



THE LEPRECHAUN

A Nationally Recognized School of Excellence

OCTOBER 31, 2023, VOLUME 16, No. 3



Principal's Corner



Hello leprechaun families! As we wrap up October and the first quarter, I hope you'll take a minute with your children to reflect on just how much teaching and learning has already taken place. Our teachers have been inviting families to attend conferences and share their child's progress. If that feels overwhelming, you're not alone. Lots of families feel unsure about how to have a productive and meaningful conversation regarding such an important topic. Here are a few things you can do beforehand to make the most of your time with the teacher: Keep track of what seems to be difficult for your child and put together a list of specific questions you'd like to ask. We value this opportunity to meet face to face with you to talk about your child, but please know that this does not have to be the only time we talk. You are always welcome to text, email or call to speak with your child's teacher.



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.

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



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DATES TO REMEMBER

November 2	2nd Grade Musical
November 4	Fall Festival
November 7	All Pro Dad Health Screening
November 10	Veterans Day
November 14	PTO Meeting 6PM
November 17	Friendsgiving Picnic
November 20-24	Thanksgiving Holiday Break

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

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

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



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

Guidance News

Best wishes KLES Friends and Family!

Guidance is so excited to share that all of the K3-5 friends have remembered and demonstrated a clear understanding of all the Six Pillars of Character that we began exploring and learning about last year!

We are on our way to delving into topics related to building strength in each of the pillars.

We are learning about Attitude, Perspective, and Mindset this month. We will explore how perspectives can be different, how positivity can impact one's outlook, and how one can grow a strong positive outlook in the face of difficult circumstances. Another important topic up for discussion this month is Friendship. We will discuss how the pillars, like respect, kindness, and trustworthiness help one be a good friend, how to make new friends, and we will learn about different kinds of friends along with the importance of respecting differences in one another. It is proving to be an exciting month!

Ms. Blank and Ms. Dugans

Guidance Teachers

MARVELOUS MUSIC MOMENTS

Hello KLES Families!! This month we focused on patterns. In Music, we call these patterns, "form." In class, we would listen to a piece of music and analyze whether or not we had heard the section of music before, or if it sounded like something new. It always amazes me how well the students can hear the changes in music.

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

Kindergarten- We learned about patterns in music. We listened to The William Tell Overture and figured out the pattern. Then we added movement with a parachute.

1st Grade- We also learned about patterns in music. We played a game pretending we were in the movie The Night at the Museum. Some students were artifacts in the museum that came alive at night. The rest of the students were the security guards trying to catch them moving around. We listened to a song called The Fossils while we moved around. The kids really got into their characters.

2nd Grade- We have been learning about patterns while practicing for our show that is later this week. We can't wait to show off all of our BUGS!

3rd Grade- We are continuing to play our recorders. The students should know the notes B, A and G. We will learn everyone's favorite, Hot Cross Buns starting next week. :)

4th Grade- We learned about a special pattern called Rondo. In rondo form, one of the sections keeps coming back. We read The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein while we listened to Beethoven's Pathetique Sonata. In Beethoven's piece, the A section kept coming back. In the book, the boy keeps coming back. Even though the piece of music and the book were written almost 200 years apart, it's as if they were written for each other.

5th Grade- We learned about a special form called Theme and Variations. These types on songs have a main theme and then there are musical variations on the theme. We read a book called The Name Jar about a new student from Korea. Then we listened to Variations on a Korean Folk Song. While we listened, we filled in the letters of our own names according to what we heard in the music.

Thanks for sharing your musical kiddos with me.

Holly Pursino
Music Teacher



It's beginning to look a lot more like fall in Tallahassee with echoes of Wassily Kandinsky expressionism painting "Autumn in Bavaria". This painting is one of Kandinsky's most recognizable paintings as it captures some of the most iconic features of Bavaria such as its natural beauty and its progressive spirit. It's harvest time and there is plenty to be thankful for. Kindergarten are creating scarecrows. First Grade is learning about bats habitats. Second and Third Grade are busy learning about currency making money, while the Fourth and Fifth grade students are finalizing their kaleidoscopes. 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



We are so happy to feel hints of fall in the air out at Physical Education lately! Please make sure you label jackets and sweatshirts so they can be returned if left at PE. Our jump ropes, hurdles and relays unit has come to a close. We hope your students have improved in both jumping individual ropes, as well as long jump ropes. Wrapping up October and moving into November our students will be brushing up on their soccer and volleyball skills. As always, thanks so much for helping your children remember to wear athletic clothes and shoes on PE days.

Mrs. Hickman

Ms. Dennis

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'm sending my sincere gratitude for making our Book Fair an outstanding success!

Thanks to your contributions, we raised over \$8,000 for our school, which we'll use to purchase new books for our Media Center. My reward for hosting a Book Fair is watching your kids discover new books. All that joy wouldn't be possible without volunteers from our school community – you deserve my special thanks.

We are already in the process of scheduling our fairs for next year and again, look forward to seeing you there. Until then, happy reading!

Gratefully,

Debbie Hartsfield

Book Fair Chairperson





Just a Reminder

- If you attend before school, you must park in the parking lot after 7:30am and ring the bell in the front office. At 7:45am, ALL students can walk through the front gate to join that group in the cafeteria.
- After school (EDEP) is still using Pikmykid platform for dismissal.
- Parents-Please check out our lost and found, it's overflowing.
- Cycle 5 payment is due Friday, Nov. 17, 2023

Thank you,

Ms. Pester, EDEP Director

Mrs. Byers, Assistant Director



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.



Happy Fall y'all

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 Kng, 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.