



# 5th Grade

## HERE'S THE NEWS



### Reading/Writing

**Reading:** Students will describe how the author uses metaphors to symbolize characters' conflicts.

**Writing:** Students will compose poetry using genre characteristics and craft

Below is a great website for your child to study this year's Reading STAAR vocabulary in preparation for their Reading STAAR test at the end of the year:

<http://quizlet.com/10845820/5th-grade-staar-vocabulary-review-flash-cards/original>

Have a wonderful Spring Break!

### Science

When we return from break, we will have our Unit 7 test over ecosystems and then we will begin our study of adaptations. Please have a restful and safe spring break!!

### Math

We will begin STAAR review. We will focus on dividing fractions and graphing points on a coordinate grid.

### Social Studies

We will evaluate the effects of supply and demand on business, industry, and agriculture, including the plantation system in the United States.

## Friendly Reminders

**Red Communication Folders** must be signed nightly by parents. This is our way of communicating how your child's day went at school. ☺

**DISMISSAL changes** must be communicated to the office by 1:30 pm.

If your child is ill, call the office first thing in the a.m. and bring in a note upon returning to school.

If your student has an appointment, please get a note from the doctor or dentist for our records.

**Home lunches** need to include a napkin and utensils.

For the safety of our students and staff, cell phone use should not occur in carpool lines. ***Student cell phones must be turned off once in the building and placed in their backpack until dismissal.***

# Have a sensational Spring Break!!

### 5th Grade Team Contact Information

**Geri Ashley**

[Geraldine.Ashley@Allenisd.org](mailto:Geraldine.Ashley@Allenisd.org)

**Jennifer Dority**

[Jennifer.Dority@Allenisd.org](mailto:Jennifer.Dority@Allenisd.org)

**Ashli King**

[Ashli.King@Allenisd.org](mailto:Ashli.King@Allenisd.org)

**Sherry Laurence**

[Sherry.Laurence@Allenisd.org](mailto:Sherry.Laurence@Allenisd.org)



# REMINDERS!!!

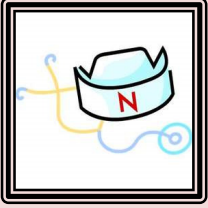


## *Our Fifth Grade Journey*



*The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Team wishes you spectacular  
Spring Break!!*





## *Notes From Nurse Chris*



What's that smell?

There are so many changes our children go through as they get older. One unpleasant one is how when they sweat...it doesn't smell so good. That is all a normal part of puberty. But, a great thing to do now is get them in the habit of putting on **deodorant each and every morning**.

Also, kiddos can have a **snack during Block 1**. Here is a list of **approved snacks**: Any kind of cheese, fruit (such as grapes, apples, bananas, oranges, strawberries, raisins-plain), vegetable (carrots, celery, rice cakes, Cheddar Goldfish, Cheddar Bunnies, Cheeze-its, Wheat Thins, and popcorn--not popped in coconut oil).



Parents,

Did you know that our school library has eBooks and audiobooks available for students to check out? As the librarian, I have shared with many grade levels how to access these books through our catalog. You may access the presentation at the following link: [shorturl.at/gHJT6](http://shorturl.at/gHJT6)

I hope that you and your children will enjoy these books over the break and throughout the school year. These books are always available and can never be lost! Happy Reading!

If you have questions, feel free to contact me.

Nicole Herron  
Library Media Specialist  
[Nicole.herron@allenisd.org](mailto:Nicole.herron@allenisd.org)

## A Note from the Librarian

### How to Pay for Lost Library Books

Kerr Elementary - Allen ISD

1. You will receive notification from the librarian that a library book has been lost (or damaged) by your student. This notification will include information about the book, including the price of the book.
2. Please double check your house, car, and student's backpack for the book. Keep in mind that your student's homeroom teacher has already been made aware of the missing book and will have already checked their classroom by the time you receive notification of a lost book.
3. If the book cannot be located please use the link below to visit School Pay.  
<https://www.schoolpay.com/pay/for/Kerr-Library-Lost-Books-20192020/Se0LwHr>
4. School Pay will prompt you to enter the cost of the book given to you by the librarian.
5. Please forward the confirmation email from SchoolPay to [nicole.herron@allenisd.org](mailto:nicole.herron@allenisd.org) and the book will be removed from your student's account and a receipt will be sent home.
6. If a lost book that was paid for is found, please return the book to the library, and a refund will be issued if the book is in good condition. Refunds will gladly be issued during the same school year that the book was lost. However, we will be unable to issue a refund after the last day of the school year that the book was lost.

If you have any questions, please contact the Kerr Elementary librarian at [nicole.herron@allenisd.org](mailto:nicole.herron@allenisd.org)

Thanks,

Nicole Herron

Library Media Specialist

Kerr Elementary School

214-495-6765

# DID YOU KNOW...

Social Media apps have minimum age requirements? The reason why is it is a Federal Law. **A child under the age of 13 years (U13) is protected by the Children's Online Privacy Protect Act (COPPA).** Essentially, COPPA protects a child's personal information from being collected and shared. Creating an account for a child under 13, using a false date of birth, circumvents the Federal law intended to protect your child. The consequences... The social networks, and all the information your child provides it, are completely out of your control. If you know of a child under the age of 13 with an active profile, you may report the account to the social network and the account will be closed.

