



KELLAR PRIMARY NEWS

Kendall Turner, Principal
December 3, 2018



Note from Mr. Turner

It is difficult to believe that the holidays are almost upon us! As we pause to reflect, we can't help but appreciate how extremely blessed we are to have such an amazing group of children and families. Thank you for your wonderful support and for sharing your incredible children with us!

I'm sure you have noticed that our students have been busy. Many students are reading books and passing AR tests, students are working on their Young Authors books, and squeezing in time to help out with the holiday gift collection. Thank you for helping your children learn to stay organized and to use their time wisely.

Speaking of time, please find time over the next few weeks to talk with your children about your own family's holiday traditions. Tell them about *your* childhood. Include them in great learning activities such as baking and shopping. Most of all cherish them as the true gifts they are!



Holiday Parties

The classroom holiday parties will be held on **Friday, December 21 at 1:30.** Watch your

children's classroom newsletters for more information.

Early Dismissal

School will dismiss at **2:30 on Friday, December 21** for Winter Vacation.



Spelling Bee

This year Kellar will once again participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. All grade levels will hold classroom bees, with the winners advancing to our school-wide bee on **Friday, January 18.** Kellar's top 3rd or 4th grader will advance to the District spelling bee in March. We sent the word lists home last week so you can begin studying. We are spellers!



Pajama Drive

Kellar students collected **210** pairs of pajamas for children and families in our community! We will celebrate with a Pajama Day on **Friday, December 21st.** What a great way to help others!

Spirit Week

We have worked hard this semester! Before break we will add a little fun and school spirit to our normal routine as a way to celebrate our efforts. Each day will have a dress up theme:



12/17 **Sweater Day**

Look great and stay warm, too!

12/18 **Sports Day** Support your favorite team!

12/19 **Wacky Wednesday**

Express yourself!

12/20 **Hat Day**

Warm? Silly? Cool?

12/21 **Pajama Day**

Get ready for two weeks off!

Uniforms are not required during Spirit Week, but clothing must still be safe and appropriate for school. Let's all participate!



Holiday Gift Collection

Each year Kellar students have the opportunity to provide gifts for **20** less fortunate Kellar families. We are collecting donated gifts from each classroom until the morning of **Friday, December 14.** Watch for information from your child's teacher regarding specific needs and ages. Please wrap the gifts and label them "boy" or "girl" with the child's age. Remember that **books** make excellent gifts. Thank you for your generous support of this worthy project!



AVID

This month our teachers will be learning more about **Quick Writes**, an AVID writing strategy. A Quick Write helps engage students in thinking about a content topic before, during, and after reading. In a Quick Write, students respond to a question or prompt related to the text by writing down whatever comes to their minds without organizing it too much or worrying about grammar. Ask your children how they are using Quick Writes (or Quick Draws) in their classes this month!

Office DEPOT. OfficeMax[®] Free Office Supplies

If you shop at Office Depot/Office Max for the holidays, please remember to give the cashier Kellar's ID number and we receive credit equal to 5% of your purchase toward free office supplies for the school. Kellar's ID number is **70034110.** Every little bit helps!

Young Authors



Kellar has a long tradition of writing excellence! We are skillful writers! All students at Kellar are to submit a Young Authors manuscript again this year. All manuscripts are due Tuesday, January 22, 2019. Watch your teacher's newsletter for classroom due dates. Following are the guidelines for Young Authors:

- Must be the original work of the student (idea, composition, illustrations)
- Students may receive help proofreading, typing, and binding
- Will be judged on
 - Focus
 - Support/elaboration
 - Organization
 - Conventions
 - Presentation
- Must be in book form with cover and pages securely attached
- Two students may author story, poem, play, etc. together
- Length is determined by the author
- Typed identification card must be glued inside the front cover of the book
- Include an "about the author" page at the end of the book
- 10 manuscripts will be selected and submitted to represent Kellar entries

By now, children should have an idea of the plot or topic of their book. For fictional stories, they should have ideas for characters, the plot, and the setting. They should know what genre of writing their book will be. Younger children often start the writing process by creating a picture. As they talk about the picture, they begin to construct a story.

"Chip away" at this rather large project by starting early and doing a little each day.

Students whose manuscripts are selected as District winners will be invited to attend the 40th Young Authors' Conference at Illinois State University in May!



Accelerated Reader

November was a busy month in the library! On the 14th we had a visit from Donna Carr Roberts, author of Mr. Fuzzy Ears. Also visiting were Mr. Fuzzy Ears himself and his pal Teddy. The children loved the story about a dog who is

trying to find a friend. It also highlights the role of the Humane Society and the importance of being kind and loving to our furry friends. A valuable lesson for us all. Once again, the most frequently checked out books are from The Diary of a Wimpy Kid series. Joining **Mary K.** in the million words read club is **Linda H.** Congratulations Linda! Kellar students have read **4,960 books** this year and **27,483,264 words!** With Winter Break coming up, remember it's a great time to READ, READ, READ!



Bundle Up!

As the cold weather settles in, please be sure to send your children with jackets and sweaters. We cannot allow children to go outside for recesses with their friends on cold days if they are not dressed warmly enough. Remember that sweaters and sweatshirts still need to meet the uniform requirements, too. They must be white, navy blue, or hunter green with no stripes or logos, and they must be worn over a uniform shirt.

