



THE LEPRECHAUN

A Nationally Recognized School of Excellence



NOVEMBER 2025

Principals Corner

Happy November! We hope all our families are enjoying the fall weather. Mrs. Blair and I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank our KLES community Veterans for your dedicated service to the United States Armed Forces. We will forever be grateful for your bravery and sacrifices to protect our country's freedom.

Parents, thank you for actively participating in your child's education. It has been wonderful to see parents coming in for conferences these past couple of months. It is important that your child sees you proactive and involved in their education. Our teachers truly appreciate your support and look forward to working closely with you for the remainder of the year.

I would also like to thank parents and community members for coming out to support our annual PTO Fall Festival. The event was a tremendous success, and we appreciate the support and positive feedback we received. Please visit our school website to learn more about upcoming PTO events and news. □Don't forget to stay connected and "Like" Killearn Lakes Elementary PTO on Facebook and Instagram!

Jenny Blair & Champayne Ricciardi



VETERANS DAY



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct 24—Nov 7	PTO Coca-Cola Fundraiser
Nov 3	3rd—Field Trip
Nov 4	All Pro Dad—7:30 am
Nov 4	Picture Retake Day
Nov 5	5th—Tropicana Speech Contest
Nov 11	Veterans Day—NO SCHOOL
Nov 12	K—Field Trip
Nov 12	5th—Field Trip
Nov 13	5th—Field Trip
Nov 14—Dec 5	PTO Holiday Giving
Nov 18	5th—Spelling Bee
Nov 20	1st—Field Trip
Nov 20	2nd—Field Trip
Nov 20	3rd—Field Trip
Nov 21	Friendsgiving
Nov 24—Nov 28	Thanksgiving Holiday—NO SCHOOL

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



Physical Education

Hello from the PE department!

We are happy to feel hints of fall in the air out at Physical Education lately! Our Pickleball Unit was a success and hopefully it will be something that your families may be able to do together for fun as the weather gets a little cooler.

Currently we are focusing on improving our throwing and catching skills of all kinds. We plan to practice running hurdles, jumping ropes and participating in a number of different kinds of relays in the month of November.



As always, thanks so much for helping your children remember to wear athletic clothes and shoes on PE days.

Thank you!

Kelly Dennis: kelly.dennis@leonschools.net
Angie Hickman:
angie.hickman@leonschools.net

Media Center

Hello from the Media Center!

Happy 2nd nine weeks of school! I am now teaching Kindergarten, First, and Second grades. We will be learning about book genres, library book care, the circulation system, how to become independent users of the Killearn Lakes Media Center, and so much more! Students in grades K-2nd are allowed to checkout TWO books at a time.



I really enjoyed teaching the upper grades the 1st nine weeks. Students in 3rd-5th are still welcome to come in at any time and checkout books. I love hearing about what they are reading and the excitement of helping students find their next great read! Students in grades 3rd-5th are allowed to checkout THREE books at a time.

The library opens at 8:00am each morning. Students may find a comfy and quiet place to read in Book Nook, check-in and check-out library books, and/or collect Brag Tags for the Sunshine State Challenge.



I absolutely LOVE teaching your children and I love their excitement for reading! If you ever need to reach me, my email is stemlek@leonschools.net.

Sincerely,
 Katie Stemle

Musical Notes

Hello KLES Families!!

The first nine weeks went by in a flash and we are already off to a great start in the second nine weeks! Most grade levels have been learning about patterns in music.

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

Kindergarten-The students have been listening to music and figuring out what the patterns are. We used a parachute to show different movements in the different sections of music.

1st grade-We listened for different sections and patterns in the music. We used hula hoop movements to show the different sections of the William Tell Overture. We also listened to Hungarian Dance and became "chefs." We stirred our soup in one section of the music, chopped veggies in another, and tasted our soup in another.

2nd grade-The 80s show was so much fun! I was so proud of the kids for the amazing work they did! In class, we have been learning about melodies and watched the Do-Re-Mi scene from The Sound of Music.

3rd grade-We have officially learned three notes on the recorder: B, A, and G. That means that everyone's favorite song, Hot Cross Buns, is right around the corner. We are still practicing our lines and spaces on the treble clef and continuing to learn to read music on the staff.