<http://www.kevinmd.com/blog/2013/02/4-reasons-parents-enforce-age-restriction-social-media.html>

| App       | Minimum age requirement |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| Facebook  | 13+                     |
| Twitter   | 13+                     |
| Instagram | 13+                     |
| Snapchat  | 13+                     |
| Tumblr    | 13+                     |
| Pinterest | 13+                     |
| Vine      | 17+ (adult content)     |
| 500px     | 17+ (adult content)     |

If you would like to read more about Social Networking sites and how you and your child can stay safe online, please visit:

<http://www.netmums.com/teenagers/safe-surfing-on-the-internet/your-children-and-the-internet-social-networking-s>

## CARPOOL PROCEDURES



Parents/guardians who pick their child up in the carpool lanes **MUST** have a carpool sign located in their front windshield/mirror. These were given to all families at the beginning of the school year. If you need a replacement, please let your child's teacher know as soon as possible. Cars without the carpool sign will have to park, enter through the front doors of the building, and show their driver's license in order to pick up their child. This is for the safety of ALL Kerr students. Thank you & we appreciate your support!



## BUZZ -IN PROCEDURE FOR VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS AT KERR

Entrance procedures at Kerr. Please be prepared for the following script to take place before you enter the building:

**“Welcome to Kerr Elementary. How may I help you?”**

Visitors give the following information: Name, reason for visit, child's name.

Example: “My name is John Smith. I am here to volunteer in my child's classroom. My child is Joe Smith.”

**“Would you please hold your I.D. up to the screen?”**

After you show your I.D. you will proceed inside to the receptionist desk to receive your name tag. If you do not have a picture I.D., you will not be permitted to enter the building.



# LUNCH NEWS

***Lunch/Forgotten Item Drop Off*** - A cart is placed right in the front entrance of the school where lunches and other forgotten items should be placed. Please complete the red slip and tape to the item. Deliveries to the classroom crates will take place around 11:00 am. Lunches will also be delivered to the cafeteria at this time. If you bring your child a lunch, please notify him or her before leaving for school to look for it on the desk in the cafeteria. If it is not in the class crate or cafeteria at their scheduled lunch time, the child will be instructed to purchase a lunch. To protect the integrity of the learning environment, calls will not be made to notify students of their forgotten item. As always, it is best practice to send your child off in the morning prepared with all needed items including their lunch. Thank you for assistance!

## **Friendly Reminders:**

Please send a napkin and utensils in lunches from home. This will alleviate students sitting and waiting for the monitors to bring them these items.

Also, please arrive a few minutes earlier than your child's scheduled lunch time if you are bringing their lunch as a special treat. If the parent is not on the stage waiting for the child, the student will be sent through the lunch line.

If your kiddo eats lunch on the stage with you on any school day, please make sure they are finished visiting so that they can join their class for dismissal to the trashcans and to line up. Too many students are coming and going from the stage to the serving line and/or are late getting back to class when lunch is over.

Absolutely no friends should be joining students on the stage if they are lunching with their family. If at all possible, we encourage lunch dates to occur Monday through Thursday.

## Reminders from the Office

**DISMISSAL changes** must be communicated to the office by 1:30 pm.

**If your child is ill**, call the office first thing in the a.m. and bring in a note upon returning to school.

**If your student has an appointment**, please get a note from the doctor or dentist for our records.

**Home lunches** need to include a napkin and utensils.

For the safety of our students and staff, **cell phone use should not occur in carpool lines.**  
**Student cell phones must be turned off once in the building and placed in their backpack until dismissal.**

*Student cell phones/smart watches must be turned off, and placed in the student's backpack until the end of the school day.*





# Absences & Tardies

**Please review the Allen ISD attendance policy. This policy is also on the Allen ISD student handbook.**

As you know, regular school attendance is vital to your student's educational success. It is important that we work together for the success of each student. As part of the process and procedure changes, please note the term "partial day absence".

## **Elementary Schools:**

- School hours are 7:50 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Students who arrive at school between 7:50 a.m.- 8:15 a.m. will be marked "late" by the office
- Students who leave school **prior to 2:35 p.m. without excuse** will be marked with a **partial day absence.**

## **Parent's Note after an Absence**

On the day a student is absent:

1. Parent/guardian should call the attendance clerk of their school.

2. Upon returning to school, the student must bring a note, signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence and the date(s) of the absence. **After 3 school days, the absence will be considered unexcused if a note has not been received by the school office.** If they are **absent more than 5 days, the school requires a doctor's note.** Faxed notes or email a picture of your note may be accepted if they contain all the required information including the parent/guardian signature.

***\* \*\*Emails will not be accepted as an official note.***

Regular school attendance is essential for your child to make the most of his/her education – to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day's learning on the previous day, and to grow as an individual. The state requires our school to track absences. Each time your child misses school during any time of day, it is counted as missing a day or a partial day. If your child misses days or parts of days totaling 10 or more, you are in violation of compulsory attendance (truancy). With a leave totaling around 10 days, your child will exceed the 10 day truancy. Another component of that law is the 90% Rule, which states that a student must be in attendance 90% of the school year to receive credit for that year. Accumulation of 18 days of absences results in violation of this rule.

Any absence for three or more days for any reason other than illness or death in the immediate family must have prior approval. Because family vacations are considered unexcused absences, Mrs. Jackson cannot approve this type of request. If you choose to take your child on an extended vacation, understand that those days will be recorded as unexcused absences which may put your child at risk of being in violation of the 90% Rule. Upon returning to school, your child's teacher will need a parent to check him/her in at the office.

Teachers may assign activities for your child to complete during their absence; however, they are not required to provide work and/or test before a student leaves for vacation.