

Dear KES Family & Friends

Fall is in the air! This is my favorite season. During this time, our community has many events planned. We hope you can participate with your child in as many of them as you can. We are very blessed to live in this wonderful city!

We are entering a busy time of the year in our community. To assist us, please utilize your CAR TAG when you come to the school during the day. Please keep your CAR TAG on your dashboard or rearview mirror so that we know you are parking for school or district business. Our parking lot is starting to become busier as visitors utilize our parking lot for sightseeing. This seems to increase with the Nights of Lights during the late afternoon. We love our visitors but we must ensure that we can provide parking for our school and district staff. Please note your CAR TAG is only for school business, Monday – Friday.

Congratulations to our wonderful staff and volunteers of the 2018/2019 school year. They represent us very well.

- Sara Gaudino – Teacher of the Year
- Sofia Carerra – Youth Volunteer of the Year
- Sandi Zelkio – Adult Volunteer of the Year
- David Tillis – Senior Volunteer of the Year

Attendance is crucial for your child’s learning. Three things that are very important to ensure we maximize our instructional time and ensure the state accountability of recess/physical education:

- *Ensure your child comes to school every day and on time.
- *Make sure your child is wearing sneakers and socks every day.
- *Schedule doctor’s appointment and vacations around your child’s school schedule.

Speaking of attendance, a shout out to those students that participated and met the “Get Schooled” Challenge with attendance and homework. Student who had 85% or greater attendance and 100% homework received a Smencil (scented pencil).

We are looking forward to our next challenge, Passport to Learning, that will begin over Winter Break and run until the end of the 3rd quarter. Students will receive a passport with various pages to log in “travels” through virtual learning, character, reading, attendance and homework. Students who complete their passport will receive a ticket to our “Grow & Glow” party. This will be a big event. We will have frequent reminders and incentives to keep the students’ engaged and motivated.

I appreciate your support and time in helping us at KES. Our community is one of the very best.

Sincerely,
 Kathy Tucker, Principal

Cove Corner

So what’s going on in the Cove you ask?!?! Let’s take a peek. We have tons and tons of fun activities going on such as movie/popcorn day, electronics day, scavenger hunts, super-duper arts and crafts, fun Fridays, and let’s not forget our once a month Themed Cove special! This month theme will be “You got Talent” Oh... YES... we’re having a Cove Talent Show on November 30th from 3pm-5pm!! Looking forward to seeing all that talent!!

Our Cove staff would like to give a BIG shout out to our Cove parents and students on a job well done on the “staff look alike” pumpkin patch project. They were awesome!!



Also, join us in welcoming Ms. Keturah and Ms. Shakia to our Cove team!!

One last thing, Cove parents, due to the fact that dismissal is quite a busy time, please please.... please avoid checking your child out during dismissal. Please make prior arrangements to have your child use parent pick-up or walker pick-up. Thanks, in advance, for your immediate attention with this matter.

Janet C. Bryant
 Extended Day Coordinator

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



Important Dates at Ketterlinus

- 11/21-11/23 Thanksgiving Holiday - No School
- 11/27 SAC Meeting at 7:45 a.m. –School Improvement Plan Presented
- 12/3 PTO Meeting at 7:45 a.m.
- 12/5 5th Grade Spelling Bee
- 12/7 Wear Your Words T-shirt Day
- 12/7 Character Counts Celebration 2:00 p.m.

Showing our Gratitude

Mrs. Gaudino’s first grade students showed their gratitude for the firefighters in the city of St. Augustine by creating beautiful cards and notes of thanks. Chief Aviles said that the fire fighters truly enjoyed reading each and every card.



News from Mrs. McCutcheon

October was a busy month here at Ketterlinus! Cooler temps, Halloween, and UNITY Day! UNITY Day was celebrated school-wide to unite against bullying and celebrate kindness, acceptance and inclusion. I have to say I saw a lot of orange that day. In addition, each grade level was given a 20 and /or 40-minute presentation on Bullying Prevention. Students were taught the three foundational principles that constitute bullying: Repeated, imbalance of power and makes it hard to learn. Often times students have conflict with peers. Conflict has an equal balance of power between both parties. It could be a disagreement or a situation where both parties are contributing to the misunderstanding. Teaching students to handle conflict peacefully is a huge lesson to learn. During guidance lessons, students are learning that it takes practice to be a peacemaker. It is through communication, teamwork and respect that we are all peacemakers.

Home Access Center (HAC) 2018 – 2019

Ketterlinus Elementary grades (K-5) will utilize several components of the Home Access Center (HAC) this year. We ask that all parents utilize HAC. The Home Access Center (HAC) allows students and parents to view their child’s educational information via a secure, password protected website. See the features and benefits of HAC below:

Features:

- Calendar provides a customizable quick view of courses, events, activities, and assignments
- Provides parents and students with a daily summary page of student information
- Schedule and attendance, discipline information, class work, test scores and course requests
- Allows students to view their own records to help keep them informed about their progress.

Benefits:

- Provides parents with relevant and timely information to support and direct their children
- Helps open a consistent avenue of parent/teacher communication
- Creates stronger connections between students, parents, teachers, and administrators
- Empowers students to actively participate in their progress and future
- Electronic source to access interims and report cards



The School Advisory Council will be presenting the School Improvement Plan on November 27th at 7:45 a.m. This is a great opportunity to hear the road map that has been created to improve the level of student achievement, and to learn how and when these changes will be made.