4th grade-We learned about a special pattern of music called rondo. This is when a section of the music keeps coming back. We read the book, The Giving Tree while listening to Beethoven's Pathetique Sonata. In the book, the boy keeps coming back to the tree. Every time he comes back, the A section of Beethoven's song comes back.

5th grade-We listened to the William Tell Overture and used flashlights for each different section of music. We also learned about a special pattern in music called Theme and Variations. We listened to Variations on a Korean Folk Song and colored letters in our name according to what happened in each variation of the music.

Thanks for sharing your musical kiddos with me.

Holly Pursino
Music Teacher

Killearn Lakes Elementary



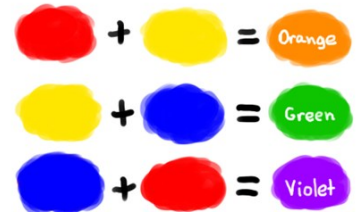
Art Updates

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 J



Guidance

Hello from Guidance!

3rd - 5th grade students in Guidance have been adding their personal messages about kindness to the KLES Kindness trees in the cafeteria. In the special area classroom, we are discussing ways we can be kind to ourselves and others as a part of October's Bullying Prevention Month. In November, students will learn about the power of using positive affirmations and the impact of having an attitude of gratitude. We will also focus on ways we can serve our school community and beyond.



All my best,
Mrs. Harris

School Reminders

School Supervision Hours

7:45 am—3:20 pm

Bells ~ 8:30 am & 2:50 pm

Dismissal Changes

ALL dismissal changes must be entered in PikMyKid by 2:00 pm.

Emergency changes will only be accepted through the office by phone or in person until 2:30 pm.

New Visitor Check-in System

Please bring your ID to be scanned into the system.

Lost & Found

PLEASE label all clothing (jackets; hats; etc.) that come to school so we can return it to your child.

Drop off/Pick-up

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 by the office
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.

Accidents Happen...

Our extra clothes in the office are already running low. Please consider donating any **clean** clothing - boys and girls articles of all sizes are welcome!



SAFETY FIRST



EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Please be sure to have (at minimum) BOTH parents or one parent AND an alternate person to contact that can pick up the student in case of emergency!

How to add others for emergency contacts:

Log into FOCUS app

Click "**More Info**" (light blue box)

Click "**Student Info**" (light blue box)

Open the toggle arrow on the left side of the screen

Select "Addresses & Contacts"

Verify who is already on the list

Click "**New Contact**" (blue box)

Complete ALL information –

-First, Last Names

-If a parent – select "Mother/Father" from drop down (include address if prompted)

-Select contact level: Custody/ Emergency/Pick up/Restraining Order

-Select the contacts priority level

SAVE (green button at bottom)

Lunch Bunch Reminders:

* **ALL visitors MUST check in at the Front Office**

* **Once checked in at front desk you may head to the cafeteria. Please do not meet your child before they enter the cafeteria, or escort your child back to the classroom.**

* **Due to food allergies, there is no sharing of, or bringing in food for other children.**

* **Your student may have ONE friend join them at the table on stage.**

* **Please avoid bringing 'sweet treats' or sodas for the kids.**

* **Cell phones should be used for emergencies only– no photographs of other children allowed.**

Nurse notes

for "Return to School"

Fever free **24 hours after fever breaks** without use of fever reducing medication (Tylenol/ Ibuprofen)

Vomiting/Diarrhea 24 hours symptom free from last incident



for PREVENTION

Lice ~ Do NOT share hair brushes, hats, jackets; If you notice your child scratching their heads—GET CHECKED, it is much easier to treat the earlier you catch it.

Proper hand washing
Cover your cough (and sneeze)
Dress for the weather

Attendance

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 ½ 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.

Every Minute Counts!

Just a little bit doesn't seem like much but...

When your child misses just...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour & 40 minutes per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years

Please be on time every day and avoid picking your child up early.

KLES PTO

November marks the start of the holiday season!

You can still order beverages for holiday parties through our Coca-Cola FUNdraiser until **Friday, November 7th:**

<https://www.cocacolaunitedd2c.com/KilllearnLakesElementaryTruckloadSale>.

