



5TH GRADE SUPERHERO NEWS KERR ELEMENTARY



Ashley's Annotations

We will synthesize information to notice how sub-topics fit together in order to the big picture.

Below is a great website for your child to study this year's **Reading STAAR vocabulary** in preparation for their Reading STAAR test at the end of the year: <http://quizlet.com/10845820/5th-grade-staar-vocabulary-review-flash-cards/original>

Laurence's Link

We will continue our unit on matter until the break. We will classify matter based on physical properties, including mass, magnetism, physical state, relative density, solubility, and the ability to conduct or insulate thermal or electrical energy
Dinner Talk: Ask your student how they can easily get the salt out of a mixture of saltwater, sand, and seashells.

King's Korner

In math next week we will be plotting points in quadrant one of the coordinate plane. We will discuss the point of origin and how to identify the x and y axis.

Vaughan's Voice

Next week we will review proofreading and editing skills. This includes punctuation, and removing extra details. **Please do not take Kerr Library books out of town over Winter Break.**



**Have you heard
the news!**

Blue and White Graded Work Folders are coming home on Thursday. Please remove the contents, sign the folder on the inside cover, and return the folder to school on Friday.

Allen Community Outreach – We will be collecting bathroom tissue and paper towels in January. In February, we will be collecting Hygiene– Dental or Deodorant

5th Grade Curriculum Video is now available on Kerr's 5th Grade Webpage.

Holiday Celebrations for the Kiddos

5th Grade Winter Party - Tuesday, Dec. 19th from 12:50- 1:030 pm in each 5th grade classroom. Room parents will prepare everything needed for the party and host it.

Movie and Sing Along - Thursday, Dec. 20th from 10:15-11:45 the kiddos will enjoy a movie in the gym – They can bring pillows/blankets and/or wear PJs. Later in the day (at 1:45 pm), they will then be able to participate in a holiday SING-A-LONG in the gym to kick-off the holiday season.

5th Grade Team Contact Information

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REMINDERS!!!



Our Fifth Grade Journey Begins



CARPOOL PROCEDURES



Safety is a priority for our Kerr Comets and their families. We would like to review the morning drop off procedures to ensure that we keep everyone safe in our school community. Please review the safety tips below:

The speed limit is 20 mph on surrounding roads near Kerr Elementary.

1. While pulling in and out of the carpool lanes and parking lots, please drive slowly as we have staff, students, and families walking across cross walks.
2. Avoid driving through cones in the carpool lanes.
3. Students should be escorted in the parking lots at all times.
4. Review the attached map to know which morning drop off location you should utilize. It is based on where you live and not your child's grade level.
5. When exiting the front carpool lane in the morning arrival time, it is a right turn only onto Glendover Drive.
6. When exiting the west side carpool lane in the morning arrival time, it is a left turn only onto Glendover Drive

Thank you for partnering with us to help keep our Kerr Comets and Kerr Community safe!

A Note From Nurse Jill

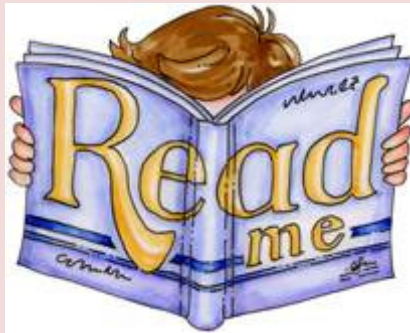
What's that smell? There are so many changes our children go through as they get older. One unpleasant one is how when they sweat...it doesn't smell so good. That is all a normal part of puberty. But, a great thing to do now is get them in the habit of putting on deodorant each and every morning.

Library News



FREE!!!! This website is free to sign-up and allows you to read free books online! They are adding additional titles all the time, so take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!

<http://www.wegivebooks.org/books>



On December 12th, Kerr Elementary will be welcoming poet Douglas Florian to our school. You can purchase his books from a local bookstore or online (find a list of his books [here](#)). Bring books to school with your name, grade, and teacher on a sticky note by December 11th and he will sign it while he is here.

