

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



KES Staff would like to wish you a Happy New Year!



Word Master Challenge!

We are so proud of our Word Master Challenge High Scorers!! Keep up the great work and good luck to you in Meet #2.

3rd Grade

Elizabeth C.
Ella D.
Sydney T.
Nathan W.
Isla J.
Kale R.
Julia S.
Liv W.
Hazel E.
Ian F.

Piper L.
Kimmy P.
Addison R.
Raymond S.
Harrison B.
Silas D.

4th Grade

Nicholas W.
Ben B.
Gavin L.
Coraline M.
Lex T.
Bryleigh H.
Lincoln P.
John Tucker R.
Henry S.
Thomas S.

5th Grade High Scores!

Mark G.
James K.
Kinsley M.
Kiley A.
Morgan H.
Thomas W.
Noa W.
Ruby J.

Sanay P.
Olivia P.
Sophie B.
Kayla D.
Taniyah J.
Isaac P.
Emma P.
Deacon S.
Miles W.
Samuel W.
Thea A.

5th Grade Perfect Scores!

Owen N.

Spotlight on Speech



It is always nice to have the winter break to take time to slow down and spend time with our family. There is nothing better than being together, playing games, and visiting with family and friends. These are great occasions to practice our speech and language skills. It is the 'in the moment' times that we get the most natural opportunities. I am not one who gives out traditional speech and language therapy homework. If we have not developed the skills yet, we are only practicing the incorrect way. Not to mention all the other assignments, sports and appointments that happen after school. It is important to have down time for everyone. Remember, be a good listener, provide good speech models and give lots of hugs.

Ms. Wilkerson

Important Dates at Ketterlinus

- 1/4 Teacher Planning Day – Student Holiday
- 1/5 Teacher Inservice Day – Student Holiday
- 1/8 Classes Resume for Students
- 1/9 PTO Meeting – 7:50 a.m.
- 1/10 Wear Your Words
- 1/10 Early Release – 1:45 p.m.
- 1/12 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 1/15 Martin Luther King Day – Holiday
- 1/17 Early Release – 1:45 p.m.
- 1/19 Report Cards Issued
- 1/19 100 Days of School
- 1/19 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 1/23 SAC Meeting – 7:45 a.m.
- 1/24 Early Release – 1:45 p.m.
- 1/25 Literacy Night Book Café – 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- 1/26 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 1/31 Early Release – 1:45 p.m.

KES Holiday Fun... from reindeer ears to ugly sweaters and pj's! It was the most wonderful time of the year!



JAG'S Honor Rows Game

Congratulations to our 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade students who earned a seat at the game by following the requirements below! KES had close to 100 students that participated. They were honored with Jaguar tickets and treated like royalty at the game! It was an amazing day for these students.

- Participation in the school-wide food drive for local pantry/shelter
- AR personal goal with 80% accuracy or higher
- HW completion (75% of the time or higher)



PTO News

Mark your calendars...The 2024 KES Fun Run is Wednesday, February 7 and we can't wait! It's a super fun event that we look forward to every year! It is also our biggest fundraiser and the money raised directly benefits the students of KES! Proceeds are used to purchase important technology and classroom supplies, and to support student enrichment. Fundraising kicks off later this month and we hope we can count on your support, as a volunteer, donor...or both!



KES Early Act

Thank you to our KES families! Your generosity amazes us! Thank you for your donations to our local Toys for Tots Campaign. You helped to bring joy and hope during this holiday season in St. Johns County!



Housekeeping Information

Check-out Policy

If you need to check your student out early, please know that we do not permit early checkout after 2:15pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and after 1:15pm on Wednesdays. We are preparing to dismiss our students, and teachers are finishing academic instruction for the day. Thank you for understanding!

Dismissal Changes

Parents/guardians, please be sure to note student's dismissal changes in your student's planner. This helps us to ensure a safe dismissal and avoid classroom interruption. In the event of an emergency dismissal change, please call before 1:15pm (Wed)/2:15pm (M, Tu, Th & Fr).

Car Tags

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. Additional car tags may be purchased at the front office for \$2 (cash only). In addition, please make sure you display your car tag when parked in our school parking lot to avoid being towed.

Safety Reminders

- Drop off begins at 7:55am. Safety is our top priority at KES. Please do not allow your child to wait on the school property unsupervised.
- Please use the crosswalk when walking your child to school.
- All school zones and crossings are Hands Free Zones. Please finish your phone calls or texts before entering the parking lot and crossing zone if you do not have hands-free capabilities.

Home Access Center (HAC)

Please be sure to utilize this for reviewing your child's report cards and monitoring their progress throughout the year.

