

Back to School Newsletter

August 18, 2014

SEPT. 1 NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY

SEPT. 4 FALL PICTURES

SEPT. 9 PTO MEETING 6:00

SPET. 12 GROW YOU GO TRIP TO THE ZOO FOR THOSE WHO MADE IT FROM MAP TESTING LAST YEAR

SEPT. 26 HOME-COMING 2:00 DISMISSAL

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A Letter From the Principal

Dear KNE Parents and Friends,

Each year on the first day of school, KNE has an opening assembly to welcome its new and returning students. This year, each of our new students was put through clown training. Some trained for the high wire, some trained to juggle, others practiced their aim, and finally some showed their skills with roping.

Yes, Circus KNE will be the greatest school on Earth with all the talent of our students. Our students will also have many opportunities to reach out and show their talents to the Knob Noster community. We hope you will enjoy our show as we take our talents to the town.

The 2014-2015 school year is off to a great start at Knob Noster Elementary. As in the past, Knob Noster Elementary has great staff members who are dedicated to seeing students reach their full potential. No

doubt we will have many "ringmasters" by the end of the year.

Circus KNE has some new talent this year. One of our new talents is our new counselor, Cassaday Ukele. She comes to Knob Noster from Columbia where she was a student at Stephens College receiving her Masters degree. Her contact information is

cukele@knobnoster.k12.mo.us

We also have a new talent in 1st grade. Tiffany Moe comes to us from the Buffalo School District. She taught in their elementary and we were lucky enough to add her to our show. Her contact information is

tmoe@knobnoster.k12.mo.us

Stephen White also joined our show as our night custodian. He comes to us from Sedalia.

KNE would also like to welcome Terri Gooch, Julie Curits, Kristin Rosine, Ruth Arney, and Ben Franklin. All have worked in the Dis-

trict previously and are coming to join the team.

Mrs. Gooch will be teaching SPED, Mrs. Curtis will be teaching Speech, Mrs. Rosine will be in our KG classrooms, Mrs. Arney is a para professional, and Mr. Franklin will be our tech coordinator.

To keep parents and patrons aware of upcoming activities and current happenings at KNE, KNE sends out a monthly newsletter and keeps its Facebook page and website updated.

If you have your SIS information up to date you will receive the KNE monthly newsletter. As always, please feel free to call with any questions, comments, or concerns. You can contact Mr. Cohron via email (mcohron@knobnoster.k12.mo.us), by phone at 563-3019, or stop by the office.

Kindergarten is off to a Great Start!

Pete the Cat helped to welcome KNE's new kindergarteners to the 2014-15 year. After reading his story, students followed his clues as they explored the school, learning about their new surroundings. As the year continues, we will continue to share many favorite stories, become familiar with school routines and rules, make new friends, and learn basic math and pre-reading skills.

Kindergarten students would benefit from practicing letter names and number names at home. The "Shoe Tying Club" will be coming soon, so extra practice at home with this skill will also be beneficial. We work and play hard in kindergarten, so being well-rested is extremely important.

The beginning of the year has been great and we have enjoyed getting to know our new friends. We look forward to a successful year!



First Grade

Welcome to First grade at K.N.E.! We look forward to working with you and your child to make this a great year. The First Grade teachers include Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Kent, Ms. Moe, and Mrs. Sapp. Below you will see helpful information over routines and procedures done in First Grade.

Communication:

*E-mail :Each teacher has a website with a link to send her an e-mail.

*Folders: Each child has a "Take Home" folder. We will place any notes in the folder to send them home. Please make sure to check your child's folder each night & return it the next day. If you have notes send it in the folder we will check each morning.

*Phone calls: Our plan time is from 12:15-1:05 that is the best time to call and speak to us, however you can always leave a message with the office.

*Website: Each teacher has a classroom webpage. To access it just go to <http://knobnosterelem.mo.kne.schoolinsites.com/>. Then, click on "school staff", find your teacher's name and click on it.