Leading up to his visit, we will be exploring Poetry in our Library MakerSpace. If you have any scrapbooking supplies you would like to donate (paper, stickers, cutouts, etc.), please deliver them to Mrs. Herron. We can't wait to explore poetry with your students!

Thanks,

Nicole Herron
Library Media Specialist
Kerr Elementary

TIME TO BE THINKING ABOUT NEXT YEAR...

Community Input Sought For Proposed 2018-2019 Calendar

Allen ISD is currently seeking community input on the proposed 2018-2019 Academic Calendar. Community members are able to provide feedback by participating in the online survey below before December 21, 2017.

The proposed calendar shows a start date of Wednesday, August 15, 2018 and an end date of May 24, 2019. Other features of the proposed calendar include maintaining a one week break during Thanksgiving, a two week break during the winter, and the inclusion of early release days prior to identified student holidays.

The proposed 2018-2019 Academic Calendar can be accessed online at.

www.allenisd.org/calendarsurvey18-19

UIL

The time is quickly approaching to begin signing up for this year's UIL contests! Participating in UIL gives our Kerr Comets an opportunity to shine and challenge themselves outside of the classroom. Please discuss the following events with your child to see if UIL is something they would like to experience. Sign-ups will be in your child's classroom beginning this week and will run through Wednesday, October 11th.

Here are some important dates to keep in mind:

- ✓ **Thursday, December 7th – UIL Ready Writing and Creative Writing Contests on Campus**
- ✓ **Saturday, January 20th – All other UIL contests will be held at Allen High School**

Ready Writing (3, 4, 5, 6) Students are given a choice between prompts, and must be able to analyze the prompts for the purpose of writing the format, the audience, and the point of view. Students will then write a composition.

Number Sense (4, 5, 6) Students will be given a 10 minute fill in the blank test which they must complete without computations on paper or calculator. Sample concepts includes but are not limited to: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, proportions, mathematical notations.

Spelling (3,4,5,6) This is a spelling contest exposing students to a wide variety of vocabulary words. Students will write down words given by the pronouncer on their paper at a rate of approximately 5 words per minute. This is not a contest of memorization. Preparation should include such things as the rules of the English language, meanings, definitions, and root words.

Oral Reading (4,5,6) Students shall have a maximum of six minutes to read a selection of poetry aloud and are judged on presentation.

Music Memory (3,4,5,6) This is an in-depth study of fine pieces of music literature taken from a wide spectrum of music genres to expose students to great composers, their lives and their music. They must listen to a piece of music and write down information that they know about it. In preparation for the contest students should be given the opportunity to describe and analyze the music, relate the music to history, to society, to culture, and to evaluate musical performance.

*****IMPORTANT NOTICE*****

It is critical that your 5th Grader **NOT** be exposed to **2016-2017's** **Released STAAR** assessments as Allen ISD will be using the released tests as the Simulation Assessments this year for Reading, Math, and Science.

Exposure to the tests will lead to a missed opportunity for your child's teacher to use the results as a diagnostic tool to help guide instruction for your child before the official STAAR state administration.

Many thanks for your support.

DID YOU KNOW...

Social Media apps have minimum age requirements? The reason why is it is a Federal Law. **A child under the age of 13 years (U13) is protected by the Children's Online Privacy Protect Act (COPPA).** Essentially, COPPA protects a child's personal information from being collected and shared. Creating an account for a child under 13, using a false date of birth, circumvents the Federal law intended to protect your child. The consequences... The social networks, and all the information your child provides it, are completely out of your control. If you know of a child under the age of 13 with an active profile, you may report the account to the social network and the account will be closed.

