WRITING

DEFINITION: THE ACTIVITY OR SKILL OF MARKING COHERENT WORDS ON PAPER AND COMPOSING TEXT.

Writing is a form of communication. Everyone knows about writing to entertain, but it is also used to communicate descriptions, information, evaluations, persuade readers, and present solutions to problems.

Writing academically requires you to do a whole lot of critical thinking. You have to understand who your audience is and what they already know and what they need to know. Then you have to determine what kind of examples or facts will be the most meaningful for your readers (audience) and put it all into language that your audience will understand.

Kate Bell Elementary understands the need for students to write. Kate Bell Elementary will have students writing more to develop the critical thinking skills needed for the rigors of the state curriculum and the writing prepares students for college, career, and life.
Discuss with your child about the characters, setting, and plot of stories they read.

PRE– KINDErgarten & KINDERTarten

CONFERENCE TIMES
PK - 9:00 - 9:45
PK - 9:00 - 9:45
K - 9:45 - 10:30
K - 9:45 - 10:30

In PK, students will learn about the diversity of families and family dwellings. In addition, students will explore manmade big things, nature-made big things, and imaginary big things.

Kindergarten students are learning about what makes them special, their five senses, nutrition and exercise, and how they will grow and change in one year. Kindergarten students will learn how to identify the common theme, character traits, recurring phrases, and story elements found in the various types of fairy tales, fables, and folktales.

FIRST AND SECOND GRADES

CONFERENCE TIMES
1ST, 10:45 TO 11:30
2ND, 11:30 TO 12:15

In First Grade Reading, the students will have a learning opportunity to explore and investigate the important figures, places, and items that have helped our society evolve over time.

In First Grade Math, Students will develop and use strategies for whole number addition and subtraction computations in order to solve problems. Students will identify and apply number patterns within counting sequences in order to describe relationships. Students will use multiple models and counting strategies to develop number sense and represent numbers to 99 in flexible ways.

In Second Grade Reading, the students are learning about: Poetry is the arrangement of words in lines that have rhythm, or a regularly repeated accent, and often rhyme.

In Second Grade Math, students will represent types of addition and subtraction as it relates to models and problem structures. Students read, write, and describe whole numbers to 120. Students will represent the types of addition and subtraction as it relates to models and problem structures.

TEA RATING
Kate Bell has met standard for the last two years!
This year, we have distinctions in Reading, Science, and College Readiness.
The distinction means that more than 25% of our students score at commendable levels on the STAAR test.
Thank You Teachers, Students, and Parents for all of your hard work!
Reading is the key to success!

THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES
CONFERENCE TIMES
3RD, 12:45 TO 1:30
4TH, 1:30 TO 2:15

In Third Grade Reading, the students will have a learning opportunity to explore biography, autobiography, expository text.

In Third Grade Math, Students apply mathematical process standards to represent and explain fractional units. Estimate and Find Solutions to One- and Two-Step Addition and Subtraction Problems to 1,000. Represent and Solve One-Step Multiplication Equal-Group and Area Problems

In Fourth Grade Math, Students will use arrays, area models, and equations to represent the product and quotient of whole numbers. Students will use a variety of methods including models (e.g., concrete, pictorial and number line) to determine if two fractions are equivalent. Students will use symbols (e.g., >, <, =) to represent the comparison of two fractions.

DID YOU KNOW?
Kate Bell after 3 is full of activity. At any given time, Monday through Friday the following is happening:

Dance
Soccer
Yearbook
Tutorials
Gymnastics
Camp Cougar
Baseball
Garden Club
Basketball
Track
Cross Country
Parent meetings
Art Club
Student Council
Science
Computer/Robotics
Literacy Night

Reading is the key to success!
FIFTH GRADE

CONFERENCE TIME 2:15—3:00

During the month of October, Fifth Graders are learning

For Math:

1. Students will use concrete objects, pictorial models, including area models, to solve problems involving multiplication and division of decimals.

2. Students will use strategies and the standard algorithm to solve multi-step problems involving multiplication and division of whole numbers. Students will simplify expressions involving whole numbers and all four operations.