Dismissal Driving

Snow is here! Please take extra caution at dismissal. Be sure to keep your children with you as you cross the playground, and drive **slowly** as you exit. Our children's safety is most important!



PTO Fall Fundraiser

Thank you to all who made this year's PTO Fall Fundraiser such a success. In total we have raised over **\$9,500 so far!** Local businesses and individuals donated items to our silent auction which raised over \$2000 at our Adult Night Out event at Childers Eatery. Thank you **Doug and Amy Shannon** for coordinating this event, Childers for the delicious food, and **Cortney and Matt Rixner** for providing the trivia entertainment. Our raffle ticket items also brought in \$900. **Adella V.** won the bike and **Vivian C.** won Principal for a Day. Thank you to **Mrs. Bousky and John Bousky** of Illinois Cycle and Fitness for the donation of a new bike! Thank you to **Marcy Swain & Monica Hayes** for coordinating the classroom letter writing campaign; our Kellar students collected over \$5000 so far. Special thanks to **Kristin Crawford**, PTO treasurer, for all the extra work this month.

Grandparents' Day

What a wonderful time we had on Grandparents' Day November 20th! We hosted **over 400** grandparents. Our students and teachers prepared great activities and demonstrations for our visitors. Parents, students, and staff helped serve and clean up afterward. All the pride and love that we saw started our Thanksgiving season out right!



The Illinois 5Essentials Survey will be conducted October 22 through January 18, 2018. To take the survey please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/> and select the appropriate survey to begin.



Lego League NASA Buyout Day

On Wednesday, **December 5, 2018**, the

Kellar Lego League will be hosting a uniform buyout day. Our theme for our Lego League project is Intro to Orbit. We are exploring various ways to help send people to Mars and sustain life there. We are hosting a NASA/Space dress down day. The students can dress down in any form of Space/NASA apparel that they have! If students want to dress out of uniform, they will need to pay \$1. All the money will go to benefiting the Lego Robotics team for their team expenses! If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Tapling at colby.tapling@psd150.org.

Bus Safety!

With winter fast approaching and the first snowfall already behind us, please take some time to talk to your student about Winter Bus Stop Safety. Being alert and prepared at the bus stop will help to ensure safe travel on the school bus this winter. Remind your student to:



- Wait behind the curb for your bus. Even if the sidewalk is not cleared of snow in your neighborhood, don't stand in the street while waiting for your bus. Road traffic as well as your bus may need the extra space to safely stop at your corner due to slippery road conditions.
- Be alert and aware of your surroundings. This means no horseplay at the bus stop!
- Wait for your driver's signal before approaching and boarding the bus: Your driver will let you know when the bus has come to a complete stop and it is safe for you to board the bus. Your bus driver also has a better view of other vehicles in the area and may be able to alert you of a car that is unable to stop due to icy road conditions.
- Don't run towards your bus: Slippery ice may be hidden underneath snow. Approach your bus slowly and carefully. Use the handrail when boarding your bus: The stairwell may be wet and slippery. Use the handrail so you don't lose your balance.



Vision Exams

Good vision is critical to student success in school; difficulties with vision can lead to academic and behavior issues. Some conditions are treatable if diagnosed early in life. An eye exam dated 8/16/17 or later was due by October 15. It is not too late to submit the eye exam paper! If your child has an appointment by December 15, please submit proof of the appointment to the school office. Then, submit the eye exam paper when done.

Students with Asthma

Illinois state law requires school districts to request a copy of the Asthma Action Plan for students diagnosed with asthma each school year. Please bring your copy to the school office as soon as possible. If your child uses an inhaler or nebulizer treatment during school hours, or at school-sponsored activities, we must receive a



new School Medication Authorization form each school year. The form is available to print from www.psd150.org; under the red "Students & Parents" tab, drop down to "Forms." For inhalers ONLY, do not take the form to the doctor's office; a Xerox copy of the prescription label from the inhaler box substitutes for the health care provider signature. Please indicate on page two of the form if you wish for your student to be in possession of the inhaler.



Important Dates

Dec. 5	Lego League NASA buy out
Dec. 6	Music Club to Nutcracker
Dec. 7	College Colors Day
Dec. 15	FIRST Lego League competition at Lindbergh Middle School
Dec. 17-21	Spirit Week
Dec. 17	Sweater Day
	Dental Sealants & More
Dec. 18	Sports Day
	Dental Sealants & More
Dec. 19	Wacky Wednesday
Dec. 20	Hat Day
Dec. 21	Pajama Day
	Holiday parties 1:30
	End of 1 st semester
	School dismisses at 2:30
Dec. 22-Jan. 6	Winter Break – NO SCHOOL
Jan. 4	Faculty Institute – NO SCHOOL
Jan. 7	School resumes
	Boundary waiver window opens (closes Mar. 8)
Jan. 11	Report cards sent home
Jan. 21	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No School
Jan. 18	School-wide Spelling Bee
	5 Essentials Survey ends
Jan. 22	Young Authors manuscripts due
Feb. 4-8	Guest Reader Week
Mar. 4 – Apr. 26	PARCC (3 rd & 4 th graders)