<http://www.kevinmd.com/blog/2013/02/4-reasons-parents-enforce-age-restriction-social-media.html>

App	Minimum age requirement
Facebook	13+
Twitter	13+
Instagram	13+
Snapchat	13+
Tumblr	13+
Pinterrest	13+
Vine	17+ (adult content)
500px	17+ (adult content)

If you would like to read more about Social Networking sites and how you and your child can stay safe online, please visit

<http://www.netmums.com/teenagers/safe-surfing-on-the-internet/your-children-and-the-internet-social-networking-s>

CARPOOL PROCEDURES



Parents/guardians who pick their child up in the carpool lanes **MUST** have a **RED** carpool sign located in their front windshield/mirror. These were given to all families at the beginning of the school year. If you need a replacement, please let your child's teacher know as soon as possible. **Cars without the carpool sign will have to park, enter through the front doors of the building, and show their driver's license in order to pick up their child. This is for the safety of ALL Kerr students.** Thank you & we appreciate your support!



BUZZ -IN PROCEDURE FOR VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS AT KERR

Entrance procedures at Kerr. Please be prepared for the following script to take place before you enter the building:

“Welcome to Kerr Elementary. How may I help you?”

Visitors give the following information: Name, reason for visit, child's name.

Example: “My name is John Smith. I am here to volunteer in my child's classroom. My child is Joe Smith.”

“Would you please hold your I.D. up to the screen?”

After you show your I.D. you will proceed inside to the receptionist desk to receive your name tag. If you do not have a picture I.D., you will not be permitted to enter the building.



LUNCH NEWS

Lunch/Forgotten Item Drop Off - A cart is placed right in the front entrance of the school where lunches and other forgotten items should be placed. Please complete the red slip and tape to the item. Deliveries to the classroom crates will take place around 11:00 am. Lunches will also be delivered to the cafeteria at this time. If you bring your child a lunch, please notify him or her before leaving for school to look for it on the desk in the cafeteria. If it is not in the class crate or cafeteria at their scheduled lunch time, the child will be instructed to purchase a lunch. To protect the integrity of the learning environment, calls will not be made to notify students of their forgotten item. As always, it is best practice to send your child off in the morning prepared with all needed items including their lunch. Thank you for assistance!

Friendly Reminders:

Please send a napkin and utensils in lunches from home. This will alleviate students sitting and waiting for the monitors to bring them these items.

Also, please arrive a few minutes earlier than your child's scheduled lunch time if you are bringing their lunch as a special treat. If the parent is not on the stage waiting for the child, the student will be sent through the lunch line.

If your kiddo eats lunch on the stage with you on any school day, please make sure they are finished visiting so that they can join their class for dismissal to the trashcans and to line up. Too many students are coming and going from the stage to the serving line and/or are late getting back to class when lunch is over.

Absolutely no friends should be joining students on the stage if they are lunching with their family. If at all possible, we encourage lunch dates to occur Monday through Thursday.



Absences & Tardies

If your child is ill, please call the office first thing in the a.m. to let us know and please remember to your kiddo bring in a note upon returning to school. **If they are absent more than 5 days, the school requires a doctor's note.**

If your kiddo has an appointment during school hours, please get a note from the physician or dentist for school records.

Allen ISD Attendance Policy

Regular school attendance is essential for your child to make the most of his/her education – to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day's learning on the previous day, and to grow as an individual. The state requires our school to track absences. Each time your child misses school, it is counted as missing a day. If your child misses days or parts of days totaling 10 or more, you are in violation of compulsory attendance (truancy). With a leave totaling around 10 days, your child will exceed the 10 day truancy. Another component of that law is the 90% Rule, which states that a student must be in attendance 90% of the school year to receive credit for that year. Accumulation of 18 days of absences results in violation of this rule.

Any absence for three or more days for any reason other than illness or death in the immediate family must have prior approval. Because family vacations are considered unexcused absences, Mrs. Streitmatter cannot approve this type of request. If you choose to take your child on an extended vacation, understand that those days will be recorded as unexcused absences which may put your child at risk of being in violation of the 90% Rule. Upon returning to school, your child's teacher will need a parent to check him/her in at the office.

Teachers may assign activities for your child to complete during their absence; however, they are not required to provide work and/or test before a student leaves for vacation.