

Principal's Corner

Dear KES Families and Friends –

Thank you for a wonderful start to the school year. I am extremely pleased with the smooth start. The students have been wonderful, and the staff has been exceptional. The parental and community support have made us all feel very grateful. The tokens of appreciation of public education have been overwhelming – from treats and notes, to hugs and high-fives. THANK YOU! I feel very lucky and blessed. As many of you are aware, there have been some changes to public education. We have adopted new state standards called the B.E.S.T. Last year, we implemented the English and Language Arts B.E.S.T standards. This year, we have added the new math B.E.S.T Standards and we have begun using a new state testing tool – FAST, which stands for Florida Assessment of Student Thinking. The first of three FAST testing was administered during the month of September with a few make-ups that still need to be completed. There will be a total of three administered during the year; Progress Monitoring/PM 1, Progress Monitoring/PM 2, and PM3, which is the summative. By now, parent reports on your child's FAST testing have been sent home. They can also be accessed on Home Access Center (HAC). If your child scored a level 1 on the FAST, do not panic, but make sure you attend your Parent/Teacher In-Take Conference (Oct. 10 - Oct. 21). The test assesses students on end of the year expectations. It is expected that students would not be scoring very high on the assessment as we are teaching the standards during the school year. However, it helps the teacher, and the parent, pinpoint areas to focus on.

On a side note, there are several mandated letters, our school is trying to be very deliberate in timing so that we do not confuse parents. Please be patient as we are working within required timelines. However, always reach out to your child's teacher if you have a concern or question.

We appreciate your support!

Kathy Tucker, Principal

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



KES Staff Preparing for our 2022/23 school year!



Coach's Corner

We have gotten off to a pretty good start. However, there is a safety concern for students coming to P.E. To stay and play safe, PLEASE, do not wear the platform type tennis shoes. They are dangerous to run in and the possibility of injury is GREAT. I LOVE fashion but, SAFETY comes first! Other shoes that are not to be worn to PE include: Crocs, enclosed croc-type shoes, boots, cleats, sandals, street shoes, boat shoes, Tom's, shoes like Tom's and a few more. My goal is to keep your child safe while having FUN!!

Thank you,
Coach Allen



KES First Day of School - We are so thankful for our City Police, our local Firefighters, and our wonderful volunteers who welcomed our students with smiles, high fives, and fist bumps to help with those first-day jitters.



KES Spirit Nights - Marble Slab & Chick-Fil-A



Our Dolphins S.W.I.M. at Ketterlinus



S = Safe
W = Working Hard
I = Improving & Inspiring
M = Making Good Choices

PTO News

Did you know that our Dolphins raised more than \$26,000 during the Fun Run this past spring, and that the money raised has already been put to work for the school? The proceeds were used to purchase new recess equipment, provide each teacher with \$250 for classroom supplies, fund the purchase of TWENTY school laptops, and make donations to the Media Center for new books as well as to the Music Department to help Mr. Ball get the music program off and running! The fundraiser was a tremendous success, and it would not have been possible without the unbelievable support of the families, volunteers, local community, and of course, the kids... so THANK YOU! The KES PTO is looking forward to another exciting school year and will be keeping you posted as we go. If you are interested in getting involved in the PTO, we would love to have you join in on the fun! Membership is open to parents, grandparents, and community members, and meetings take place in the Media Center on first Tuesday of the month at 7:55 a.m.



Amazon 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.

Important Dates at Ketterlinus

- 10/4 PTO Meeting – 7:55 a.m.
- 10/5 Early Release – 1:45 p.m.
- 10/5 Coffee with a Cop – 7:30-8:30 a.m.
- 10/5 Wear Your Words
- 10/7 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 10/10-10/21 Intake Conferences
- 10/11 Moe's Spirit Night – 4:00-9:00 p.m.
- 10/12 Early Release – 1:45 p.m.
- 10/14 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 10/17 Teacher Planning Day - Student Holiday
- 10/18 SAC Meeting– 7:45 a.m.
- 10/19 Early Release – 1:45 p.m.
- 10/21 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 10/25 Report Cards Issued
- 10/26 Early Release – 1:45 p.m.
- 10/28 Spirit Day – Wear your KES T-shirt
- 10/31 Character Parade - 9:00am

Grandparents Cookie & Milk Bar was a tremendous success!

It was amazing to see all the grandparents with their grandchildren enjoying time together, reading books, eating cookies, and making memories together!



