



5TH GRADE SUPERHERO NEWS KERR ELEMENTARY



Ashley's Annotations

Next week, we will use a variety of strategies to navigate through more difficult texts and determine the author's perspective.

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 are beginning our landforms unit, including an in-depth study of the sedimentary layers found in the Grand Canyon. Science STAAR simulation will be Thursday, February 22nd. Students may begin reviewing their journal and old pre/post assessments. Please DO NOT allow your student to review any retired STAAR tests!!

King's Korner

We are beginning our geometry unit next week. We will be able to classify quadrilaterals in a hierarchy of sets. We will also identify attributes of quadrilaterals and triangles. We will also take an assessment on our measurement conversion unit. This will include metric and customary conversions.

Vaughan's Voice

Next week in writing, we will continue to collect writing samples for MOY and TELPAS. We will discuss and write spelling rules in our Writer's Notebook. **Please don't forget your Kerr Library books each Wednesday.**

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.
Red Communication Folder must be signed by a parent nightly.
Allen Community Outreach – In February, we will be collecting Hygiene–Dental or Deodorant. In March--PB&J ingredients. In April--cleaning supplies. In May--lunch foods.
5th Grade Curriculum Video is now available on Kerr's 5th Grade Webpage.
Upcoming Closed Campus Weeks
 February 20th, April 10th, and May 14th

Science SIMULATION

The campus will be closed the week of Feb. 20th. Science simulation testing will be February 22nd. Students are encouraged to get a good nights rest and bring an extra water bottle—unwrapped mints in a Ziploc bag are okay too.

**Your invited to OPEN House!!
 March 8th 4:30 to 6:00 at Kerr**

5th Grade Team Contact Information

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REMINDERS!!!



Our Fifth Grade Journey Begins



Academic Testing Dates

****CLOSED CAMPUS THE WEEKS OF TESTING****

Simulation testing dates:

February 22th → Science STAAR SIMULATION
Closed Campus this entire week due to testing.

If at all possible, please do not schedule appointments on testing days as the data gleaned and analyzed will serve as an invaluable instruction tool before the official STAAR state testing is administered.

5th Grade OFFICIAL STATE STAAR TESTING DATES

April 10th → ****MATH STAAR****

April 11th → ****READING STAAR****

May 16th → **SCIENCE STAAR**

***By state law, students are required to pass both Reading and Math STAAR exams to be considered for promotion to 6th grade.*

Upcoming Closed Campus Weeks
February 20th, April 10th, and May 14th

On simulation testing days, students should bring an extra water bottle, wear comfy, school appropriate clothing, and bring a healthy snack (banana, apple, etc.) Students should also get a good night's rest to be able to actively participate in up to 4-hours of testing.

*****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.



Open House will take place on March 8th from 4:30 to 6:00 pm at Kerr Elementary. Come visit your child's homeroom so they can show you what they have been working on this year!



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.



BRRR...It's Getting Cold Outside

As a reminder, 5th grade students go to recess from 10:00 to 10:30 am. Please check the weather to ensure that your kiddo is dressed appropriately to be outside.

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



Morning drop off procedures help 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

Pick up Carpool Signs

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.