Your drinks will be ready to pick up on **Friday, November 14th.**

Our annual Holiday Giving Program also kicks off on **Friday, November 14th and ends Friday, December 5th.** Through this initiative, we adopt KLES families needing extra support during this season of gifting. Links for present wish lists and monetary donations will be shared soon.

Another favorite upcoming holiday tradition is Friendsgiving. On **Friday, November 21st**, parents and other loved ones are invited to join students for a picnic-style lunch. While the students eat outside, we treat our dedicated teachers and staff to a well-deserved quiet luncheon in the cafeteria. More information about lunch schedules, volunteer opportunities during the event, and food donation requests will also be sent soon.

On behalf of the KLES PTO, thank you for your time and investment in our school.

We are truly thankful to be part of the KLES community!

Emily Catena

PTO Communications Director

killlearnlakespto@gmail.com

www.killlearnlakespto.org

[@klespto](https://www.facebook.com/KilllearnLakesElementarySchoolPTO)

KilllearnLakesElementarySchoolPTO

Friendsgiving

Friday, November 21, 2025

Pre-K—11:15

Kindergarten—12:30

First—12:00

Second—11:00



Third—10:30

Fourth—11:30

Fifth—1:00

COUNSELOR'S

Wow, it's November! Time is passing quickly and we've really seen lots of learning and growth with the students since school has begun. Our goal is to continue fostering those positive behaviors and helping the students become more engaged in practicing them. Students have been working on their "kindness hearts" with messages to place on the two kindness trees in the cafeteria and we are sharing a "random act of kindness" each day on the KLES News so they can put their kindness into action.

November is a month for expressing gratitude and thankfulness, which pairs nicely with practicing kindness and compassion for others.

Below are some ways we can all practice gratitude this month:

- **Daily Reflection:** Start and end your day with moments of gratitude. In the morning, think about what you are looking forward to, and in the evening, reflect on a positive moment or something you accomplished.
- **Sharing Gratitude:** Let others know you are grateful for their care, service, or friendship. Sharing your gratitude can lift their spirits and reduce burdens.
- **Giving Back:** Participate in community service, volunteer, or donate to a charity to give back to your community.
- **Journaling:** Write about someone or something you are thankful for every day. This practice can deepen your appreciation for those around you.
- **Nature Appreciation:** Take a walk through nature with gratitude in mind. Notice the beauty around you and let each step be a reminder to appreciate your surroundings.
- **Pay It Forward:** When you can or have the opportunity, do something nice for someone without expecting anything in return! Let them know you care! Here are some easy, cheap, or free ways to do it!
 - ⇒ Compliment the first three people you talk to today
 - ⇒ Send a positive text message or a thank you note to five different people
 - ⇒ Donate old towels or blankets to an animal shelter
 - ⇒ Buy coffee or food for the person behind you in line
 - ⇒ Surprise a neighbor with freshly baked cookies
 - ⇒ Help someone carry their groceries



By incorporating these practices into your daily routine, you can cultivate a mindset of gratitude and make November a month of joy, balance, and positivity. Take the time to be grateful, thankful and kind and let's work together to help our children see the beauty in the little things and spread kindness wherever they go.

Your Guidance Team – Mrs. Barrineau, Mrs. DeValle, Mrs. Harris, and Ms. Parsons

Pre-K Notes

PreK has been very busy this month on our unit of study "TREES." The fall weather has been perfect for this topic! We enjoyed watching our trees and leaves on the playground as the leaves change into the beautiful colors of fall.

We had so much fun during the Character Parade on October 31st. Ms. Sharmin's class dressed up as The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Ms. Courtney's class dressed up as The Cat in the Hat.



KLES Mission Statement

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

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.

Jenny Blair,
Principal

Champayne Ricciardi,
Assistant Principal
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East,
Tallahassee, FL
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Fax 850-922-2566

Looking to get ahold of us?

- 1 - Front Office
- 2 - Bookkeeper
- 3 - Registrar
- 4 - Clinic
- 5 - Guidance
- 6 - Cafeteria
- 7 - EDEP