

Principal's Corner

Happy Holidays KES Family & Friends!

It has been wonderful to see the students become more involved in our community through service projects and doing good deeds. Recently, I was moved to tears from US soldiers who took the time to write thank you letters to Mrs. Gibson's kindergarten class. Their letters of appreciation for the students' artwork and letters were very moving.

One of the things that we strive as a school and community to do is it recognize people by their names and make them feel special. Over the last few months, we have been reinforcing this life skill with students. Mr. Curtis Lewis, Mr. Greg Gafford, and Officer Dee Brown have provided "Tuesday Tips" to our students on addressing familiar people. Please help us build this skill with your children. Officer Brown said it best. He called it the "Publix Rule" which is to greet a familiar person by their name within 4 feet. Those small gestures do so much for people. It really can brighten their day. You never know who really needs that small recognition that only takes a 2 seconds.

I hope you all have a wonderful winter break. The first semester has been a successful one as we have seen both academic and character growth in our students. I am very proud them...and of our school community that includes YOU.

Have a wonderful holiday with your loved ones.

Kathy Tucker

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

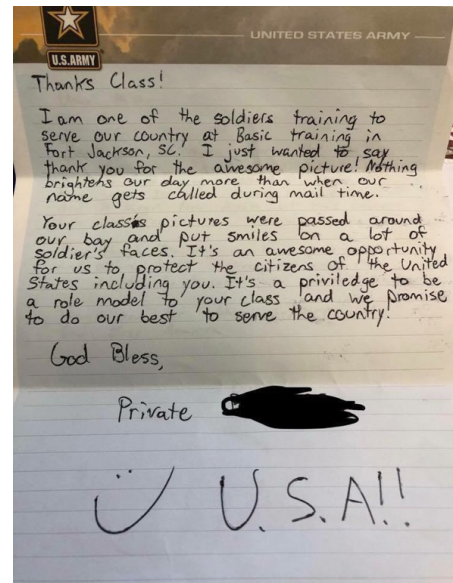


Important Dates at Ketterlinus

- 1/7 **Students Return to School**
- 1/11 **Wear Your Words T-shirt**
- 1/14 **PTO Meeting at 7:45 a.m.**
- 1/18 **Report Cards**
- 1/21 **NO SCHOOL**
- 1/22 **SAC Meeting at 7:45 a.m.**
- 1/31 **Family Literacy Night**

Letters to our Soldiers

Mrs. Gibson's kindergarten class drew pictures for our soldiers to show them their support while they are protecting our country. Our students are learning about the pillars of character and this activity was one way for them to display their kindness. They were excited to show their artistic abilities and were thrilled when they received letters in return. Below is just one of many letters that the student received. The sentence "Nothing brightens our day more than when our name gets called during mail time" speaks volumes to what this small act of kindness meant to this unit of soldiers.



The Dolphin Lab

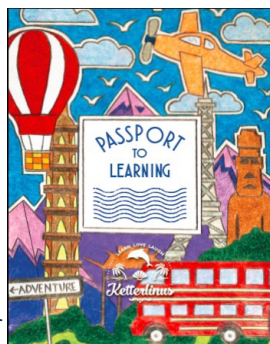
The Dolphin Lab has new headphones!! A huge "thank you" to the Nelson family for providing the entire lab with a new set of headphones. It feels like a whole new lab!



Thank you so much,
Nelson Family!!

Passport to Learning

We are excited to announce our latest challenge, the "Passport to Learning". Each student received a passport just prior to winter break. Students who complete the passport from December 21st to March 14th will be invited to the ultimate party – "Grow and Glow" party. Parents of eligible students will be invited to attend as well. We recognize that a child's success happens from the support at home. Details on the party will be announced as we get closer to the end of the 3rd nine weeks. We are looking forward to seeing your child track their own success. Everything in the passport can be accomplished by any student regardless of academic level. We are hoping that through prior challenges – the parent bingo card and Get School Challenge #1 & #2, that students keep their stamina and perseverance to complete the passport. They will have 9 weeks to complete the tasks. However, we are encouraging students (& parents) to begin over winter break with the Virtual Learning and Character Counts! pages. A huge shout out to some outstanding parents and business partners for donating their talent and services to make this initiative happen. Thank you to Holly Sipprell, Hue Design; Britne White, for her artwork, and Leonard's Studio for publishing the passport. Please review the passport with your child and motivate them to complete the passport.



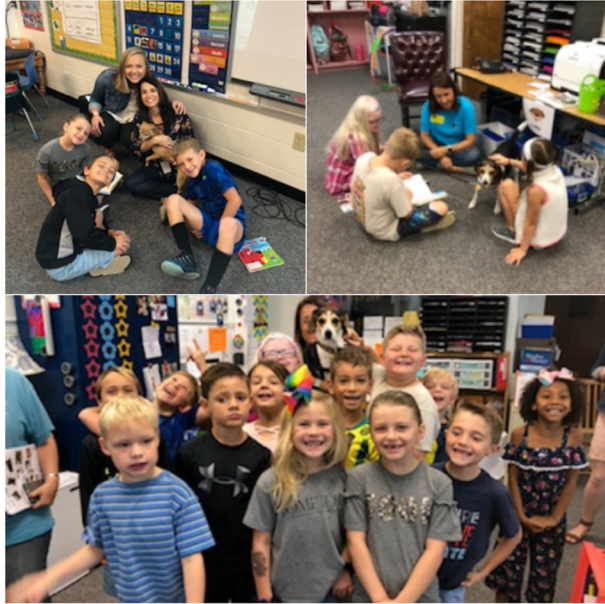
Just Run

JUST RUN is a FREE, multifaceted youth fitness program developed by the Big Sur Marathon Foundation. It not only promotes exercise and the sport of running but also good citizenship and healthy eating through its Just Deeds and Just Taste features. Virtual runs across the USA and Europe link points of interest and geographical and historical sites making it educational as well. We have a Just Run program at KES with approximately 40 students participating. They recently participated in the Reindeer Run before the start of the Christmas parade on December 1st and are enjoying learning the fundamentals of running while making new friends.



