



Wards Creek Elementary 6555 SR 16, St. Augustine, FL 32092 Sept. / Oct. 2014

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### OUR CORE VALUES

We believe that:

- The Character Counts Pillars of Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship are essential qualities to model and instill in our students.
- The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People are the foundation for developing leaders.
- All individuals are valuable and can make meaningful contributions.
- A caring and compassionate learning environment will support the needs of the whole child and inspire all to reach their full potential.
- Leaders are life-long learners.

### THE SEVEN HABITS OF HAPPY KIDS

1. Be Proactive – I am in charge!
  2. Begin with the end in mind – Have a plan!
  3. Put first things first – Work first, then play!
  4. Think win/win – There's plenty for all!
  5. Seek first to understand, then to be understood – Listen before you speak!
  6. Synergize – Together is better!
  7. Sharpen the saw – Balance feels best!
- BONUS:
8. Find your voice, and inspire others to find theirs – I'm on a mission!

**OUR VISION IS TO:** Be a school Where Children Excel by developing strong character and a passion for lifelong learning.

**OUR MISSION IS TO:** Engage Learners to Excel in Life and Embrace Leadership to Enhance our Local and global society.

## Jarrell's Journal

Hi Warrior Families

Our new year is off to a great start. Your wonderful children have filled the building with energy and excitement. Our teachers and staff are so delighted to have you all back for another wonderful year. This year has brought a lot of new families and we welcome you to the Warrior family! Our learning community is built on our belief that our students and their families are the very best! Please be sure to complete the volunteer application on our website so you can participate in the many outstanding activities we have planned throughout the year.

Our students benefit tremendously when we have strong parent partnerships. We hope that you be an active and involved volunteer. We appreciate your support and involvement. We also value communication and will diligently strive to keep you informed through email, websites, and student planners. Please let us know if you ever have any questions or concerns.

Here's to a great new year!  
Edie Jarrell, Learning Leader



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Friday, 9/26**

Spirit Day - Johnny Appleseed Day - wear red

**Friday, 10/3**

Spirit Day - World Smile Day - wear happy colors

PTO Board Meeting

**Monday, 10/6**

Superintendent's State of the Schools Address

**Friday, 10/10**

Spirit Day - Breast Cancer Awareness month - wear pink

PTO Mother/Son Event

**Monday, 10/13**

SAC meeting - 6:30 p.m.

**Friday, 10/17**

Spirit Day - Dictionary Day - share your favorite word

Thursday, 10/23

Spooktacular-Vendors Fair and Book Fair

**Friday, 10/24**

Planning Day - no school for students

**Wednesday, 10/29**

Leadership Day

**Friday, 10/31**

Literacy Parade - dress like your favorite book character and bring the book with you!



## Guidance Corner

With the 2014-2015 school year in full swing, I wanted to provide Wards Creek Families with several guidance updates. I would also like to welcome Mrs. Kimberly Peterson to the Guidance Department! Mrs. Peterson has taken on the role as a Guidance Para and is a huge asset to the program.

This year brings research based programs to the students at Wards Creek. The Second Step program helps students learn about the concepts of empathy, anxiety, emotion-management, and problem-solving skills and how to put these concepts into action. Each grade level has a lesson from the program during WOW Wednesdays. The program was launched with WCES's 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders, where students were presented with a lesson on Gossip. The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders learned how to identify feelings. WOW did they come up with an amazing amount of "feeling" words! On WOW Wednesdays, please remember to ask your Warrior about their guidance lesson.

Social Skills Groups and Lunch Bunches have also been implemented at Wards Creek. Several Curriculums are used, which include the "Owning Up" program and "Skillstreaming". The goal of these programs is to help student's develop and fine tune their Social Skills. Finally, WCES is pleased to have "HeartMath" installed in the Guidance Small Group Classroom. This program uses biofeedback (finger sensor) to help students learn to connect their hearts and minds in order to breathe correctly and use self-calming techniques.

Please feel free to contact the Guidance Department with any questions at 547-8743, [leanne.adolf@St.johns.k12.fl.us](mailto:leanne.adolf@St.johns.k12.fl.us), or [Kimberly.peterson@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Kimberly.peterson@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

Sincerely,

Leanne Adolf

Guidance Counselor

The Second Step program is universal, classroom-based, and designed to:

Increase  
Students' school  
success



Promote  
Social-emotional  
competence and  
self-regulation



Decrease  
Problem Behaviors



Dear Families of Wards Creek Elementary,

Welcome back! I hope everyone is enjoying the start to the 2014-2015 school year. This year I will continue sharing information about each of the Florida Standards, Anchor Standards for Reading. These are the standards that guide Kindergarten through 12th grade students in becoming college and career ready. Last year I shared standard one-six. This month we will examine standard seven of The Florida Standards for Reading. Anchor Standard Seven Reads:

Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

This standard starts in kindergarten with students describing the relationship between illustrations and the story in which they appear and continues to progress throughout the grades. For example, third grade students are asked to explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting) and then by fifth grade students are asked to analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text (e.g., graphic novel, multimedia presentation of fiction, folktale, myth, poem). This same standard continues to develop in middle and high school.

