



# THE LEPRECHAUN

A Nationally Recognized School of Ex-

CEMBER 08, 2023, VOLUME 16,



## Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

December has been a fast and festive month for us! The students did a great job completing their mid-year progress monitoring (PM2). Results will be in FOCUS under Testing once the window closes in mid-January. These results will show the progress your child has made already this year. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

**IMPORTANT:** Is your child's emergency contact information current and correct? Please log in to FOCUS and check. You can quickly and easily update that information yourself, right there online.

If you have lost your log in information or forgotten how to log in, just email Mrs. Payne at paynes2@leonschools.net and she'll be happy to send that information home with your student.

Have a safe and memorable winter break!



Attendance at school is very important. When students arrive late or are picked up before dismissal, teaching and learning are disrupted. It's quite eye opening, when you do the math, that missing just ten minutes a day adds up to nearly 1 1/2 weeks of missed instruction in one school year (nearly half a year over the 13 years of schooling). Please make every effort to have your child in school from 8:30-2:50 each day.



Just Take 20 literacy campaign provides families with practical, easy-to-implement activities to add 20 minutes of reading to their day. Research shows that children who read at least 20 minutes a day outside of the classroom do better in school and in life. The Just Take 20 campaign is available free to all Florida families. Improve your child's family support system by building a plan that works for your family on the go, finding those teachable moments to put the activities into practice in your everyday, busy lives! For more information visit [JustTake20.org](http://JustTake20.org).

Thank you for encouraging your child to read at home daily. Students who read or are read to for 20 minutes daily are exposed to 1.8 million words each year and research shows that these students score at the 90th percentile on standardized tests.

**Remember to READ, READ, READ!**

*Jenny Blair, Principal*

*Champayne Ricciardi, Assistant Principal*



Jenny Blair  
**Principal**  
Champayne Ricciardi,  
**Assistant Principal**

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

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

<b>December 11</b>	The Shamrockers
<b>Dec. 19- Jan. 8</b>	Winter Break
<b>January 15</b>	<b>No School</b>
<b>January 16</b>	ALL PRO DAD
<b>January 17</b>	Report Cards Posted
<b>February 7-16</b>	Boosterthon
<b>February 13</b>	ALL PRO DAD

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

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100093698935736&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

**Visit us on the web: [www.leonschools.net/killearnlakes](http://www.leonschools.net/killearnlakes)**



**SCHOOL COUNSELOR**  
I'LL BE THERE FOR YOU

## Guidance News

Happy Holidays KLES Friends and Family!

Our **3rd, 4th, and 5th graders** are wrapping up the last few weeks of Guidance and KLES friends are continuing to practice and grow their Six Pillars of Good Character. Guidance has been exploring Gratitude and its' importance and has been learning all about Self-esteem while identifying personal qualities they are proud of. Last on the list to check off next week is Responsibility and Accountability. Guidance will focus on what it means to be responsible, and accepting responsibility of the outcomes of our actions. It has been an adventurous nine weeks with our 3rd-5th grade friends and Guidance looks forward to seeing them in the spring.

**May all of your Holidays be Merry and Bright!**

*Ms. Blank and Ms. Dugans*

**Guidance Teachers**

## MARVELOUS MUSIC MOMENTS

Hello KLES Families!! This month we focused on dynamics and tempo. In Music, dynamics are how loud or soft the music is and tempo is the speed of the music. We learned the Italian words for these music terms.

Here are some happenings in music that you can ask your student about:

**Kindergarten-** We learned about slow and fast music and sang a song called Walk Old Joe. It's about a horse who goes slow and fast. We used our stick horses to mosey slowly around the room and we also galloped quickly.

**1st Grade-**We used bean bags to keep the beat to a song called This Leg, That Leg. Each round got faster and faster.

**2nd Grade-**We listened to the song Ecce Gratum from Carmina Burana and talked about how the tempo changes. Then we added rhythm sticks and triangles.

**3rd Grade-**We finally learned Hot Cross Buns on the recorder. The kids were so excited!

**4th Grade-** We listened to a piece of music called In the Hall of the Mountain King. We heard the story about a boy who played tricks on people and almost had to marry a troll! The music gets faster and louder as it progresses. We bounced balls to the beat slowly at first, and then got faster and faster.