Classroom Routines

First grade utilizes Whole Brain Teaching, and we teach students the five Whole Brain rules. Each teacher also uses a clip up/clip down chart for individual behavior. At KNE we expect all students to be respectful, responsible, and safe to adults and peers in the building. Throughout the month of August, students will be focusing on learning classroom routines and following school rules.

2nd Grade

WELCOME TO 2ND GRADE

AUGUST 2014

Welcome back to school! We are ready for an awesome school year to get rolling. The second grade team is very excited about the new school year! The second grade teachers are David Andrade, Joelle Bertschy, Laura Hunter, and Kara McCulloch.

Newsletters: Watch for newsletters coming home from each individual class with important information and schedules.

Wonders: We are very excited about our NEW ELA reading series. These books include reading, writing, grammar, and spelling.

Math in Focus: This will be our third year using this math series. It is exciting to see the student's progress since beginning this math series.

STEAM: Our district is now STEAM certified. This is a framework for education across the disciplines. STEAM = *Science & Technology* interpreted through *Engineering & the Arts*, all based in *Mathematical* elements.

Science Lab: The teachers have been working very hard this summer to set up our new science lab. We are excited to start using it soon for research and experiments.

Water bottles: Students are welcome to bring water bottles to school. Please make sure they are plastic and have a lid that screws on.

Once again, welcome back to school and have a great school year!

Back to school again!!!



We know summer vacation is over. Hopefully, everyone enjoyed the wonderful weather that was given to us and took every advantage of it. Now, we're excited to get back to work!

Ms. Lisa Closen, Mrs. Dana Smith, and Mrs. Pamela Nelson would like to welcome all of you to 3rd grade. We have awesome activities in the works, new books, and new ways to make learning more meaningful.

3rd Grade has a new reading series, Wonders. This series contains several new exciting stories. Along with the reader, we will start in a new Writer's Workshop book. Students will have fun learning the various ways to write information and various types of stories.

Teachers are very excited about a new approach that they will implement in their classrooms this year. Whole Brain Teaching is a method to engage the students to be more active in their learning and enables them to retain more knowledge.

KNE is thrilled about having a new Science Lab for our students. Students will be able to take Science to a brand new level.

For the first two weeks of school, the homework policy will be as follows:

Homework for third grade: All teachers do require at least 20 minutes of reading and 10 minutes of practicing math facts every night. Please initial the homework form to indicate that your child has completed this task. Any work not done throughout the day will be homework as well. Remember also that student agendas must be signed. Thank you for using this method of communication with your child's teacher.

Please remember to view current newsletters from your child's teacher on her website for more classroom news.

4th Grade

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are very excited about this school year as we will get to learn all about your child's talents and abilities.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please call 660-563-3019 or find our email at the school website under 'staff'. Our plan time is 8:45-9:35 daily. If we are not able to speak with you at that time, please leave a message. Email is probably the easiest and fastest way to get ahold of us.

Our school places a great deal of importance on the STUDENT AGENDA. Students will be expected to complete it daily. This is a way for you to see the assignments and activities each day in our classrooms.

Students will be allowed to have a water bottle (containing water only). They are also able to bring a healthy snack to school each day if they choose. This is not a requirement. Our lunch is at 11:40. Some students may need a snack before/after that. It is more than okay for you to bring a special snack if your child has a birthday or other special occasion. The only thing we ask is that you bring enough for the whole class.

Please encourage your child to read at least 15 minutes at home every night. Set aside time to read with your child and have them read to you. Please also have your child practice their basic math facts each night. Memorizing their multiplication time's tables will help them tremendously throughout this year.

Our school has adopted a wonderful new reading series called *Wonders*. All spelling words are aligned to each week's lesson. The lessons take 5-10 days. Spelling tests will be given at the end of each lesson, and we will keep you and your child informed on when the tests will be. More information will soon be coming home with your child.

We believe that communication is the key to make any classroom work. Again, please let us know right away if you have any questions or concerns. We also appreciate all of your communication and help at home with your child. Together we can be successful.