For Reading:

Students will read and discuss:

Persuasive text: presents evidence to convince the reader to take a certain action or to believe something. Persuasive text presents evidence to convince the reader to take a certain action or to believe something

Procedural text: includes how-to articles, recipes, instructions, and directions.

Expository: Exposition communicates information about a topic using facts and details.

KATE BELL SPOTLIGHT—CUSTODIAN STAFF

Kate Bell has an exemplary custodian staff. They ensure the cleanliness of our school everyday. The staff is very hard working and cares about the students’ education and well-being at Kate Bell.

The staff members are:

Mr. Garcia
Mr. Martinez
Ms. Reyes
Ms. Vasquez

We are very appreciative to have such a wonderful group of hard working people that love Kate Bell Elementary.
Learning to read is a challenge for many kids, but most can become good readers if they get the right help. Parents have an important job in recognizing when a child is struggling and knowing how to find help.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- Difficulty rhyming
- Difficulty hearing individual sounds
- Difficulty following directions
- Difficulty re-telling a story
- Struggles to sound out most words
- Avoids reading aloud

Parents, if you notice these signs, please take notes of what you have noticed along with the dates, and the reading activity.

Please conference with your child’s teacher and compare notes. With you and the teacher, an intervention plan can be developed to help your child with their reading difficulty.

CRITICAL THINKING

Ask your child the following questions:

1. I have three coins in my pocket. They are worth 7 cents. What do I have? (a nickel and 2 pennies)
2. I have three coins in my pocket. They are worth 16 cents. What do I have? (a dime, a nickel, a penny)
3. I have three coins in my pocket. They are worth 11 cents. What do I have? (2 nickels and 1 penny)
4. I have three coins in my pocket. They are worth 30 cents. What do I have? (3 dimes)
5. I have six coins in my pocket. They are worth 30 cents. What could I have? (1 quarter and 5 pennies or 6 nickels). This problem has more than one answer. It is challenging for children to experience problems like this.
6. I have coins in my pocket, which have a value of 11 cents. How many coins could I have?

Learning to read is a challenge for many...
COMMUNITY ACTION

Attendance matters for success in school and in life, and absences can easily add up to academic trouble.

At HISD, missing more than 10 percent (or 17 days) of school a year can lead to a student **not receiving a grade or being retained**, but more importantly, it represents lost time in the classroom and a lost opportunity to learn.

- **A child is considered chronically absent if they miss two or more days a month.** That includes un-excused and excused absences.
- **Attendance matters as early as kindergarten.** Studies show that children who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade have trouble mastering reading.
- **By grade 6, chronic absence is a proven warning sign** that a student is at risk of dropping out.
- **By grade 9, good attendance can predict graduation rates** even better than eighth-grade test scores.

**Attendance also affects a school’s budget.** When students miss class, their campus’ average daily attendance rate drops, which can reduce the funding it receives to

FROM NURSE HALL,

VISION SCREENING AND REFERRALS
Fifth grade has been completed and all vision referrals have been sent home. Parents whose students attend Kate Bell student who received a vision referral and need assistance must contact the nurse at 281-983-2800. Presently vision screening for 3rd, 1st and K is presently being completed.

DENTAL PROJECT
Second grade students who are participating in the City Of Houston Dental Project must have forms signed and completed by parents to participate by Wednesday, October 22, 2014. Please have your child return the form to their classroom teacher who will turn it in to the nurse.

IMMUNIZATIONS
Parents please know that students must be in compliance with immunizations required to attend school presently. Kate Bell strives to reach 100% for IMMUNIZATION COMPLIANCE each school year. **PLEASE KNOW THAT WHEN YOU RECEIVE A LETTER TO BRING IN UPDATED IMMUNIZATIONS YOU ARE COMPLYING WITH THE LAW.**
Hispanic Heritage Parent Program
Thursday, October 16, 2014
at 6 PM.

Kate Bell Elementary’s Spirit Night
at Chick-fil-a was a huge success.
Thank you parent, students, and teachers for your support.

Kate Bell Elementary’s fundraiser will start
October 15 - 29.
Information packets will be sent home.
Thank you for your support.