



Joseph Keels
Elementary School

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Related Arts Newsletter

Welcome to Related Arts at
Joseph Keels Elementary!

The Related Arts Team welcomes the new science lab teacher, Mrs. Inez McCall. Mrs. McCall is from Rock Hill, SC. We are so happy to have Mrs. McCall as a member of the Related Arts team! Mrs. Keith is in a new position as a Reading Recovery teacher here at Keels. Good luck Mrs. Keith!

Media Center

Students have been working on their personal and academic goals and ways to develop them. Students in Grades 2-5 demonstrated their oral presentation skills and worked on dictionary skills while students in Grades K-1 developed their writing skills and developed their listening skills while taking turns in discussion groups.

Currently, students in Grades 3-5 are working on their Google Chrome tablets learning how to login to the school's online catalog set up reading lists and browse the collection. In addition, students in Grades K-5 were shown the appropriate way to login to Reading Counts to check on their progress and to take a test whether using a Chrome tablet or a desktop computer. They have now demonstrated mastery of this skill.

Students are also learning how to Bookmark a website, properly type in the URL address line and move around various Interactive reading/informational websites.

Next cycle, the students will begin research skills.

Physical Education

These are exciting times in the Physical Education Department! Our primary-level students have just wrapped up a unit on locomotor skills and have moved on to a unit on throwing and catching with Mrs. Holzendorf, and an eye-hand coordination unit with Mr. Lewis. With Mrs. H, they are learning the difference between an underhand toss and an overhand throw. In the eye-hand coordination unit the students are learning cup stacking, which is a great way for them to practice their bilateral coordination (using both the left and the right sides of their bodies at the same time). Some Kindergarten and 1st grade classes will even have the opportunity to represent Joseph Keels Elementary School in a cup stacking world record attempt.

The elementary-level students are beginning fitness testing. This is just an introduction and practice for the 3rd and 4th graders. The data collected from the 5th graders will be forwarded to the state of South Carolina, as part of their annual fitness data collection.

Upcoming Events

- Governor's Cup Kid's Fun Run
November 9, 2013, 8:30 A.M.
Downtown Columbia
- WSSA Stack Up! World Record attempt
November 14, 2013
- Fall Music Concert
November 14, 2013 (evening performance)
November 15, 2013 (assembly performance)

Technology

On day 1 of the rotation students have been practicing proper keyboarding techniques in the computer lab. This helps them become better typists, thus performing tasks in a timely manner because they have a working knowledge of where keys are on the keyboard. Days 2 and 3 of the rotation are dedicated to academics. Ms. McCanic receives from teachers in all grade levels what they are currently studying and designs activities and sends students to interactive sites that reinforce those lessons. Students are practicing math and ELA skills in alignment with Common Core Standards.

Art

We have been busy bees in art class. 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade used water color to create fantasy pictures that showed how well they know their primary and secondary colors. The trees had to have the primary and secondary colors on them, but the rest of the picture could have been whatever they wanted. We then used water color to make a wax resist, and added our clouds using cotton balls.

The kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade students learned about artist Piet Mondrian. They created abstract pictures using rectangles and squares that were the primary colors. Some students painted and created more rectangles and squares on top. This was done by using a Styrofoam straight line tool.



Music



Exciting things are going on in music! We have started our Recorder Karate Unit with 3rd through 5th grade. If you have not heard your child playing their recorder, you will hear it real soon! Ask your child what style of music they are listening to! 2nd Grade is on a Dancing Unit! We are learning different music skills through dance. Kindergarten and 1st grade are learning their music skills through fun activities. The JKE Chorus will be performing a Fall Concert Nov. 14th and an assembly the next day, Nov. 15th.

Science

I would first like to introduce myself. My name is Mrs. McCall, and I am the new science lab teacher.

Each grade level is learning different science concepts. Kindergarten is working on making predictions and using nonstandard units of measurement. First grade classes are learning about how a push or pull affects the motion of an object. Third grade is learning about motion, too; however, third grade is incorporating the mass of an object into the equation. Second grade is exploring matter and the changes that matter undergoes. The fourth grade classes will be learning about the water cycle, and have the opportunity to create a mini water cycle.

Fifth grade will be focusing on natural processes and how they affect Earth's oceans and land. We will be exploring earthquakes, weathering, and erosion.