Tardiness

School opens at 7:55am. Students are tardy if not in their classroom by 8:25am. If a student arrives after 8:25am their parent/guardian must walk up to the front office to sign them in.

Please label all your child's belongings such as water bottles, lunchboxes, backpacks, etc.

This helps us to return items to your child when they are misplaced.

It's time to order your Ketterlinus Yearbook!

This year we are taking orders **ONLINE ONLY!**

Order now and save!

Cost is \$25 until 2/14

After that price goes up to \$30.00 until sold out

Order and payment can be made directly on the Leonard's website at buytheyearbook.com. Use code 717111 to find Ketterlinus and follow the steps to complete your order.

Attention parents of 5th grade students!

A limited amount of space in the 2023-24 yearbook is available for dedication ads. Spaces will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis through **February 9, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. NO EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE** as space is limited! We have three ad sizes available (see below). Order forms were sent home to all 5th grade students. **Please complete the order form with payment and photos/messages.** Please make payments directly to Ketterlinus PTO via check, money order, or cash. Photos must be submitted on a jump drive or by email to lindsay.robertson@stjohns.k12.fl.us. **ALL photos must be submitted in jpg format** and separate from the dedication wording, which can be emailed and typed in Microsoft Word or can be submitted on the jump drive. Please, no PDF formatted ad materials. **Please note this order form is for ads only, not for yearbooks. They must be purchased separately.** Please direct any questions and payments to Lindsay Robertson.

Child's Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Parent/Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

¼ Page	\$35	1-4 Photos, plus message
½ Page	\$60	1-6 Photos, plus message
Full Page	\$100	1-12 Photos, plus message



We want to give a HUGE shout out to our KES PTO! They showered us with some Holiday Cheer with the annual "Jingle Cart" full of treats, candy and, of course, coffee. Thank you for all you do for our students and staff!

Student Advisory Council (SAC) Dates for 2023/2024

Our KES SAC meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:45 a.m. in the Media Center. We are looking for members and would love for you to be a part of this team! Please contact Bethany Hilbert at Bethany.Hilbert@stjohns.k12.fl.us for more information or to sign up.

January 23 February 20 March 26 April 16 May 14

Image by pikisuperstar on Freepik

Principal's Corner

Dear KES Families and Friends –

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful winter break with your family and/or friends. I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your trust and support with your children. This message has become an annual New Year's message. Once again, I ask for your support to ensure your children learn to become healthy in this technology driven society. Here is the infamous Smart Phone message, and it continues to be a concern for me as I enter my 29th year of education.

Although children have great resiliency, I can share with you that I have never seen such an impact on the social and emotional well-being of children. As a result of being more dependent on technology, many of our students are given smart phones. As a parent, I totally get the need of a phone for emergencies. My own children received cell phones to ensure they got home safely. So, what is different now? My children did not have smart phones. No apps or social media platforms on the phone. A good old flip phone they could call or text on. I am not even sure they could take a photo or video. Maybe? But uploading it instantly had to be difficult.

Today, we are finding that smartphones with apps such as Snapchat, or other social media platforms are where students are socializing. Kids are getting dependent on how many "likes" or "views" they are getting on social media versus through normal conversation and interaction. As a result, kids are pushing the boundaries that have led them to make poor choices. Elementary aged students do not have the skills to understand how to engage appropriately online. Also, as busy adults, we forget to filter what our children are seeing and uploading online. Children innately want to please and seek affirmation from others. They are easily influenced and will seek approval/affirmation. Think about it... how many "likes" or comments on social media are now ways of affirmation they seek – from their online "friends". In addition, children are getting conditioned to instant gratification. As I always told my kids, "It is ok to be bored".

So, I am asking for your support and help. If your child has a phone and brings it to school, we will require that it be turned off. Not just on silence, but have the power turned off. In addition, I ask that you check your child's phone frequently. You should look for things that are being sent out and what they are receiving. Also, check the history on the phone's browser. Children are impressionable, so watch what music and videos they are viewing. Thank you for your support. I feel very honored by the trust you have in Ketterlinus to ensure your child is safe at school.

Sincerely,
Kathy Tucker, Principal

A big shout out to our Flag Patrol who sets up and takes down both our American Flag and Florida Flag every day!



Field Studies

Our students attend Field Studies throughout the year, and it is such a fun and exciting experience for them. We ask that you please refrain from showing up to the designated Field Study event if you have not been selected to chaperone. This includes all our local destinations such as Swing Park, The Fort, etc. Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

KES News Crew! Thank you for all the hard work you put into making our Dolphin News so creative, engaging, and fun!



Ketterlinus Elementary School encourages persons with disabilities to participate in all the programs and activities scheduled at KES. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please call the front office 24 hours prior to participation or visit.