Crayola “Thank A Teacher” Contest



Britne White, a KES parent, nominated Heather Golz, kindergarten teacher, for the Crayola “Thank A Teacher” promotion. Mrs. Golz was recently chosen as one of the lucky winners!!! Mrs. Golz won a \$10,000 classroom makeover, \$1,000 Visa gift card, and the school won “CreatED” Professional Development Program - \$9,000 value, a year-supply of Crayola products - \$500 estimated value, and \$1,000.00 gift card. Congratulations to Mrs. Golz for being recognized for your dedication to her students and to Britne White for her incredible artistic talents.



News from the Media Center

On Wednesday, 12/5, 5th Grade Spelling Bee will be held in the Media Center at 9:45 a.m., 5th grade parents who have APPROVED School Access are welcome to attend!

A huge thank you goes out to Megean Naughton and ALL of our Enchanted Forest Book Fair volunteers. Thanks to you and our awesome students who LOVE to read, it was a ton of fun and a huge success! Since the Scholastic Book Fair is a fundraiser, every purchase helps keep our library/media center well-stocked and inviting to our students. Thanks for your support!

We have 4 students in our Million Word Club! Congratulations to: Sascha Thorpe, Olivia Widerstedt, Andrew Thornton, & Clara Huerbsch! As a school, we’ve read over 37,000,000 words this school year! #readersareleaders.

We are Thankful



WOW! November!! It’s a time for reflection...a time to be thankful. With guidance from Miss Hudson, a Flagler College intern, our second grade students and faculty expressed their thankful thoughts with “30 Days of Thankfulness”. Each day we reveal another thankful thought to share. What a wonderful lesson...take time to pause and to show thanks for those people important in your life.

We are so blessed to be able to spend our days with your children. We are thankful for their desire to learn and for their sweet character. As we celebrate the season of Thanksgiving, please know that we are so thankful for our Ketterlinus families and for you trusting us to care for and to educate your children. Happy Holidays!



Housekeeping



Extended Absences

Please remember that all extended absences must be approved prior to the absence. All requests must be submitted in writing to the front office.

Check-Outs

Check-outs will not be permitted after 2:15 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday (1:15 on Wednesday). This allows the front office to give their attention to dismissing the over 400 students who are ready to go home for the day. Thank you for understanding that unless it is an emergency, you will be asked to wait until dismissal is complete.

If you know that you will be picking your child up early from school, please send a note to the teacher so that they can be prepared for your child to leave early.

Is your Child Prepared?

Please remember to send your child in tennis shoes EVERY school day. Students must wear tennis shoes to P.E. and also to recess. Hair needs to be pulled away from the face (girls and boys). Students can bring water bottles to school but they must be filled with water only. No juice or sports drinks. Please send in a note if your child is injured or ill and needs to be excused from P.E. class.

Transportation Changes/Illnesses

If your child’s mode of transportation changes or your child is absent, please CALL the front office or send in a separate note. Please do not email your child’s teacher or write the change/absence in their planner.

The Importance of RSVPs

Thank you to all of those parents who RSVP’d for the Costume Parade. RSVPs are important so that we can ensure that all adults entering the school property have the appropriate APPROVED School Access. It is never our intention to inconvenience you but to always provide the safest environment for our students. The need for advanced RSVPs are necessary for ALL events that invite adults on to the school property. This includes Costume Parade, Grandparent Breakfast, Donuts with Dad, Muffins with Mom, Character Counts ceremonies, etc. To be consistent and to be fair, we will no longer be able to accept late RSVPs for these events. Please know that we never want to turn parents/guardians/grandparents away but we need to allow staff time to confirm school access for all adults. Thank you, in advance, for your understanding.

Photo Identification Required

Effective immediately we will be requiring photo identification for ALL adults entering the building for special events, volunteering, lunch with your child, and for early dismissals. Several different people cover the front desk so everyone might not be familiar with the adults who are entering the building. In an effort to be consistent with all of our parents, we will require photo identification... even if you regularly come to the school. PLEASE remember to bring your photo identification with you EVERY time you enter the building. Again, this policy is not intended to inconvenience you but to provide the safest environment for our students.

Cafeteria News

In an effort to reduce Styrofoam waste in landfills, SJCS and Ketterlinus Elementary will discontinue the use of black and white Styrofoam trays during the next few weeks.

Some important facts (please share with students)

- Styrofoam (EPS; expanded polystyrene) is not recycled.
- The half-life of Styrofoam is 500 years.
- 30% of our waste in landfills is Styrofoam.
- We are trying to reduce our waste in landfills
- The new trays are made from 100% recycled material and are 100% compostable
- The new trays are shrink wrapped to reduce packaging waste
- The trays were tested within the district and have had great success.
- Product of USA



We want to communicate with you!

In an effort to utilize the most effective mode of communication with all parents, teachers and staff will be using email for ALL correspondence with parents. This is to allow you to email when it is convenient for you and will allow teachers/staff to respond to your email during their working hours. Please allow up to 48 hours for a response.

