



THE LEPRECHAUN

A Nationally Recognized School of Excellence

FEBRUARY 24, 2023, VOLUME 15, No. 7



Principal's Corner

A special THANK YOU to all of our families for a highly SUCCESSFUL Fun Run fundraiser this month! Our goal was to raise money to upgrade and maintain our technology, as well as provide for a school-wide project. With your help, we exceeded our goal of \$50,000. Way to go, KLES!! Now, as promised, the kids will get to see the KLES Administration...SMOTHERED IN S'MORES!! Again, we thank you for your support with this fundraiser.

As we move toward March, we know it is a very busy time of the year for sports and extra-curricular activities, but young people need lots of sleep. Research shows children between the ages of three and six need 10-12 hours of sleep while seven to twelve-year old need 10-11 hours of sleep. Getting the correct amount of sleep will help ensure our students are alert and ready to learn!

In addition, it is extremely important for students to be present at school. Multiple absences and early pick-ups affect the child's academic education. We want each child to be their best and do their best... so we need them at school every day. Thank you for your help with this.

As always, if you have a question or concern, please contact the school at 921-1265. With only three months of school left, we look forward to our continued partnership between home and school.

Read! Read! Read!



Mrs. Brenda Wagner, Principal



February is always a fabulous month filled with love, laughter, and learning. I feel blessed to be a part of KLES and I am proud of our children, families, staff, and community. In fact, I am thoroughly convinced that Killearn Lakes is the best place to be. I love everything about our school! I love our sense of community and the constant focus on developing character so we can each be positive contributors. I love that we have a sensational teaching and support staff who keep children at the heart of all we do. I love that we are finally able to have our families back on campus for meetings, events, and Lunch Bunch. Simply put, I love KLES!

The support you provide for our staff and our school is key to our success. We sincerely appreciate your kindness, smiles, and support with behaviors, homework, and reinforcing the importance of work ethic in creating a sound education. We thank you for taking the responsibility of your child's education and partnering with us to maximize learning experiences in hopes of setting the tone for a positive, productive spring.

Mrs. Champayne Ricciardi, AP

Brenda Wagner,
Principal

Jenny Blair,
Transition Principal

Champayne Ricciardi,
Assistant Principal

8037 Deerlake Drive, East
Tallahassee, FL
32312-5076
Ph. 850-921-1265
Fax 850-922-2566

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 9 & 10	Field Days (PE Field)
March 13 to 17	Spring Break (Office Closed)
March 20	Teacher Planning Day (No School)
March 21	All Pro Dad
March 31 & April 3	Grandparents Day

Do you want to know what's happening at KLES?
Find us on FACEBOOK

Search for "Principal Wagner" profile or click on this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Principal-Wagner/100005521488149>

Visit us on the web: www.leonschools.net/killearnlakes

Dear Parents,

February has been a great month in guidance!! The intermediate students are in full swing knowing and understanding what traits the pillars of good character include. In February, we have focused on communication skills. We have had conversations about dealing with difficult peers through communication. We have also discovered how miscommunication happens when we do not focus on making sure the other person has received our message.

I believe the students would tell you, their favorite part of these lessons was learning silent ball (Gruber style). February has been a month of fun learning!!

Thank you,

Mrs. Gruber,



Guidance Teacher

MARVELOUS MUSIC MOMENTS

February is Black History Month and we have been learning about some famous African American musicians. We talked about famous composers, singers, and instrumentalists. The 2nd -5th grade students also learned about jazz, blues, and improvisation. We improvised on recorders and Orff instruments (xylophones). First grade students learned about Hip Hop music and practiced beat boxing. And Kindergarten students did a fun lesson on the Carnival of the Animals by Camille Saint-Saens. We followed a listening map with little paper kangaroos, listened to "The Aquarium" while showing the melody with sea creatures, and used our stick horses to gallop around during "Wild Horses."

In the middle of the month we celebrated Valentine's Day with lots of Valentine's songs and fun review activities. It's been a fun month so far!!

Holly Pursino,

Music Teacher



The flowers are blooming and spring is in the air! Well-known painter Mary Cassatt is considered to be one of the originators of Impressionism in the USA. Most of Cassatt's work studies the human form predominantly, but she also had a passion for creating paintings of flowers and garden scenes. "Lilacs in a Window" became one of her most celebrated paintings in the early 1880s when floral painting rose to prominence within Impressionism. Kindergarten and first grade are busy exploring impressionism with the works of Mary Cassatt. Second and third grade are in the depths of Undersea Water Seascapes. Fourth grade students are putting things in single point perspective and fifth grade students are exploring Gargoyles on Gothic buildings. Look for some master pieces to come home soon!

Mr. Tavares,

Art Teacher

ATTENTION PARENTS

We are making your life simple!
Sign-in and sign-out procedures.
Download the app with this QR code

Link for iPhone



Link for Android



Morning Car Drop Off Safety Procedures (in the rear of the school)

Please read for the safety of all.

- Cars should pull all the way forward to allow for more vehicles to enter the gate.
- Once inside the gates and stopped, children should exit the vehicle. Waiting to pull forward creates traffic issues with others going around and we have had several close calls.
- Please have your child ready to exit the vehicle once it stops. Backpacks should be closed, shoes tied, etc.

