

KELLAR PRIMARY NEWS

Kendall Turner, Principal
September 4, 2018



Note from Mr. Turner

We could not ask for a better start to the school year! It is already clear that this will be a special year for Kellar! Our staff members returned from summer break energized and enthusiastic. Our students arrived ready to learn. Our building feels comfortable and looks great. **Thanks for sending us the best students in Peoria Public Schools!**

Class Reductions

Because Kellar's enrollment is significantly lower than we anticipated, we will be losing two homerooms this week. We are cutting one Kindergarten and one third grade class. The students who are moving and their parents will be notified. Two teachers will transfer to other Peoria schools to assist where enrollments are higher: **Mrs. Cookson** and **Mrs. Hancock** will be leaving Kellar. **Mrs. Olson** will be moving from Kindergarten to 2nd grade. We appreciate your support and understanding as we endeavor to make these transitions as positive as possible.



School Hours

School Begins **8:30 AM**
School Dismisses **3:30 PM**

Students should not arrive before 8:15 AM, except for authorized activities. It is unsafe to leave children without adult supervision. Staff comes outside to supervise at 8:15. Students go directly to their classrooms upon arrival. As we started last year, parents will not walk children to their classes. Classes begin at 8:30. Any student not in attendance by 8:30 am will be marked "tardy" and must report to the office and sign in before being admitted to class.

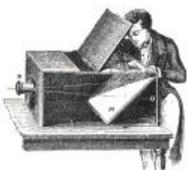


Picture Day

School pictures are scheduled to be taken on

Wednesday, October 10. Our photographer will be

Lifetouch <http://lifetouch.com/> again this year. Pictures will be taken of all students. Information will be sent home soon. Students will have the option to wear clothing other than uniforms on picture day!



Accelerated Reader

Students in Kindergarten – 4th grades can begin to take Accelerated Reader tests. Remember that students should only test on a book once. If a student read a book and passed an AR test on it in previous years, that student will not be allowed to earn AR points for that book again. Start earning those AR points early!

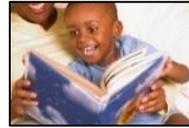


Run with Reading

Our Run with Reading party will be this Friday, **September 7!**

LOOK! It's My Book!

Kellar is partnering with **LOOK! It's My Book!**, an all-volunteer organization founded in 2008 with the sole purpose of placing books in the homes of students in K-4th grades in the Peoria area. Children choose 6 free books a year, **books of their very own**, to begin building their own personal libraries. Our first book giveaway is Wednesday, September 19. What generosity!



Summer Remarkable Readers



Congratulations to the following students who read a minimum of thirty minutes, four times each week for ten weeks this summer. Each student

will be entered in a raffle for awesome prizes!

- **Kobbina T.**
- **Elliana T.**
- **Sidi Mohamed S.**
- **Terrance P.**
- **Emmett C.**
- **Khadija S.**
- **Olivia B.**
- **Liliann J.**
- **Cecily C.**
- **Jack B.**
- **Colin C.**



Attendance Check

We ended 2017-2018 with an average daily attendance of **96.2%**.

That was a 0.4% improvement over 2017-2018! So far, our average daily attendance for 2018-2019 is **98.3%**. Thank you for getting your children to school every day and on time!

Library Corner

Once again, we're off to a great start in the library. For the second year in a row, Kellar had the most participants in the Peoria Public Library's Summer Reading Program with **56** children reading. Those students had a group photo taken last week that will soon be a poster hanging in Kellar's hallway. The public library also brought bags of prizes for each student.



As of August 29, **31%** of our students had taken at least one Accelerated Reader quiz. Of those, **61%** have averaged 85% or higher on quizzes. Our children have read **212 books** in less than three weeks of school! Home Connect letters have been sent home so that parents can track children's AR progress. ARbookfind.com is a convenient resource to check for AR levels and quiz numbers.

Grades 1-4 have all visited the **Bookmobile**. The Bookmobile is here every Friday from 9:00 to 10:30 AM to provide an additional source of reading materials to our students. Don't forget that September is **Library Card Sign Up Month!** Mrs. Harris has applications that can be filled out and returned to school and she will take it from there.

This year we will be reading the 20 books that have been nominated for the **2019 Monarch Award**. This is an annual award voted on by the students of Illinois - no adults allowed! We received these books compliments of a grant from the LBSS Endowment Fund. Be sure to ask your children about their favorite book!

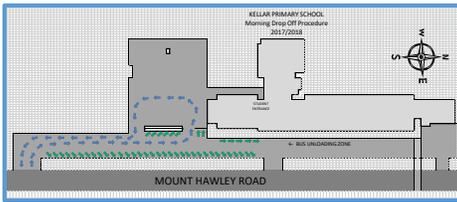
Looking forward to another year of reading and learning in Kellar's Library!



