



# COUGAR NEWS

Volume 18 Issue 1

September 2017

Dear Keeling Families,

Welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful summer and are ready to start a new school year. I am so delighted that you are part of our amazing learning community. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children.

Our skilled and devoted staff are already seeing great things from their students. Our amazing office team has registered new families, ordered needed materials and has updated student files. Our hard working and conscientious custodians have spent the entire summer thoroughly cleaning our campus. We are indeed a joyous and caring community with the common goals of nurturing responsible, kind students and promoting high-level learning.

Each year brings positive change. This includes several additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome BreeAuna Glenn, Kim Schroeder, Megan Gardner, Ryan Mayer, Kelly Sallee, Amy Wilson, Analia Lopez and Keegan Gallagher to Keeling. They bring a fun, positive energy and we are fortunate to have each and every one of them!

I know we are going to have another incredible and productive school year together. As you all know, my door is always open. Please let me know if I can help you in any way.

In Partnership,

Annette Orelup, Principal

## IMPORTANT DATES IN SEPTEMBER

9/4	NO SCHOOL-Labor Day	9/11 ACHIEVE starts
9/6	Math Challenge	9/13 Band & Orchestra start
9/11	PTO Meeting @ 5:00 p.m.	9/29 Fall Picture Day

## Information About Student Absences

We have new Arizona Department of Education guidelines regarding student absences. Please take a few minutes to read these guidelines:

- According to ARS 15-901(A), all absences in excess of 10% of instructional days (18 days) whether excused or unexcused, must be marked as **UNEXCUSED** after the 18 days.
- **PARENTS MUST ACCOMPANY THEIR CHILD for a late entry or early exit to be excused. If the parent is not with the student, it will ALWAYS be marked as UNEXCUSED regardless of the circumstance. ARS 15-803**
- **DOCTOR/DENTAL NOTES MUST BE GIVEN TO THE OFFICE TO BE EXCUSED.** If a student is leaving early for the day due to a doctor's appointment, please send your child with their note the following day. ARS 15-901

**Also please remember that to sign your child out in the office if you are checking him/her out early. Please do not go directly to the classroom. Thank you very much for your help with absences.**

**We do not allow children to be signed out after 2:15pm unless it has been prearranged.**



### **A friendly reminder...**

**Please refrain from having lengthy conversations with your child's teacher when you drop your child off to school. Teachers are happy to communicate with parents but are not able to do so effectively when the students are arriving at class. Please schedule an appointment with your child's teacher for after school if you have an important matter to discuss. Thank you so much!**

## Keeling's Community Garden-Green Thumbs Unite!

This year Keeling is partnering with the Community Food Bank to design and create a school garden! The garden will be located on the Southeast side of the playground and will include a vegetable garden, native plants, composting, water harvesting and will be enjoyed by all! Mrs. Klein will be teaching an after school gardening club on Wednesdays (look for more information about this ACHIEVE club.) If you have an interest in gardening or are wanting to learn more, we are going to need many volunteers throughout the year to help our first community garden become a success!



Our first grade reading program, Reading Sprouts, will kick off in September! Our volunteers are so excited to start working with our Keeling 1st graders! It is their goal to instill the love of reading in every child!

### REMINDER

Band and Orchestra starts on

Wednesday, September 13th after school.



**The deadline for REACH Permission to Test Form is December 1, 2017.**

**Testing policy and permission to test forms can be found on the district website:**

**<https://www.amphi.com/Page/7792>**

Our ACHIEVE after school program will start the week of Monday, September 11th. Registration packets went to the teachers that are running the various clubs and they will be inviting students to attend. If your child receives a registration packet, please return it as soon as possible. Thank you!

**Please come  
to our 1<sup>st</sup>  
PTO Meeting!  
Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.  
in the Library**

**Why come to a PTO Meeting?**

- **Connect with other parents**
- **Have a voice in activities and programs at Keeling**
  - **Organize fundraising events**
  - **Support our school and students**

**Work in partnership with teachers because  
together we shine!**

**\*\*We are currently looking for someone to fill the role of PTO president-  
if interested, please come to the meeting for information.\*\***



**COMMUNITY REWARDS  
PROGRAM**

**Don't forget to go online to  
[fryscommunityrewards.com](http://fryscommunityrewards.com)**

**and sign up with your rewards card to register so that a  
percent of your purchases go to Keeling.**

**Even if you signed up last year, you need to  
re-sign up this year.**