

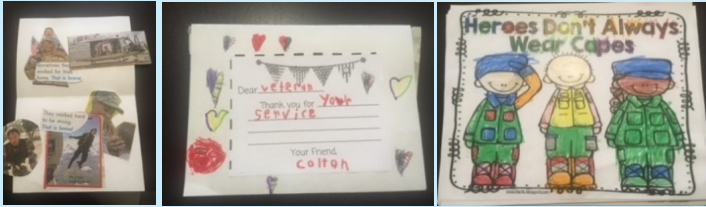


## Art We Awesome

Registration for *Art We Awesome*, Ketterlinus' afterschool art club with Mr. Lewis, begins Monday, January 11. Registration will continue for two (2) weeks, ending on January 25, the first day of the session...barring the session doesn't fill up ahead of time. *Art We Awesome* is open for all students in kindergarten through 5th grade! This session will be **6 weeks and the cost is \$60**. Art We Awesome will teach students to create a clay peacock candle holder! We will have limited space, so be ready to get your registration and payment in fast!!



A huge THANK YOU to our local Veterans. We honor your courage! Our KES students helped thank and encourage our local Veterans by making thank you cards, which were then distributed through the Wounded Warrior Project.



## STEAM News

October and November were full months for us in STEAM! All grade levels learned about different forms of energy and how energy transfers.

3rd grade students learned about parts of a plant and pumpkin seed germination.

All classes got to enjoy the monarch caterpillars and the butterfly's different stages of metamorphosis. Mrs. Killin's class had a special treat and was able to observe a caterpillar go into its chrysalis in class!

5th grade students learned all about our North American native fruit, the cranberry. They used cranberries and toothpicks to make 3D geometric shapes!!



## Front Office News

We have some exciting changes to announce as staff has moved to new positions. Congratulations to **Cynthia Lafontaine** as she has moved from being the Computer Operator to being the Media Paraprofessional. **Shelby Kashiwamura** has become the Computer Operator, leaving the Front Desk Receptionist job she filled for many years. Congratulations, Shelby! Finally, please give a warm KES welcome to **Kathleen Allen**, our new Front Desk Receptionist!



Cynthia Lafontaine



Shelby Kashiwamura



Kathleen Allen

## Cafeteria News

A gentle reminder that all students may have free breakfast and/or free lunch every day through the end of the school year! Please keep in mind that snacks, such as chips or ice cream will cost extra and cannot be given on credit.

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

## Principal's Corner

I hope you all enjoyed some time with your families over Thanksgiving Break. I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and understanding as we go through a very challenging year. The students have been awesome! They have rolled with all the changes and challenges that this pandemic brings. I am very grateful to the entire KES Staff. They worked hard to prepare their rooms, instruction and school during summer break. There has been some healthy bantering, and at times, tears. However, I can say that it is all because we want to get it right for the students and families. We appreciate the understanding of our families with setting parameters and deadlines so that we can effectively work through this pandemic. Please know that doing this is something new to us as educators. Educators work well beyond the required hours, so we are grateful for the support from our community. A mantra that I share with staff is "It is Better Together at KES". Just need some Jack Johnson to come and sing it to us.

As we begin to find a normal routine, I want to share with you one of our school's initiatives that might have been overlooked during the 1st 9 weeks. Accelerated Reader, also known as "AR" is our school-wide reading program that we started several years ago. Our wonderful PTO continues to fund this program. We saw immediate growth with our students when we (both teachers & parents) were able to monitor and track their independent reading through the AR program. Teachers are able to see how much and how well a child reads on his/her reading level and provide feedback and guidance. Are they reaching their reading goals? These are conversations that we have school-wide with our students. Reading is like brushing your teeth. It is a healthy daily habit.

There has been much research on reading nightly/daily. A child that reads 20 minutes per day, every day, will read 1,800,000 words a year. Good readers become good readers by practicing every night. They are not born good readers. Nightly reading increases a child's reading skills but also his/her vocabulary. In addition, nightly readers perform better on state standardized tests. Yes, testing should not define a child, but higher test scores open doors to opportunities to advanced classes, college and career pathways. Through our AR program, we teach students to set goals – a success skill for career and college pathways. It also develops reading stamina and perseverance – skills needed when they become older and face challenges.

How do you as a parent monitor your child's AR? Contact your child's teacher. There is a Parent Connection link for you to view your child's AR or independent reading. Read on!

We wish you well,  
*Kathy Tucker*, Principal

Please Note: Earlier Early Release on Wednesdays will continue until January 20th, after that we will resume to our normal Early Release time of 1:55 p.m.

## Important Dates at Ketterlinus

- 12/15 SAC Meeting @ 8:15 a.m.
- 12/16 Earlier Early Release @ 12:55 p.m.
- 12/18 Early Release for Holiday Break @ 1:45 p.m.
- 12/21-1/1 Holiday Break – No School for Students & Staff
- 1/4 Students & Staff Return to School
- 1/6 Wear Your Words T-shirt Day
- 1/6 Earlier Early Release @ 12:55p.m.
- 1/8 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 1/11 PTO Meeting @ 7:55 a.m.
- 1/13 Earlier Early Release @ 12:55p.m.
- 1/15 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 1/18 Martin Luther King Day- No School
- 1/19 SAC Meeting @ 8:15 a.m.
- 1/20 Earlier Early Release @ 12:55p.m.
- 1/22 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 1/27 Early Release @ 1:55p.m. (Please note time change)
- 1/29 Teacher Planning Day – No School for Students



The Time Machine Book Fair was a great success! Thank you again to all the volunteers who helped make it happen.