Spirit Day at KES is every Friday! Students and staff are encouraged to show their spirit by wearing KES apparel or KES colors.



Hello from Music



Hi, my name is Mr. Ball, and I am the new music teacher here at Ketterlinus Elementary School. I just wanted to introduce myself, and let you know a little bit about my background. I have taught elementary music for the past nine years in Las Vegas; however, I am originally from Michigan. In my younger years, I was an opera singer and found my love of music at a very early age. I moved to St. Augustine to be closer to my family. I look forward to meeting you and sharing the gift of music with the students of Ketterlinus for many years to come.



Student Advisory Council (SAC) Dates for 2022/2023

What is SAC? It is a group of parents, staff, and community members who meet monthly to discuss Ketterlinus' school goals and make decisions that are in the best interest of the school. Our KES SAC meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesdays 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. To sign up, or if you would like more information, please contact Bethany Hilbert at Bethany.Hilbert@stjohns.k12.fl.us.

- October 18th
- November 15th
- December 20th
- January 24th
- February 28th
- March 21st
- April 18th
- May 16th

COVE NEWS

We have many exciting things planned in the month of October:

- Cove Pumpkin Patch Project. Students will choose a KES staff to decorate their pumpkin as that person. (TBA)
- Our Cove Special, "It's Time to Harvest" Festival, will be held on October 28. The afternoon will be filled with activities such as pie-eating contests, face painting, cool arts and crafts, games, and much more.
- Costume fashion show will be held on October 31. Show off your costume. (No mask)

COVE WISHLIST

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Individual wrapped candy | Face paint |
| Whipped cream | Small and large ziplock bags |
| Small and large paper plates | Bubbles |
| Gummy worms, candy corn | Small prizes for treasure box |
| 8oz clear cups | |

*A gentle reminder: Safety is our #1 priority here at "The Cove". Please be prepared to show I.D. at any time when picking up your child.

COVID Information

For the 2022-2023 SY, please refer to the St. Johns County School District Illness Guidelines found here: <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/health/illness/> for general health concerns related to your child. There is no longer a dedicated district COVID hotline. For all future COVID-related testing, questions, or concerns, please consult your child's pediatrician for guidance and recommendations. Should the pediatrician recommend your child stay home from school, please notify your child's teacher(s) of their upcoming absence. Upon return to school, a parent or doctor's note must be provided to excuse the absence. St. Johns County School District will no longer provide exposure notifications.



Gentle Reminder: The wooden gate on Cordova/Visitor Center will be used for all drop offs and pickups. The Orange Street gate will always remain locked. In addition, on Friday evenings, ALL GATES will be locked for the entire weekend. Any cars in the lot after 6:00 p.m. will be locked in.

KES Café

Free and reduced eligibility for meals from the past school year has expired, so that if an application for this school year has not been submitted, all meals are full price \$1.25 for breakfast and \$2.80 for lunch. Please monitor your child's meal account through paypams.com and keep the account paid in full.

Housekeeping

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 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and after 1:15pm on Wednesday. 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.

School Access

To enter any St. John County school, you MUST have an approved School Access Form on file and scan your Driver's License at the front office. The application link is located on our KES website under School Access. This process can take up to 4-6 weeks. School Access lasts for 3 years, and it is the responsibility of the applicant to contact Volunteer Services at 904-547-3952 or Donna Ott at donna.ott@stjohns.k12.fl.us to renew the form. Please do not reapply, as this creates duplicate forms.

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.

From the Guidance Counselor

Welcome back!! It has been wonderful seeing all the students settle into their classes and begin another year. My name is Sandy McCutcheon and as the School Counselor, I have the awesome job of getting to know ALL the students. I am here to offer support to students so they can be successful academically, socially, and behaviorally.

This year, I will be partnering up with Mrs. Hinman, our Media Specialist, to conduct monthly class lessons that build students' social development. I am also available to work with students through small group sessions, individual sessions, and with teachers and parents by providing resources and education regarding issues that affect students. Please feel free to call me at (904) 547-8545 or email at sandy.mccutcheon@stjohns.k12.fl.us.



Visit our KES PTO Facebook page at Ketterlinus Elementary School PTO



October is a busy month with all things character. **The week of October 18, Ketterlinus will celebrate Kindness Week, which focuses on Red Ribbon Day/ Drug Prevention, Character Counts! and Bully Prevention.** Students will receive additional information in the coming weeks.

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.