Balanced Literacy

You should be seeing some changes to Kellar's reading instruction already this year.

We are transitioning to a balanced literacy model, and we are using **Journeys** for our reading series. *Journeys* was adopted as the District series for 4th grade, and Kellar is piloting the program for K-3rd this year. Lisa Gifford, the District's Social Studies/Literacy Coordinator, will join us at our September 25 PTO meeting to provide an overview of the changes.



Traffic Procedure

Thank you for following our teachers' directions to keep our children safe during morning drop off and afternoon pick up. We can improve our morning procedure *even more* if families will come down Mt. Hawley Road from the north to avoid traffic back-ups onto Knoxville.

School Lunch

Again this year, Kellar will offer only one hot lunch entrée each day. Students will always have the option of taking a cold lunch meat sandwich or salad as well. ALL Kellar students will receive FREE breakfasts and hot lunches, regardless of need. Families are encouraged to take advantage of this offering. Students may also bring cold lunches and purchase milk at school. Milk is 50¢. Parents may send cash or checks with students daily, weekly, or monthly. Payment can also be made online.



Book Fees

If you have not already paid your child's book fees, please do so as soon as possible. Fees are \$50 for kindergarten and \$55 for grades 1-4.



Put That Phone Down!

On January 1, 2010, two state laws went into effect regulating the use of cell phones, personal digital assistants, or portable or mobile computers while operating a motor vehicle. House Bill 71 prohibits individuals from using a cell phone, personal digital assistant, or computer to compose, send or read an electronic message while operating a motor vehicle on a roadway. Additionally, House Bill 72 prohibits the use of cell phones while driving through a school or construction speed zone.

625 ILCS 5/12-610.1 No Phone in School/Work Zones

A person, regardless of age, may not use a wireless telephone in a school speed zone or a construction or maintenance speed zone, except for a person engaged in a highway construction or maintenance project for which a construction or maintenance speed zone has been established when the person is using a wireless telephone in furtherance of that project.



Spirit Days

This year we will wear our Kellar spirit wear on the first and last day of each week (usually Mondays and Fridays). Students will wear uniform bottoms and either uniform or spirit wear shirts. Show that Kellar pride!



Administering Medicine

We must receive the appropriate Peoria Public Schools Medication Authorization Form, with the medication in the original, labeled container in order to administer medication at school. A new medication form is required each school year. Medication forms are available at the school office, and on the Peoria Public Schools website, www.psd150.org. Go to the "Students & Parents" menu, and choose "forms" on the drop-down menu. If you have any questions, please call the



school office.

Emergency Cards

If you have not yet turned in your child's emergency card, please do so. The emergency cards allow us to contact family or friends in case of an emergency at school. It is extremely important that we have accurate, up-to-date information at all times. Please notify the school when your contact information changes.

Notes for Absences!

Peoria Public Schools' grading policy requires parents to send a note or phone the school for every excused absence. We must receive the note within two (2) days of the student's return to school. You can also send an email to marcia.beneventi@psd150.org to satisfy this requirement.



Philosophy of Discipline

Kellar Primary and the Peoria Public Schools have committed to success for all students by supporting a school climate that is safe and conducive to a positive teaching-learning environment. Everyone has responsibilities:



Teachers & administrators will:

- Develop and implement a sound classroom management plan
- Be guided by professional ethics in relationships with others

- Inform parents about academic and behavioral progress of students
- Show concern and respect for each student
- Be sensitive to the behavior of students and alert to changes that require assistance to the student
- Know and enforce the rules courteously, consistently, and fairly
- Handle behavior problems according to established practices
- Be proactive – teach students expected behavior; re-teach often; reward positive behavior



Important Dates

Sept. 4	Regular Schedule – 3:30 dismissal Kindergarteners to Hult Center for SuperKids
Sept. 5	Donuts with Dad 7:30-8:15
Sept. 6	Donuts with Dad 7:30-8:15
Sept. 7	College Colors Day Run with Reading party 2:30
Sept. 11-13	Vision & Hearing Screening
Sept. 15 – Oct. 15	Hispanic Heritage Month
Sept. 15	Colts Run 9:00
Sept. 19	Kindergarteners to Peoria Riverfront Museum LOOK! It's My Book!
Sept. 21	Progress Reports
Sept. 25	PTO 6:00 <i>Journeys</i> Presentation
Sept. 26	SIP Day – 11:30 dismissal
Sept. 27	Parent University 5:00-8:00
Oct. 3	Book Fair
Oct. 4	Book Fair 3 rd graders to Peoria Playhouse
Oct. 5	3 rd graders to Peoria Playhouse
Oct. 10	Picture Day Walk to School Day
Oct. 15	Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00
Oct. 16	Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:00
Oct. 17-19	Fall Break – NO SCHOOL