To support your child in achieving this standard, consider asking your child the following questions about what they are reading:

- How does this illustration connect with the text?
- Why do you think the illustrator include this particular illustration?
- How does this visual contribute to the tone of the text?

These standards are rigorous and require our students to be critical readers and thinkers. Continue reading with your child and ask them to talk about what they are reading!

All the best,

Claire Riddell

[Claire.Riddell@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Claire.Riddell@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

(904) 547-8747

Dear WCES Families,

This is a reminder that after school enrichment activities are accepting registrations for their programs. It's not too late to sign your child up for these activities. These activities are offered after school. Students will report to these activities directly after dismissal of school. Activities starting now are:

**Archery (offered on Tuesdays)**

Archery can be a life-long endeavor, come out and learn now to play forever.

**Bricks 4 Kidz (offered on Tuesdays)**

This is a hands-on class where students will build educational models including motorized machines with LEGO Bricks. All students will take home 1 mini-figure at the end of the session.

**Building Minds (offered on Wednesdays)**

LEGO products used to make science and engineering fun and easy to understand. Kids also learn valuable life skills like teamwork, communication and problem solving.

**Club Scientific (offered on Wednesdays)**

Explore by blasting off screaming rocket balloons, building fluorescent Saturn model, making a planetarium, learn the physics behind the twists and turns of roller coasters, Cartesian diver and a kaleidoscope. Explore geodes and discover how rocks are formed. Explore the chemical elements and reactions. Discover how magic tricks are really science. Facts and experiments about stuff that's slimy, mushy, oozy, crusty, scaly, stinky, and smelly.

**Drama Kids (offered on Wednesdays)**

Mention the newsletter and get FREE Registration! For over 30 years, Drama Kids International has been the world's most popular children's drama program with 60,000 students enrolled across 25 different countries! Drama Kids utilizes new activities each week to develop confidence, speaking skills, and acting skills in an exciting and positive environment. Enrollment is now open for 1st through 5th grade students. Only 8 spots left! Class is held weekly for one hour on Wednesdays immediately following the school day and will conclude with an original play in May!

Register today at [www.dramakids.com/fl3](http://www.dramakids.com/fl3) or call (904) 257-5752.

**Engineering for Kids (offered on Mondays)**

Mechanical, aerospace, civil, chemical, computer, marine, industrial and environmental. Build and shoot rockets, race mag-lev trains, build your own flashlight, build and program robots, construct and weight test bridges and skyscrapers, build a paddleboat.

**First Coast School of Music**

Music lessons, piano, guitar, violin, drums, and voice.

**Lions Den Karate (offered on Thursdays)**

Karate basics, students will learn history of martial arts as well as simple self-defense techniques. Belt advancement is possible pending satisfaction of rank requirements at each level.

**Kidz Art (offered on Wednesdays)**

Self-Expression leads to Self-Confidence. A unique, confidence-building, creative arts program! If you can dream, you can draw!

**Shinsei Martial Arts (offered on Tuesdays)**

Children will receive the benefits of training in the art of karate. They will be empowered to achieve their full potential by emphasizing self-defense, fitness, and life skills in a friendly, safe, and positive environment. Martial Arts can help develop self-discipline, self-control confidence, humility, strong work ethic, build physical strength and health.

**Soccer Shots (offered on Thursdays)**

Introduce your child to the beautiful game of soccer in a creative, age appropriate, non-competitive setting. Classes taught by coaches who are passionate about working with children and about soccer.

**TOTS (Teams of Tomorrow, basketball) (offered on Fridays)**

TOTS is a power packed program where students learn cool basketball dribbling skills and tricks. All these skills are put together into routines accompanied to music. Then, like young Harlem Globe Trotters, we perform in public! TOTS will be performing the half-time for other basketball teams. The fundamentals learned here will create a solid foundation for athletics which will help students in any sport they pursue!

For any questions, please contact Casie Messenger.



## PTO Update

Hello Warrior Families!

WCE PTO welcomes input from you. We are always looking for new and creative ideas to help raise funds for the school. Joining the PTO, buying spirit wear and attending our functions helps us raise money. All of the funds raised go back to WCE. This year we are raising money to advance technology in the classrooms.

Please consider becoming a volunteer. Volunteering is a rewarding experience. Teachers always need an extra pair of hands, we need proctors during testing, and, of course, WEC PTO appreciates help with various happenings during the year. We do thank all of you who have helped before. Please know that everything you do to help our school is appreciated.

Lighting the Torch- Family Fun Festival was scheduled for September 19 but was postponed due to weather and has been rescheduled for **October 10<sup>th</sup>**. This night will include fun and games. We will also have representatives of our learning leader groups on hand to explain how they have helped make WCE a Leader in Me school. We are also excited to have the Pacetti Bay Jazz band as part of the night's entertainment. Be ready to jump in bounce houses, get your hair streaked green, and have some fun.

