

Kessler Elementary School

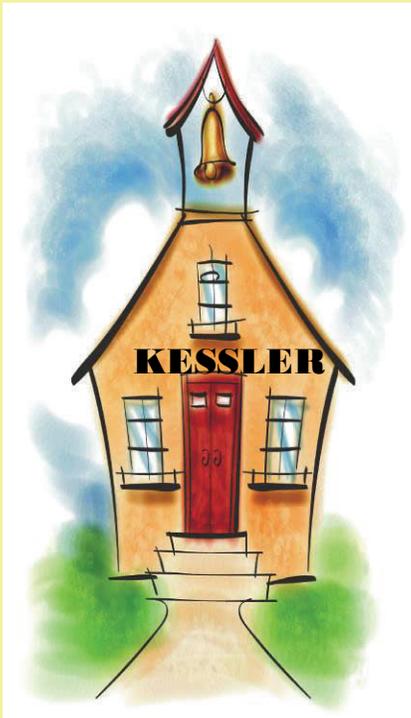
Eagle Express

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Principal

KESSLER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



12/22- Winter Break
1/6 No School
1/7 Students Return
1/14 Report Cards Go Home
1/16 Teacher Work Day
No School
1/19 MLK, Jr. Holiday
No School
1/20 School Board Meeting
Diamond Elementary
1/22 Family Math Night
2/22- Terra Nova Testing
2/27

BOGO Book Fair
Coming in January



The Kessler Chorus presented a vocal version of the Tchaikovsky ballet, "The Nutcracker Suite" on Thursday and Friday of this week on stage in the cafeteria. They did a fine job. Bravo!

Kessler Technology

Do you want to know what is happening at school? Did you child forget the homework? Do you want to see your child's grades? Which websites are safe for your child to use?

Most of these questions can be answered by utilizing the technology available at Kessler Elementary School. Students and teachers at Kessler have been implementing many technology components into their learning and instruction. Below explains a few ways your child is using technology at Kessler. All of these can be accessed from our homepage: <http://www.am.dodea.edu/stewart/kessler/>

One Call Now - The Fort Stewart Schools have instituted a new parent notification service that uses an automated system to deliver staff and parent emergency notification messages. This service is designed to improve school safety and parent involvement. In order for this service to work, parents must have current contact phone numbers at all times. Please stop by the school office to update your phone numbers.

ParentConnection - On-line access for parents to view assignments and averages for students in 4th - 6th grade. Parents must sign up for an account. Teachers can also email progress reports.

Class Web Pages - Many classrooms have websites created providing information on what they are learning and extension activities.

Internet Safety - It is important for parents to monitor what children are doing on the computer. Many of the popular sites like My Space, FaceBook, and email are primarily for adults not children. There is always the possibility of someone wanting to harm children by contacting them through these sites!

Gaggle Email - A SAFE and secure email for children is Gaggle.net. This email system we use at Kessler allows teachers to monitor and restrict access. Teachers also use it to communicate with other classes and schools on projects. This is available for grades 4-6.

Games on the Internet - There are many very useful and educational sites on the internet which are safe for children to use. You can find links on the Kessler website under Student Resources.

Calendar of Events - A calendar is maintained of important events happening at Kessler.

Kessler Website:

<http://www.am.dodea.edu/stewart/kessler/>

Don't forget the DoDEA Customer Satisfaction Survey is available through February 28, 2009 at:

www.dodea.edu

Third Grade News

Third grade has been extremely busy becoming avid problem solvers. Problem solving allows the students to analyze situations and use various strategies to arrive at a solution. What is most unique about problem solving is its ability to be used in all mathematical concepts and involve real world situations the children can relate to. Listed below are nine strategies third grade will focus on to assist in the growth of our young problem solvers.

- ✓ Use Manipulatives
- ✓ Write a Number Sentence
- ✓ Draw out the Problem
- ✓ Guess and Check
- ✓ Organize the Information
- ✓ Look for Patterns
- ✓ Use Logical Thinking
- ✓ Work Backwards
- ✓ Wish for an Easier Problem

Listed below are our standards which guide our instruction:

M6 Problem Solving

Standard: M6a: Instructional programs from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12 should enable all students to:

- ✓ Build new mathematical knowledge through problem solving;
- ✓ Solve problems that arise in mathematics and in other contexts;
- ✓ Apply and adapt a variety of appropriate strategies to solve problems;
- ✓ Monitor and reflect on the process of mathematical problem solving.

You can find these standards at http://www.dodea.edu/curriculum/docs/math/stn_math_grd_3.pdf

Ms. VA's class will magically turn into elves on December 17th. On that day, the class will be making and wrapping Rice Krispie treats to donate to soldiers. The project is a way of giving back to the community, and to reflect on how satisfying it is to think of others rather than just yourself. The class is accepting donations of large marshmallows, butter (not margarine) and original Rice Krispie cereal. The goal is to make at least 100 treats to distribute.

News From Gifted Resource

Many Kessler students participated in the Scrabble Tournament of Champions recently held at DES. Everyone had a great time using newly learned vocabulary words and strategies! We

are looking forward to the spring Equate Tournament.

In our classroom, we have been asked to identify some strange objects, lovingly named "The Blobs." Our experiments have required us to learn a lot about cells and cell components. Right now, we are in the process of determining if these "Blobs" are alive. We know they are growing and have produced waste. Do you know other things that would indicate to us if they are indeed alive?????

Fourth Grade News

Ms. G's class is half way through the school year and we have worked very hard in our class. We have so much more to cover and the pace will be picking up after the winter holiday break.

In Social Studies, the students completed their United States Symbols projects and did a wonderful job. They will be starting their second project this week on the Southeastern States. The students have finished their Imaginative Writing-fantasy stories and have begun their Personal Narratives- biographies. Your child may ask you for pictures to complete their writing assignment. We started the Life Sciences unit in Science.

Please check our class webpage for weekly updates and homework assignments. Please make sure your child reads on a nightly basis and practices their multiplication facts. Terra Nova is the last week in February and we want to do our best.

We will be having a lunch bunch for students who have reached 50 points or more in their Reading Counts quizzes. I will send out invitations next week and parents will be invited.

We will also be having a small winter holiday celebration on Friday December 19th. I will send more information with a refreshment sign up sheet.

Thanks for all you do!!!!!!

Ms. H's class has been learning about many interesting and challenging information. We are about to finish Long Division in Math. The American Revolution has become very fascinating to the students. Science involves light and sound. Please be sure to have your child study their multiplication facts each and every day. Also, be sure to sign the planner and look for homework five days a week. Reading Count Tests are to be taken every two weeks on your child's library book. Have a wonderful Winter Break and be ready to start Fractions on January 7, 2009.