Thank you for helping us make the car drop off procedure safer and more efficient!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

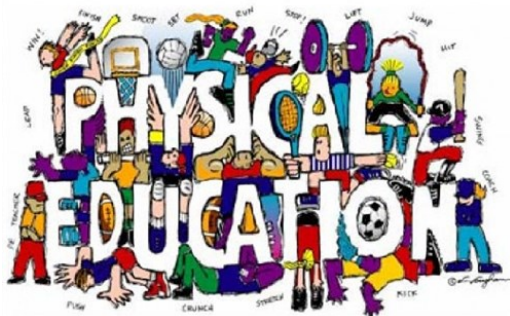
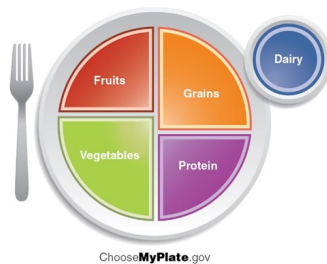
Hello from the Physical Education Teachers!

Field Days will take place on **Thursday, March 9th & Friday, March 10th**. Thursday will be for students in Pre-K, Kindergarten, First and Second grade. Friday will be for students in Third, Fourth & Fifth grade. We will need many volunteers to make these events fabulous, so look for more information coming soon via the KLES Listserv about how to sign up and/or donate water.

We are having a wonderful year so far and are looking forward to Field Days full of fun! We are wrapping up our nutrition unit and anxiously awaiting Field Days.

Mrs. Hickman

Ms. Dennis



Extended Day Enrichment Program

Cycle 8 Fees Due
Friday
March 3, 2023

- Please check the EDEP's Lost & Found for any missing items, whether your child attends EDEP or not.
- **We are in the planning stages for Summer Camp. Look for more info soon!**



Media News

Things are terrific here in the KLES Media Center! As I continue teaching the primary grades, they are beginning to learn many library skills. In Kindergarten, we have discussed parts of a book and what the author and illustrator do. They are also learning about books that are appropriate for them to check out. Our first-grade students are learning the difference between fiction and non-fiction material, and how to stay safe when using the Internet. Our second grade students are learning how to use the online catalog to locate books that they are interested in. We have also discussed the Caldecott Medal and what it means, and lessons highlighting Black History month. They all seem to enjoy our time together.

I love seeing the intermediate grades when they come in to check out books! It's rewarding to see them using the skills that they learned earlier this year.

We will be having another Scholastic Book Fair, March 27-April 4. As always, I am looking for volunteers and Mrs. Griswold will be reaching out to you.

Please continue to encourage your children to read the Sunshine State books. They are a wonderful collection of books that Florida has highlighted for this year.

Thank you for all of your support! If you need to reach me, my email is

hartsfieldd@leonschools.net.

Sincerely,

Debbie Hartsfield (Roddenberry)





Jessica Cain

KLES

Adult Volunteer of the Month

Teresa Clark

KLES

Senior

Volunteer of the Year



KLES Fun Run 2023

What a **GREAT Boosterthon Fun Run event** we had! It was a **BLAST!** The excellent Boosterthon staff kept students laughing and excited as they hopped, skipped and ran laps! We met our goal and raised over \$50,000 for KLES classroom technology and school enhancement, so a **HUGE** thank you goes to the business sponsors, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends from across the USA and 7 other countries who contributed! **WOW!** *Thank you* for helping us meet our goal!

All the students will celebrate meeting our goal as Mrs. Wagner, Ms. Blair, and Mrs. Ricciardi, are S'Mored!! We can't wait!

Susan Vinson, Third Grade Teacher & KLES Technology Committee Chair



LCS

"No person shall on the basis of sex (including transgender, gender nonconforming and gender identity), marital status, sexual orientation, race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, age, color, pregnancy, disability, military status or genetic information be denied employment, receipt of services, access to or participation in school activities or programs if qualified to receive such services, or otherwise be discriminated against or placed in a hostile environment in any educational program or activity. including those receiving federal financial assistance, except as provided by law." No person shall deny equal access or a fair opportunity to meet to, or discriminate against, any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, or any other youth group listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society.

KLES Mission Statement

Killearn Lakes Elementary School provides students with an equitable learning environment to create and develop lifelong learners.



- **Please do not park in any of the reserved parking spaces. These people come and go throughout the school day. Thank you!**
- **Remember – all afternoon dismissal changes must be in writing and received prior to 2:30 pm.**
- **Please label all your child's items (water bottles, lunch boxes, sweaters, jackets, etc...). If they land in lost and found, we can return them to their rightful owner.**
- **Dress Attire: Parents—little eyes are watching you! Please wear appropriate attire when visiting/ volunteering at KLES.**



Nondiscrimination Notification and Contact Information

“No person shall on the basis of sex (including transgender, gender nonconforming and gender identity), marital status, sexual orientation, race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, age, color, pregnancy, disability, military status or genetic information be denied employment, receipt of services, access to or participation in school activities or programs if qualified to receive such services, or otherwise be discriminated against or placed in a hostile environment in any educational program or activity including those receiving federal financial assistance, except as provided by law.” No person shall deny equal access or a fair opportunity to meet to, or discriminate against, any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, or any other youth group listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society.

An employee, student, parent or applicant alleging discrimination with respect to employment, or any educational program or activity may contact:

Deana McAllister, Assistant Superintendent

Equity Compliance Officer
Leon County School District
2757 West Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32304
(850) 487-7193
mcallisterd@leonschools.net

Tonja Fitzgerald, Director

Equity Compliance Officer (Students)
Leon County School District
2757 West Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32304
(850) 487-7309
fitzgeraldt@leonschools.net

Wallace Knight, Director

Title IX Compliance Officer
Leon County School District
2757 West Pensacola Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32304
(850) 487-7193
knightwa@leonschools.net

A student or parent alleging discrimination as it relates to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act may contact:

Jennifer Benton, 504 Specialist

(850) 487-7317
bentonj@leonschools.net