



THE LEPRECHAUN

A Nationally Recognized School of Excellence



DECEMBER 1, 2024

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

What a wonderful fall season we're having! Even though the weather keeps changing on us and soon the leaves will be falling with brilliant colors of orange, red and yellow to decorate our school grounds, the academic process here at KLES is staying constant. The teachers and students have well-established routines and procedures for class lessons, and many have extended their learning through off campus field trips to fun places like Aunt Louise's Farm and the Jacksonville Zoo.

November is an important time for us all to reflect on the many blessings bestowed upon us. Ms. Blair and I are certainly thankful for the many blessings in our lives, including working with the amazing students, parents/caregivers, teachers, and support staff at Killearn Lakes Elementary. We have a supportive community with wonderful and giving parents, to which we all say thank you for all that you do!

Finally, we have incredible students, who challenge themselves every day to learn and be engaged. They are why we are here!

Jenny Blair and Champayne Ricciardi

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 6	Kindergarten Community Helper Day
December 6	Pre K Field Trip
December 10	All Pro Dad— 7:30 am
December 10	Chorus Concert
December 13	Fifth Grade Field Trip
December 17	Fifth Grade Field Trip
December 23— January 7	Winter Break— NO SCHOOL
January 8	Students Return



Pravkrugobk

**Winter Break—NO SCHOOL
December 23—January 7**



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

Media Center

Hello from the Media Center!

Please encourage your child to read and return their library books each week. This ensures that they get to check-out new books each time they visit the library.

I am excited to announce that we are going to begin a monitored, self-check out process in the library! Starting in December, students will get to scan their library cards and books as they become more independent in the library. I know the kiddos will do awesome!

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



Art Updates

November is upon us and winter is just around the corner. Like the photographer Wilson "Willie" Bentley, we are all ready to look for snowflakes! He was known as "Snowflake Bentley" famous for taking breathtaking photographs of individual snowflakes and showing the world that all snowflakes are unique.

Kindergarten and First Grade are busy learning about how leaves turn color.

Second and Third Grade are drawing family portraits, while the Fourth and Fifth grade students are learning about Illuminated Manuscripts.

Look for some master pieces to come home soon!



- Mr. Tavares J



Musical Notes

Hello KLES Families!!

In November, we learned about how to use dynamics and tempo in music, and how it makes the music more interesting.

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

Kindergarten-We used instruments to play loudly and softly. When we learned about fast and slow music, we used horses to walk, gallop, and mosey around the room.

1st grade- We listened to a song called The Surprise Symphony. It starts off very soft and then there is a really loud, "surprise" note at the end. We pretended to be tiptoeing into the kitchen to sneak a cookie during the quiet parts, and then we fell to the floor when we got caught on the loud part.

2nd grade-Our At the Bandstand show was such a wonderful night. The kids had so much fun, and I was so proud of them. Thank you to all the staff who helped make this show possible.

3rd grade-We have been working on learning the notes of the treble clef staff and played a "Beat the Fidget Spinner" game to see how much we have learned so far. We also learned a hand clapping game called "Double, Double, This, This." We used different tempos to do the claps with our hands.

Presto means very fast and it was the hardest one!
4th Grade-We listened to In the Hall of the Mountain King. It gets louder and louder and faster and faster as the song goes on. We listened to the story of the troll that meets the Mountain King and we bounced balls to the beat.

5th grade-We had a drum circle with our big tubano drums. We practiced playing soft and loud, and used different tempos. We even had some brave student conductors that directed us in our playing.

Thanks for sharing your musical kiddos with me.



Holly Pursina
Music Teacher
Killbuck Lakes Elementary



Physical Education

We are still waiting for the cooler weather to stick around a little longer than just the early morning, but we'll take what we can get!

Our soccer unit will continue into December. Then we will close out the semester with holiday games.

Please remember to label jackets and sweatshirts so they can be returned if left at PE. As always, thanks for helping your children remember to wear athletic clothes and shoes on PE days.

Make sure to get out and get active during Thanksgiving break!



Thank you!
The PE Department
Mrs. Hickman & Ms. Dennis

Clothes for the Office

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!



Guidance

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!



Hello to my Leprechaun parents!! I am happy to share that this 2nd 9 weeks has been very productive with all of my Guidance students. We have had the opportunity to discuss the importance of Friendship, Responsibility vs Accountability, and Empathy. Hopefully, they have all shared with you some of the activity worksheets we've completed together, as well as the friendship bracelets they created. We are working together to make KLES our "Happy Place to Learn" by being mindful, intentional and understanding differences!!! Parents, please continue to encourage them to practice using their 6 Pillars at home. I look forward to sharing stories of how we practice each one during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Always remember to:

"BE KIND, RESPECTFUL, RESPONSIBLE, TRUSTWORTHY, FAIR, AND A GOOD CITIZEN"!!!

Kindly,
Mrs. Dugans, GUIDANCE INSTRUCTOR
Have a Great Day On Purpose!!!

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)



COUNSELOR'S

O The holidays are a time for us to reflect and practice gratitude. In life, we will always have good and bad days, but there are always things to be grateful for. Gratitude is acknowledging the goodness in one's life and recognizing that this goodness comes from outside ourselves.

R According to research, gratitude is good for our bodies, our minds and our relationships. Those who practice gratitude on a regular basis can cope better with everyday stress, are more optimistic about the future, have better relationships, report fewer symptoms of illness, recover quicker from illnesses, and can live up to nine years longer.

N *Put a smile on your face because you are awesome, strong and resilient!*

E Ways to practice gratitude each day:

- R** -Start by giving yourself grace by showing yourself kindness
- Give yourself credit for all that you have accomplished
- Slow down and notice things around you. What makes you happy?
- Find time each day to participate in activities you enjoy
- Do something nice for someone else without any expectation of a thank you in return
- Spend time with optimistic people
- Try to recognize small actions people do every day that may be overlooked
- Pick one day a week when you try not to complain

"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy and ordinary opportunities into blessings"

- WILLIAM ARTHUR WARD

We hope your holidays are wonderful and relaxing! We are grateful for our KLES staff, students and families!

Mrs. Barrineau, Mrs. Harris & Mrs. DeValle



Lunch Bunch Reminders:

Please remind your children to **not** share or accept food from others, *someone could have an allergy!*

Your student may have ONE friend from THEIR class join at a table on the stage.

Attention:

New grass has been planted around campus—PLEASE enjoy by utilizing the sidewalks while it settles in!



**2023—2024
(Last Year)**

**SCHOOL
YEARBOOK**

\$15.00 each

Please make checks payable to:
KLES PTO.

While supplies last.

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.

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