

Harold Keller Elementary Newsletter



By the end of the 20-21 school year, we will increase our SPS from 79.7 to 82.7 as evidenced by student performance on the LEAP 2025 assessment.

Happy New Year students and families! I hope that you and your family had a healthy and safe holiday season. The 2020 year brought many challenges, but let us continue to remember that we have so many reasons to feel positive. I am extremely proud and impressed by our students who show so much kindness, creativity, innovation, resilience, and the courage needed to persevere.

As we kick off the New 2021 Year, our faculty and staff are prepared to welcome our students back to both in-person and online settings. We will continue to embrace and integrate the new one-to-one technology we have access to. Our teachers have been champions for our students by smoothly transitioning to traditional and online learning, packing up bags with learning materials for our online learners, and being available to assist students and parents. The new skills teachers and students have been learning as they use the new devices and learning platforms will serve our students well for years to come.

Our students continue to make academic progress, and we eagerly anticipate the achievements they will attain in the months to come. I'd like to remind you that the end of the 2nd semester is quickly approaching and will end on January 18th. The teachers will be reviewing all of the learning that took place in December and will administer the benchmark assessments beginning January 7th.

To ensure that your child has every opportunity to be successful, please be sure that he/she attends school every day. When students miss school, they miss quality instruction, and it is difficult for them to catch up. Please contact your child's teacher in the event your child will be out to discuss how the work will be made up.

Upon return, we will continue to use safety measures to mitigate COVID-19 and ensure that our students remain safe. During this winter season please be sure of the following:

1. Students are dressed appropriately for the weather in the event they go out for recess (hats, gloves, coats, sweaters, and/or a jacket).
2. Please be sure to place your child's name on all items.
3. Provide your child with a mask each day.
4. Provide your child will all materials to avoid sharing.
5. Encourage your child to social distance among their friends.

I look forward to us all working together to make Keller Elementary a great place for our students to grow. May the New Year bring you happiness, peace, and joy. Thank you for your continued support.

Jessica Smith,
Principal



LEADER In Me

Our Habit of the Month is:

Begin with the End in Mind

What better way to start off the New Year than with setting some goals? This is the perfect time to start fresh.

Here are 7 steps to setting a goal:

1. Think about the results you want to see.
2. Create your goals.
3. Write your goals down.
4. Create your action plan.
5. Create a timeline.
6. Take action.
7. Monitor progress.

To learn more about goal setting click the links below.

[Look At What Happens When You Set Goals](#)

[Goal Setting](#)

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

This month, our counselor, Ms. Leonard will work with our K-5th grade students on character education lessons and activities in the classroom. This month's focus will be on Learning to manage our Emotions and Coping skills. Learning about identifying and expressing emotions and feelings in an appropriate way will facilitate and foster the learning process at home and in school.

These lessons and activities will reinforce self-awareness, foster healthy relationships, and learn to better respond to various emotions to promote unity amongst all members of our school family.

Ms. Leonard will also be scheduling mandatory child abuse presentations with each grade level in grades PreK-5th grade. Parent consent forms will be sent home the week prior to your child's class presentation. Please only sign and return the consent form if you **DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRESENTATION.**

At Harold Keller, we work daily with students to promote safety, build connections, and promote learning interactions to promote and foster an environment to optimize their learning and social emotional growth to ensure success in and out of school.

Please contact Ms. Leonard if you feel that your child may need assistance with counseling services at (504)-887-3836 or (504) 780-3822.

MINDFULNESS

From Breathe Like a Bear, by Kira Wiley



Where is your breath? Sit up tall, shake your body a little bit, and then hold still.

Take a long breath in, and let it all the way out. Keep taking long breaths in and long breaths out.

Think about where you feel the air in your body. Do you feel it in your nose or your mouth? Your chest or your belly? Your left pinky toe?

In your mind, follow the air as it comes into your body and goes back out again.

Breathe in, breathe out. Breathe in, breathe out.

Where do you feel the air? Take one more long breath in, and just let it all the way out.

IMPORTANT DATES

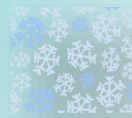
January 4th

Students, Faculty, and Staff Return to School



January 7th-8th

5th Grade Benchmark Assessments



January 11th-12th

3rd & 4th Grade Benchmark Assessment:



January 18th

No School- Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

End of 2nd Nine Weeks Marking Period