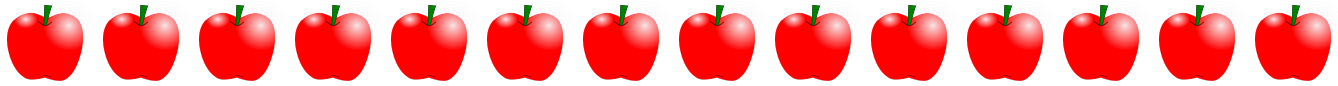


KERR NEWS

KERR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September 2023



DATES TO REMEMBER

- September** - Attendance Awareness Month
- September 4** - Labor Day - Schools Closed
- September 8** - Wear your favorite pajamas
- September 11-29** - Fall Fundraiser
- September 11** - Open House 5-6
- September 12** - Progress Reports
- September 14** - Picture Day
- September 15** - Wear your favorite western attire
- September 22** - Dress as your future career choice
- September 23** - Beginning of Fall
- September 29** - Wear your House shirt

R.V. KERR MISSION

Kerr's mission is to provide a high quality education and create lifelong learners who embrace learning and achieve their personal best while building their emotional, social and physical well-being.

R.V. KERR VISION

Our Vision is a community where all students feel loved, respected and encouraged to develop their fullest potential. DREAM-BELIEVE-ACHIEVE! It's the Kerr Kat way.

BPSB VISION

WIN the Day, Every Student, Every Way

BPSB MISSION

We EMPOWER all through...Engagement · Motivation · Purpose · Opportunities · Welcoming · Excellence · Relationships

MORNING DROP OFF SAFETY AND PICK UP

Please refer to your handbook about proper procedures for dropping off and picking up students in the morning and afternoon. The teacher parking lot that faces Airline Drive is NOT a place to drop off or pick up students. Once school is dismissed, the traffic begins to flow pretty smoothly. Help us keep it moving smoothly by following these procedures.

Remember that no child should be dropped off in the morning before 7:50. We do not have adults on duty until 7:50 and it is not safe for your children to be in front of the building. If your child walks to

school, please help them time their walk so that they arrive at 7:50. We know how tempting it is to drop your child off and continue on your way to work, but child safety is our utmost concern. THANK YOU to parents who are patiently waiting for 7:50 to drop off your children!

We ask that when picking up your student that the line forms starting at Northgate. We ask that you don't turn left from June Lane into the school. We are trying to allow the residents of June Lane the opportunity to get in/ out of their driveway. If you will turn right on Airline Drive when exiting off June Lane, the traffic will flow more easily and quickly at the end of the school day.

Check out what's happening on Kerr's Facebook and Instagram Pages!



FROM MRS. ABNEY

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome Back! It's hard to believe the first month of school is under our belt. We've already been hard at work teaching and learning. We are so excited for this school year! We are implementing several exciting changes that will have a positive impact on students, parents and staff.

This year we are beginning our first year of The Leader In Me. We are teaching students the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Students. *Leader in Me* is an evidence-based, comprehensive model that builds leadership and life skills in students, creates a high-trust school culture, and lays the foundation for sustained academic achievement. Our mission is to unleash greatness in our students.

We are also starting the house system. I am sure you have already heard your child tell you what house they are in at Kerr. Each child received a house shirt to wear on house days. The younger grades are keeping the shirts at

school, so no one forgets it on house days.
House information will be coming home soon.

We are excited to welcome several staff changes to our school.

- Lakesha Logan - Instructional Coach
- Emily Franklin - 1st Grade
- Raegan Ware - 2nd Grade
- Leigh Ann Hornbuckle - 4th Grade ELA
- Nicholas Parish - 5th Science/Social Studies
- Franklin Toddy - 5th Grade Math
- Cortnie Demoss - Library Aide

September is Attendance Awareness Month. We are bringing awareness to the importance of school attendance. Too many absences - excused or unexcused - can keep students from succeeding in school and in life. Each Friday for the month of September we will celebrate student attendance.

Families, we look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child's growth and learning. This is going to be a great year!