## Guidance News

Students learned about self-care this month. Coach Allen and I presented lessons on handling emotions, coping strategies for big emotions, and the power of “letting it go.” Things can get overwhelming, may not go your way, or may get frustrating. However, we have the power to respond in healthy ways. Taking care of ourselves by exercising, reading a book, or playing a game can help distract our brain. Mindful breathing, thinking happy thoughts, and talking to a friend are strategies to teach your brain to slow down. The power to “let things go” can be difficult at first, but the more you practice letting go, the calmer and happier you will be. Please check out the Ketterlinus website under Departments - School Counseling for other self-care resources. Have a wonderful holiday break and see you in 2021!!

## Early Act Food Drive

Thank you KES Families for your generous hearts in making the Early Act Food Drive such a great success! All the items you collected were donated to Epic-Cure, a local non-profit organization that helps families in need, and believes in taking urgent, immediate, and continuous action to make a measurable difference in eliminating food waste.



## Housekeeping Information

**Car Tags** must be displayed on your rearview mirror when picking up your child in Parent Pick-Up. This helps the staff to identify you as someone who is allowed to pick up your student and gives staff the opportunity to radio ahead so that your child is ready at the curb for pick-up. If a car tag is not visible, you will have to park and walk inside to confirm your identification. This is for the safety of our students.

**Photo Identification** is required for all adults signing in at our school, as well as for those who are here to sign out their child. Because this is district policy, it is important that you always bring a photo identification with you. Thank you for understanding!

**Holiday Shopping?** Don't forget you can support KES while shopping at smile.amazon.com. Make sure you select Ketterlinus Elementary School as your charity. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to KES.

## What's Happening in the Cove

During the Cove Fall Festival, the students had a contest to see who can mummy wrap another student the fastest. There was lots of laughter to be had during this competition.



For the month of December, come and take a tour on the Polar Express with the Cove. We have some amazing winter activities planned, such as making clay Christmas tree ornaments, as well as creating and decorating gingerbread houses. We will also be watching The Polar Express, while eating popcorn and drinking hot chocolate.

Please help us welcome Monica Alonso to our Cove team! We are so excited to have Ms. Monica join our Dolphin family

*\*Please remember when writing a check, it cannot be over \$500. In addition, please add the student's name and phone number to your check.*

Thank you,  
Ms. Janet and the Cove Crew!



## Character Counts! Pillar of Citizenship

The following students were selected for the Citizenship Award for their classroom. Due to large gathering restrictions, our celebration will be taped and shared with the winners. Please extend a warm congratulations to the following students:

<b>VPK-</b> Gabriella C.	<b>2nd Grade</b> Hilbert- Harper P. Jett- Opal C. Tagliarini- Pepper B. Puzio/Sabini- Charles T.	<b>4th Grade</b> Glinski- Carys H. Killin- Grayson H. Smolek- Jimmy L. Sturm/Rosario- Briggs D.
<b>Kindergarten</b> Bowers- Sebastian C. Gaudino- Piper L. Gibson- Ian F. Mercer- Shelbee H.	<b>3rd Grade</b> Borie- Aubree F. Hooks- Loretta E. Mathews- Mila L. Owens- Kyli H.	<b>5th Grade</b> Cumpton- Ben M. Edging- Kaylee E. Wenglowsky- Scott G.
<b>1st Grade</b> Ball- Olivia T. DeFalco- Lily A. Golz- Harrison P. Lavery- Chole T.		

## Student Health Screening Entry Form

Please assess your child daily for the following symptoms and answer the contact questions.

- A fever of 100.4 or higher or a sense of having a fever
- Chills
- Muscle aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New decrease in smell or taste
- Uncontrolled cough
- Shortness of breath
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Is your child currently awaiting COVID-19 test results? **If yes, please keep your child home and notify the school nurse when test results received. Further instructions will be discussed at that time.**
- Does your child live in the same household with someone positive for COVID-19? **If yes, your child must quarantine for 14 days from the last date of contact with the positive individual. A negative test result does not reduce the quarantine requirement for the full 14-day incubation period.**
- Has your child had close contact with someone who in the past 14 days who tested positive for COVID19? **If yes, your child must quarantine for 14 days from the last date of contact with the positive individual. A negative test result does not reduce the quarantine requirement for the full 14-day incubation period.**



## Helping Your Child Climb the Literacy Ladder by Sue Brush, Instructional Literacy Coach

As an Instructional Literacy Coach, I have a broad view of assisting students to move through the developmental stages of reading. I am also a member of the KES MTSS Problem Solving Team that meets with teachers and parents to brainstorm how to help students experiencing challenges in reading. Through this process I have met many parents who are unsure how to help struggling readers. As a parent, you are also a teacher of reading, so I would like to host grade level ZOOM meetings to answer parent questions and offer tips to help you help your child at home. If you are interested, please join me by registering on SignUp Genius using the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4aaaa622a0fc1-help>. Space is limited, so sign up early.

Kindergarten	January 5, 2021	7:00-7:30 p.m.
First Grade	January 7, 2021	7:00-7:30 p.m.
Second Grade	January 12, 2021	7:00-7:30 p.m.
Third Grade	January 14, 2021	7:00-7:30 p.m.
Fourth Grade	January 19, 2021	7:00-7:30 p.m.
Fifth Grade	January 21, 2021	7:00-7:30 p.m.

## 2020-2021 YEARBOOK ORDER TODAY & SAVE



It's time to order your yearbook!  
Order now and save!

Yearbooks are filled with school memories that are cherished for years to come. Order and payment can be made directly on the Leonard's website at <https://commpe.pictavo.com/>. Use code 93371 to find Ketterlinus and follow the steps to complete your order.

If you prefer to pay by cash or check, go to the Ketterlinus website <https://www.kes.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>. After placing your order, please send in cash (exact amount), or a check in the amount of the order, made payable to KES PTO. Order by February 14, 2021 for a discounted price of \$25.