Mrs. Clark, Ms. Breshears, and Mrs. Stachowiak

August News from the LMC

Welcome back! Once again, the library is bustling with activity. The first, second, third, and fourth grade classes are busy reviewing library rules and routines as well as the importance of keeping library books in a safe place, making sure that hands are clean before handling library materials, and keeping all food and drinks away from our books. The kindergarten classes are becoming acquainted with the LMC and are learning about book care as well. Please visit our library catalog, aka Destiny, located on the right side of our school homepage to view some of the wonderful books that we have available.

Mr. Cohron has continued his annual challenge of asking students to read 10,000 books by the end of the school year and KNE has yet to disappoint. Last year we read over 11,000 books! You can follow our daily, monthly, and annual progress by clicking on the AR Book Count located on the library homepage.

Did you know...

According to NEA's *Facts about Children's Literacy*, children who are read to are more likely to count to 20 or higher, write their own names, are better readers, and have higher math scores.

<http://www.nea.org/grants/facts-about-childrens-literacy.html>

Website of the Month

<http://pbskids.org/eeeworld/index.html?load=future>

Help your child to learn how to protect our environment by visiting EekoWorld, sponsored by PBS Kids. It is colorful, entertaining, as well as educational. Students learn that the choices they make today can affect the environment tomorrow.

"Keep reading. It's one of the most marvelous adventures that anyone can have!"

-Lloyd Alexander, author of *The High King*, 1969 Newbery Medal Winner

Back to School Newsletter



Showing and Growing Our Talents Together!

Check out these books to help yourself and your child be ready for back to school!

The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn

Llama Llama Misses Momma by Anna Dwedney

It's Hard to Be Five by Jamie Lee Curtis

Franklin Goes to School by Paulette Bourgeois

The Night Before Kindergarten by Natasha Wing

First Day Jitters by Julie Danneberg

This School Year Will Be the BEST! By Kay Winters

BACK TO SCHOOL TIME CAN BE ROUGH ON KIDS AND PARENTS!

After spending summer with family, the transition back to school can feel like you're starting all over, even if your child isn't new to the back to school routine.

Try some of these tips to ease the back to school anxiety and fear:

Back to SCHOOL



Check your feelings at the door. If you are really nervous or scared to drop your child off at school, your child will feel it too. Find time to express your feelings separately.

Make your goodbyes quick. Long and repeated goodbye rituals can prolong your child's fear about you leaving them at school. A hug, kiss, and "have a good day" are all your child needs to start their day.

Be careful about saying "I'll miss you." While this sounds loving, it may cause

your child to feel worried about you, instead of focusing on their school day. You might say "I can't wait to hear about your day later" or "I'll see you at dinner time" instead.

Write your child an encouraging note. Packing a short note in your child's lunchbox or backpack can give them something to look forward to.

Avoid walking your child in after the first week. There will be opportunities for you to come into their classroom,

HOW YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR CAN HELP

Welcome back to a brand new school year! My name is Cassaday Ukele and I will be KNE's professional school counselor for the 2014-2015 school year.

Counseling services consist of classroom guidance, support groups, individual sessions, crisis support, and

parent education. I also help connect resources in our community to our school in order to foster healthy growth and development of all of our students!

Please feel free to call me at (660)563-3019 or email at cukele@knobnoster.k12.mo.us

I am looking forward to an exciting year as our students show and grow their talents together!

-Cassaday Ukele, M.Ed.

Knob Noster Elementary

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We're on the Web
www.knobnoster.k12.mo.us

*"Showing and Growing Our
Talents Together"*



PE, ART, MUSIC NEWS

The music program dates for the year are fourth grade- October 23, second grade- December 11, first grade- February 12, third grade-March 19 and kindergarten- May 1.

In art the students will start the year with a study of line and color. The students will have their art show the same evening as the music program.

In physical education classes the students will be learning rules and procedures, and they will be participating in team building and fitness activities.

PTO Corner

KNE PTO will meet the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00. The first meeting will be Sept. 9. We would love to see you at our meetings. This is a great way to get involved with the school and to have a say in how we spend these funds.

*Please Contact us if
you wish to join or
help with any PTO*

*Events at
kne.pto@knobnoster.k12.mo.us*

Knob Noster Elementary

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First Day Pics

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