Mrs. Abney



PRE-K NEWS

Wow what a great start we are off to! This month our theme is Beginning of the Year. We will be focusing on adjusting to school, learning rules and routines, and learning how to play in centers. During our group discussions, we will be discussing feelings and families as well. Please send a picture of your family to be displayed in class this month if you haven't. They will be returned.

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Our *Kinder Kats* are off to a great start! We know that kindergarten is an adjustment not only for your child but the parents as well. Please know that if you have any questions or concerns we are here for you, just call or email us. Please make sure the following are sent in ASAP if not already done so:

*\$5.00 binder/folder fee

* A CHANGE OF CLOTHES(does not have to be uniform),LABELED IN A BAG.

We have also started ABC Bootcamp last week! The kids are having fun while learning at the same time. Please help us start off strong and review daily all the letters and their sounds! This will only help your child and make the reading process easier for them. We are also learning how to write our first name. Extra practice with this is always great ☺ We love teamwork! ☺

Thank you in advance for your support and let's make this a great year for all!

Team Kindergarten☺

FIRST GRADE NEWS

We are having a great time in 1st grade! The first graders have settled into their new routine and are excited to learn! So far this year we have been learning about Fables. The students have been learning how to identify characteristics of Fables such as the moral of the story. September is going to be an exciting month! We will be learning about the Human body!

We have scheduled our Parent Teacher Conferences for the month of September. If you have not scheduled one with us please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible. It is incredibly important that we partner with you in order to create a positive environment so that your child will succeed emotionally and intellectually.

SECOND GRADE NEWS

Goodbye summer...HELLO Kerr! Welcome to SECOND GRADE! We are so excited to start the new year and even more excited to welcome our students back. We have several fun and exciting things planned for this year to enhance the learning of our students. It is going to be a GREAT year!

We would encourage you to focus each week on building reading fluency and comprehension skills by reading with your child every night. Daily sight words, vocabulary, and spelling practice are also extremely important! We look forward to working together with you and your child to make this year the best yet!!!

As always, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your

child's teacher through email or phone. We are always here to help!
Hang on tight....it is going to be a GREAT year!
"Be *SOMEBODY* who makes *EVERYBODY* feel like a *SOMEBODY!*" Kid President 😊

THIRD GRADE NEWS

Hello parents! The school year has started off strong, and we are thrilled to see progress in our third grade leaders! This month will be just as busy as the rest. We will use data from the STAR/AR reading assessment, Lexia, and I-Ready math to set measurable goals for every student. You can expect for us to start contacting you to set up beginning of year parent-teacher conferences as needed. We will contact every parent within the first nine weeks. We will continue to apply multiplication and division strategies in math and we will begin a unit on measurement that includes weight, length, volume and time. In reading, we are reading Cajun Folktales and working on the main idea and details, summarizing, and analyzing character traits. We are always working on reading fluency and writing as well so please have your child practice their library book with you and practice writing about the book at home! In Social Studies, we are starting with Unit 0, which consists of transitional content. Students are learning about the origins and development of the English colonies in North America, some of the ideas the English brought with them about rights and government, and how the French and Indian War affected the colonies. In Science Unit 1, students begin to understand what constitutes evidence of a force acting on an object; discover that a force acts between two objects; and gain initial experience with setting a purpose for investigating and with constructing explanations. We are looking forward to a great month!

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

In 4th grade all month long in September we have been really working hard with our 4th grade mathematics skills. We have been really focusing on place value - where a number sits, as well as reading, writing and expressing numerical values. As this month continues, we will be completing Mission 1 and moving quickly into Mission 2 Measure and Solve. We will be working on real world word problems and deciding how we should try and solve them. Please,

work with your students on determining what a problem is asking. Students will have questions and frustrations, just make sure that you don't allow them to give up. Encourage your student to ask those questions when they come in each day. It will be a wonderful month of learning.