Ayla's Acres Visits Second Grade

Ayla's Acres, a No-Kill Animal Rescue, Inc., is a St. Augustine-based agency supporting adoption, spay and neuter, and responsible care of animals, recently visited Mrs. Yelvington's second grade class. They brought several of their furry friends who seemed to enjoy receiving the attention the students showered upon them. They also seemed to enjoy being read to by groups of students. Over the holidays, encourage your child to grab a book, curl up with their pet, and read out loud to their furry pal. Reading aloud helps your child's speech and language fluency skills. It helps with a concept called "automaticity," or the ability of a reader to recognize words on sight and automatically. Verbal reading allows the child to practice these skills and greatly improves their accuracy.



2018-2019 Instructional Materials Adoption- Mathematics

The St. Johns County School District curriculum department representatives and adoption committee members are currently conducting the review process for the 2018-2019 Instructional Materials Adoption for Mathematics. Resources are available for review at <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/instructional-resources-media-services/textbooks/adoption/> by our parents and community members. The core resources that have been submitted for evaluation are listed on the state adoption consideration lists. AP materials that will be reviewed are from College Board recommended materials. If you are interested in serving on an adoption review committee, please contact the principal or assistant principal.

What Makes Ketterlinus a Special Place?

We know that we live in a school district that is ranked in the top of the state. We have excellent schools in St. Johns County. So why do we think Ketterlinus is so special? We believe that Ketterlinus is a special place for so many reasons. First, our students exemplify good character and strive to make each day a good day. They greet each other with respect and demonstrate good social skills and relationship building tools. Secondly, our staff truly care for your children. They are not just a student number but a little person who we hope to influence in a positive way. We want them to succeed and will do our very best in making that happen. Thirdly, our parents are involved. Involved parents make THE difference. You help us with testing, special events, and with working in the classroom. We couldn't do what we do without you. Lastly, our fearless leaders, Kathy Tucker and Monique Keaton, work hard to create an environment that feels like home for both students and staff. From door decorating, to ugly sweater contests, and to staff Christmas Caroling...Ketterlinus is a good place to be. We thank you for trusting us to educate and care for your child. It is our privilege and we are honored. The pictures below were taken during the first Staff Christmas Caroling event. Staff visited KES families as a fundraiser and sang a few carols. It was a blast!! Make sure you turn in your RSVP early next year! It will be a sell-out!



News from the Media Center

Congratulations to Dalton Bradshaw for earning 2nd place in our 5th grade spelling bee, and to Olivia Widerstedt, our spelling bee champion! She'll move on to represent KES in the district competition on January 23, 2019- best of luck!



Christian Achatz is our first student in grades 3-5 to read all 15 of the 2018-2019 SSSYRA books! He is now eligible to vote for his favorite (which will count toward which book actually receives the award), join us for the SSSYRA party in May, and will receive an engraved reading trophy! Read on!

Our Scholastic Enchanted Forest Book Fair was a huge success, with the second highest sales on record! It's always a pleasant week, seeing so many families together, celebrating their student's love of reading! We thank each and every staff member and volunteer who helped with this success, with a special shout out to Megean & Patrick Naughton, who volunteer during the entire book fair!

Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! "Spreading Literacy, One View at a Time" will be enjoyed starting January 28, 2019. Mark your calendar- Family Literacy Night at KES will be held on January 31, 2019! Join some of your favorite staff members for story time, food, prizes, & good family fun!

Stay in the Know.....

KES parents, allow this information to serve as a reminder of these facts:

- Report card communications are electronic for grades 1 – 5
 - o Effective January 18th 2019 for grades 1-2
 - o Been effective since October 24th 2018 for grades 3-5
- Kindergarten student report card will be paper on January 18th
 - o Kindergarten report cards will be electronic March 24th & 29th 2019
- Interim reports are electronic for students in grades 3-5
- Interim reports are paper for students in grades 1-2
- Kindergarten students do not receive interim reports.

Interims Issued:

February 7, 2019
April 24, 2019

Report Cards Issued:

January 18, 2019
March 29, 2019
May 24, 2019

Holiday Door Decorating Contest

The Cove sponsored a Holiday Door Decorating Contest for the staff at KES and WOW...was the competition tough!! It made the halls feel very festive. Congratulations to the following winners:

- 1st Place:** Mrs. Bowers
- 2nd Place:** Mrs. Hilbert
- 3rd Place:** Miss Shelby/Mrs. Michelle Smith

Honorable Mention: Mrs. Golz, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Wilkerson/Mrs. Pellicer/Mrs. Hudgins



Anxiety in Children

In an effort to provide parents of 504, Gifted, and ESE students with strategies to assist their children to cope with anxiety, Marlena Jenkins, Lead Clinician from UF Jacksonville FDLRS-MDC, will disseminate information and resources at our next Parent Advisory Committee meeting.

Topic: Strategies to Assist Children to Cope with Anxiety
Date/Time: 1/8/19 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Location: Fullerwood Training Center
10 Hildreth, St. Augustine, FL 32084