**5th Grade-**We used the big tubano drums to play rhythms. We also had some student conductors help us decide our tempo and how loud or soft we should play.

**Thanks for sharing your musical kiddos with me.**

*Holly Pursino*

**Music Teacher**



## **ART CLASS**

We are celebrating Native American Awareness Month, by learning about the Haida, North American indigenous people of British Columbia, Canada, and the southern part of Prince of Wales Island, Alaska, U.S. The Haida are widely known for their art and architecture, both of which focused on the creative embellishment of wood. They decorated utilitarian objects with depictions of supernatural and other beings in a highly conventionalized style. They also produced elaborate totem poles with carved and painted crests. Kindergarten and First Grade are busy leaning about Primary and Secondary colors. Look for some beautiful apples soon! Second and Third Grade are celebrating Native Americans, making Buffalo Landscapes, while the Fourth and Fifth grade students are learning about Haida Native American art, thru the art element value. Look for some master pieces to come home soon!

*Mr. Tavares,*  
**Art Teacher**



## **ATTENTION PARENTS**

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

Link for iPhone



Link for Android



### **KLES Mission Statement**

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

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS



Hello from the Physical Education teachers. We have had a great year so far. We are looking forward to the next nine weeks and having a lot of fun!

The third nine weeks in P.E. will bring excitement and information to all KLES students about basketball, football, and Nutrition. We will be learning about the food groups, serving sizes, label reading and so much more.

Thanks for your support for the PE department. Enjoy your break and have a **Happy Holiday!!**

*Ms. Dennis and Mrs. Hickman*

**The PE Department**



Please do NOT park next door at the church each day for drop-off and pick-up. The side road is full with busy cars using the designated drop-off area in the rear of the school. It is NOT SAFE for children to cross this busy roadway!

KLES offers 5 drop-off options:

1. Ride the bus,
  2. Curbside car drop off in rear of school,
  3. Before school EDEP,
  4. Park in parking lot on campus and walk child to entry gate, or
  5. Walk to school using the neighborhood sidewalks and crossing guard in front of the school.
- Deer Lake UMC and LCS have an agreement to allow parent parking in the church lot for overflow parking (when there is a school event); not for daily use.  
Please help us keep the children safe by following school drop-off and pick-up procedures.

Thank you!

## Media News

Dear Parents and Families,

I have really enjoyed teaching your Kindergarten, **1st, and 2nd** graders this nine weeks!

We are learning about parts of a book, authors, illustrators, as well as the different types of books that we have available in our Media Center. It has also been fun incorporating our lessons with all of the wonderful holidays that we have this time of year.

It has been a pleasure and I can't wait to teach them again for the last nine weeks of the school year. I hope all of you have a wonderful Winter Break!

**Happy Holidays!**

*Debbie Hartsfield*





**LEAP After School Program- Leprechaun Extended Academic Program:**

The LEAP intensive academic program is back again! Our LEAP Program started in September and will serve targeted King, 4th and 5th graders focusing on reading and math. Targeted students will be invited to participate after school, and will receive small group instruction that is key in strengthening skills and ensuring steady progress. We are thrilled to be able to offer this FREE tutoring program again to our families. A huge THANK YOU to Mrs. Swartzman, Ms. Jackson, Mrs. Burton and Mrs. Peacock for teaching the LEAP after school classes this year!

**Meet the Building Maintenance Team**

A key group of employees in our school is the Building Maintenance Team. They maintain the grounds and clean areas children and adults use daily, providing a healthy learning environment. Mr. Kendrick Leland is our Building Maintenance Supervisor. His maintenance staff includes Mr. Fred Ward, Mr. Wilbur Ellis, and Mr. Ricky Tyler. We also have an evening crew with a local cleaning company.

KLES is currently advertising for one more dynamic person to join this team.

**Dress Attire:**

**Parents—little eyes are watching you! Please wear appropriate attire when visiting/volunteering at KLES. Thank you for setting a good example.**



- 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.



**Good News Club®**  
in the Media Center on Tuesdays  
after school until 4:30 pm

To register  
a student please visit:

[www.GNCFL.com](http://www.GNCFL.com)




**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.