This month in 4th Grade English, we will be continuing our dive into the Medieval Ages with the text *The Whipping Boy!* We will be working on growing our vocabulary by learning new words, using context clues to figure out what they mean, and strive to use them correctly in our writing. We will also be working on improving our reading and writing skills through activities in our lessons as we take a look into the world that our characters, Jemmy the whipping boy and Prince Brat, live in. In the text, we will look for how the characters are changing throughout the story and to find the Theme (the lesson the author wants us to learn), as we move towards taking the Cold Read test and completing the Culminating Writing Tasks at the end of this unit!

In September in social studies, we will be learning all about the ancient world. We will begin with ancient human civilizations, how & why they migrated across the land, and how they adapted to their environment in order to survive. Later in the month we will explore the social structure & governments of ancient humans, as well as learning about their culture & belief systems.

In science we will continue in the "Energy Conversions" unit. We will pretend to be engineers who have been asked to help the town of Ergstown to identify and solve the problem they are experiencing with constant blackouts. We will learn more about energy by reading informational books, using online computer simulations, and completing hands-on experiments and activities. Our ultimate goal will be to answer the unit question, "How does the electrical system work?"

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

Welcome back, everyone, and welcome to fifth grade! We are so glad to be back at R.V. Kerr for another great year. In English Language Arts, we are learning about the impact of the Europeans on the Native Americans in the New World. This big idea is being taught through the Guidebook Unit 1 "The Birchbark House." Students are strengthening

their skills in character analyzation, determining the meaning of unknown words, and understanding the main idea of a text. We have also been practicing identifying sentences and fragments. Students will have their first quiz Friday, September 2nd. Encourage your child to do their homework, study, and give their very best daily. Also, include reading as part of your child's daily routine at home. Reading for 30 minutes a day will do wonders for your child.

In math, we are halfway through Mission 1, Place Value and Decimal Fractions. Students' understanding of the patterns in the base ten system are extended to include decimals to the thousandths place. Students have a goal of mastering 4 Zearn lessons on a weekly basis. This means that students may have to complete Zearn digital lessons at home to keep up with their classwork. Helpful videos for every Zearn lesson can be found in Google Classroom. Our fifth graders are encouraged to master their basic multiplication and division facts through using Reflex Math. This should be up and running soon. This program is used at school and can be used at home as well. It is imperative that students know their basic facts. **Everything** we do in 5th grade math requires basic fact fluency. Next, we will begin Mission 2 Multi-Digit Whole Number and Decimal Fraction Operations. This mission focuses on multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimals.

Fifth grade astronomers are working to answer the question *Why do we see different stars at different times?* So far we have figured out that the sun seems much bigger and brighter than other stars because it is so close to us which prevents us from seeing stars during the daytime. We've also learned that the pattern of nighttime and daytime repeats everyday because of the earth's rotation. Spend some time looking at the stars at night with your child and let them share with you what they are learning!

Our students have been really engaged and excited about our first unit. The focus of this unit is on pre-exploration (Columbus and other European explorers) civilizations such as the Aztecs, Incas, and Native American groups in the United States. So far they have decided the Aztecs were pretty cool!

4H

4-H is a club for 4th and 5th graders. We meet once a month during the school day. Students will have the opportunity to learn about 4-H in their state and world, compete in monthly projects for ribbons, and be a part of community service for their city. The cost is \$7.00 for the 4-H workbook. Our enrollment meeting will be September 7th during school and students will bring home information about being a Kerr Kat 4-H member.

PBIS Students of the Month September

Pre-Kindergarten- Tayden Lynn, Rylon Hill

Kindergarten- Khylan Whaley, Summer West, Ja'Zayden Jackson

First Grade- Alexa Garcia, Carter Clark, Ada Hardiman

Second Grade- Daniel Anaya, Amare Ward, Cing Dim, Samir Hopkins

Third Grade- Nijash Cruz, Jace Hayes, Brylee Johnson

Fourth Grade- Jay'ceon Freeman, Terence Tisby, Tiger Richardson

Fifth Grade- Ka'Mya Allen, Bailey Hall, Tra'Miyah Harris

PBIS Faculty Member of the Month Martha Gilliam EL teacher