Also on the October 10<sup>th</sup>, will be our PTO Loves Teachers, as well as the Mother and Son event night. October 23<sup>rd</sup> is our annual Business Expo and Spooktacular.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Ricke Ricciardelli  
President

## Davidson Cares- Amazon Smile!

Davidson Realty has signed up for Amazon's new program, Amazon Smile, where someone who uses Amazon can select a charity that gets .05% of any purchase made. It doesn't cost the consumer anything and does not affect any deals the consumer may get. You can use it as an Amazon Prime member, too!

Everyone at Davidson will be using it and we were hoping to have, teachers, staff, community members, as well as students and families to use our link when purchasing -

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/46-0918130>

You can also get to the link by visiting [www.davidsoncares.com](http://www.davidsoncares.com)

## ESE Parent Advisory Council

The ESE Parent Advisory Council meets twice per year to inform the school district about ways in which we can improve our efforts in serving students with disabilities. All parents are invited to participate. For more information contact the ESE office at 904-547-7712.

Next meetings -

October 16, 2014

6:00pm - 8:00pm

40 Orange Street, 3rd floor auditorium

February 26, 2015

6:00pm - 8:00pm

40 Orange Street, 3rd floor auditorium

## News from the Nurse

To Parents, Teachers and Staff at Wards Creek Elementary:

You may have heard the media reports about a multistate outbreak of a virus called “enterovirus D68” (or “EV-D68”), which is sending some children to the hospital with respiratory illness. Although there have been no confirmed cases of EV-D68 at the local hospitals and pediatricians, they are reporting seeing an increase in illnesses that may be consistent with this virus and they are monitoring the activity very closely. Given that all types of enterovirus are contagious, we need to be diligent and preemptive, especially with hand washing and proper infection control techniques.

### What is enterovirus D68?

- An enterovirus is a common virus – there are more than 100 types of enteroviruses.
- EV-D68 is a less common type of enterovirus which causes respiratory illness. Laboratory testing should be considered if the presentation is unclear and the severity is worsening. Testing is being done, very selectively, by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Babies, children and adolescents are more likely to be infected and become sick.

### What are the symptoms?

- EV-D68 causes mild to severe respiratory illness and could exacerbate asthma.
- The full spectrum of EV-D68 disease is not known.

### How is it transmitted?

- Like other enteroviruses, EV-D68 seems to spread through close contact with infected people.

### How is it treated?

- There is no specific treatment for EV-D68 infection other than supportive care.
- Some patients with severe respiratory illness may need to be hospitalized.

### Is EV-D68 new?

- No, EV-D68 was first reported in 1962 in California. Rare clusters have been reported since then.

### What can be done to reduce the risk of infection?


- Wash hands often. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid sharing cups or eating utensils with people who are sick.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g., toys and doorknobs).
- Stay home and see your health care provider if you are ill.
- Children who experience difficulty breathing with cold symptoms should be evaluated by a health care provider.

At Wards Creek, we are vigilant in our cleanliness, as well as making sure that children are washing their hands often. Please make sure you are carrying this through at home as well. If your student is exhibiting any signs and symptoms listed above, please take them to their pediatrician for a professional evaluation. If you have any questions or problems, feel free to call or email me.


Angela Kalem, RN BSN  
School Nurse  
904-547-8738

[Angela.Kalem@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Angela.Kalem@stjohns.k12.fl.us)


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**“19<sup>th</sup> Annual Ancient City Kid Day”**

EPIC Behavioral Healthcare

1400 Old Dixie Highway

St. Augustine, FL 32084

(904) 829-2273

Contact: Teresa Andrews

**St. Augustine, FL** - Attention Parents! Looking for something fun to do with your kids that doesn't cost a lot of money? Then the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Ancient City Kids Day is for you! Ancient City Kids Day will be held on **Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 11am-3pm** at Francis Field on Castillo Drive. This event, coordinated by local agencies, is a day of fun-filled activities for children and families. The event is free for the public, and will include over 40 youth service agencies offering carnival style games and activities, arts and crafts, contests for the kids and free entertainment all day plus Smokey the Bear. No child will leave empty-handed as t-shirts, prizes or goodies are given out all day. Educational information on resources in our community is available for parents. The only cost to the public will be for food or drinks. Ancient City Kids Day has grown to be one of St. Augustine's biggest youth activities, and is a popular event for the whole family. Last year's event brought approximately 3,000 people out for the fun. For more information, please feel free to contact EPIC Behavioral Healthcare at 829-2273.



Horse Sense & Sensitivity's  
2<sup>nd</sup> annual  
**Round Up!**

Saturday, November 15th  
10am-2pm

Bailey's Farm  
2202 Bishop Estates Rd.  
St. Johns, FL 32259

Join us for:

- \*Games
- \*Prizes
- \*Food
- \*Pony Rides
- \*and more!

