Book Fair. Grandparents will be able to enjoy breakfast with their grandchild then walk across the street to the book fair for a little shopping if they would like. Please ask all grandparents to submit a School Access form now.

Donuts with Dad- FEBRUARY 1st from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.- We are moving this event back to the Friday before the Super Bowl. Many of you expressed that you enjoyed having it that weekend so that you can "talk football" with the kids and other dads. Do not forget to submit those School Access forms. The earlier the better.

Morning with Mom- MAY 10th from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. We are moving this event back to the Friday before Mother's Day. We thought this was the perfect way for you to begin your Mother's Day weekend with your child. It is never too early to submit your School Access form!

**Dads Take Your Child to School Day is a national event on September 26th. We are not holding an "event" this year, but are encouraging all dads to either drive their child to school or walk them to the school bus that day.

News from the Media Center

Students who participated in the Summer Reading Challenge enjoyed our Back-to-School BINGO Party- fun, friends, prizes, & muffins! If your reader missed it this year, look out in May for the 2019 Summer Reading Challenge!

KES celebrated National Read A Book Day on 9/6 in many ways! Random students were "caught" reading and were rewarded with backpack reading charms. A group of fifth graders created a comic strip video for our morning news show, reading Oh, The Places You'll Go! by Dr. Seuss, starting the day with an inspirational message. Pop-Up Reading Stations happened throughout the school with guest readers- a HUGE thank you to our readers!

Accelerated Reader

Our AR Program is in full swing for grades 2-5 (first grade will ease into it, as routines and independence have been cultivated) and students are working towards their 1st quarter goal. Remember, we utilize AR to foster students' independent reading skills, which are vital to growth as a reader and learner. Our goal is for ALL students to reach 100% of their individualized goals by October 12! The reward will be Game Time in the Media Center- this provides students who have worked hard at AR, the opportunity to play hard! Students engage in games of their choice- Twister, Chess, Musical Chairs, Simon Says, Operation, Legos, Headbandz, etc. How can you help? Be sure to sign up for HomeConnect, ask your student what his/her reading goal is for first quarter and encourage them to read and enjoy!

Sunshine State Reader Award Program

Our Sunshine State Young Reader Award program is about to kick off for grades 3-5. Students will get a taste of the SSYRA books during their library/media class the week of 9/17. Some will be on your student's reading level, some above, and some below- let them explore with easy reading and reading challenges. Students will bring home more information soon. Students can start collecting their Brag Tags on Wednesday, 9/26, in the media center!

Heads up… Scholastic Book Fair will be the week of November 12!

Staying Informed

PTO Facebook

If you have a Facebook account, please like/follow our Ketterlinus Elementary School PTO page. This is an excellent way to stay "in the know" with our school. Our PTO always posts up to date information on school events, activities, and initiatives.

School Messenger

You should have received several messages (text, emails, and voicemails) from School Messenger so far this school year. These messages go to all parents/guardians of KES students. If you have not received a text, voicemail, or email from School Messenger this school year, please contact Cyndie LaFontaine, our school registrar, to confirm the information we have for you.

Home Access Center

This year we will be utilizing our district computer system, also known as Home Access Center (HAC), to share information regarding your student's performance! In order for you to view your child's progress, you'll first need to sign up. We're hoping you can "help us, help you" by doing the following:

1. See the packet that went home with your student on September 4th and follow those steps to create an account in HAC. Register at htttp://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/

2. After registering, write a quick note in your child's planner. It can simply read, "I'm registered for HAC," and sign your name. Doing so will earn your child a special prize! It will also add one more percentage point towards your child's class having 100%of their parents registered for HAC. Lastly, you will earn yourself progress towards your BINGO challenge completion.

Paperless Grade Reporting Implementation Dates for KES

Grades 3, 4, and 5, paperless interims and report cards	**All year**
Grades 1, 2, paperless report cards begin	**Quarter 2**
Kindergarten, paperless report cards begin	**Quarter 3**