



Wards Creek Elementary 6555 SR 16, St. Augustine, FL 32092 March/ April 2016

Table of Contents

- Jarrell's Journal-Page 2
- Note from ILC- Page 3
- PTO Glow Run-Page 3
- VPK/Kindergarten Registration-Page 4
- Kindergarten Info-Page 5-6
- Report Cards-Page 6
- Safety Leader Info and Spotlight-Page 7-8
- Yearbooks-Page 9
- Tech Bytes-Page 10
- Extended Day-Page 10-11
- HAC-Page 12
- Warrior Highlights-Pages 13-18
- Platinum Business Partners-Page 19
- Attendance-Page 19
- Advertisements and Announcements - Pages-20-21

OUR VISION IS TO: Be a school Where Children Excel by developing leaders with 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.

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!

Jarrell's Journal

Hi Warrior Families!

The log cutters worked tirelessly all day to cut trees and stack them in piles. One log cutter did not even stop for lunch. He just pushed through the entire day and had an impressive load. His counterpart disappeared a few times during the day. This really frustrated the other log cutter because at the end of the day, the second log cutter had accomplished more, even though he took breaks. When he was asked why he took breaks, he said, "I was sharpening my saw."

If we don't take time to sharpen our saws, we will not be sharp and well prepared for what lies ahead. Habit 7 reminds us that we need to create balance in our lives to be healthy and happy. Spring Break is here and this a great time to plan some relaxing and renewing activities for yourself and your family. The weather is so lovely and there are many things to do in our area. I hope that you make time to sharpen your saw and enjoy the things that really matter in your life. When we return from Spring Break, we will be racing toward the finish line. The last quarter of the year is our time to cover any unfinished content, collect evidence of mastery through assessments, and have some celebratory fun too! This time of the year, attendance is so critical. Thank you for making school a priority in your child's life. Their time at school is the surest way for them to be prepared to make the progress they need to be successful.

I am grateful for your partnership and support of our school.

Grateful to serve,

Edie Jarrell, Principal



A Note from your ILC: Christa Ritchie

It is hard to believe that spring is here and we are inching our way to the close of another school year. This has been a wonderful first year at Wards Creek and I am so excited about what's to come. I will begin compiling a list of "Perfect" summer reads that will be in an upcoming Torch. Summer is a great time to just sit down and enjoy great books. Our hope here at WCES is that each child will leave our school loving books and wanting to read just because. Reading is one of the biggest indicators of future success.

10 Reasons why your child should read every day!

1. Mental Stimulation
2. Stress Reduction
3. Knowledge
4. Vocabulary Expansion
5. Memory Improvement
6. Stronger Analytical Thinking Skills
7. Improved Focus and Concentration
8. Better Writing Skills
9. Tranquility
10. Free Entertainment



<http://www.lifehack.org/articles/lifestyle/10-benefits-reading-why-you-should-read-everyday.html>

Also, check on the FSA parent portal link below: This link will allow you to practice with your child at home FSA style questions.

<http://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/>

Don't forget to sign-up for the Glow Run, which is coming up on April 1st!





Enrollment for the 2016-2017 school year is currently full.

Please visit ecs4kids.org to find other providers in our area.



Early KG registration is **HERE!**
Click the link below to schedule an appointment.

<http://www-wce.stjohns.k12.fl.us/registration/>

Skills Your Child Should Know Before Coming To Kindergarten

Children don't need to be able to read by the time they enter kindergarten, instead students should be ready to be taught how to read. Parents should read, sing, and talk with their child daily to prepare them.

Here are some examples of what children should be able to do:

- *Recognize alphabet letters. This means recognizing isolated letters, not just memorizing them in sequence.
- *Know their first and last name. Be able to recognize name in print.
- *Count, typically students should be able to reach at least 20, and they need to understand the concept that each number corresponds to a quantity.
- *Recognize numbers and patterns. This includes being able to distinguish between letters and numbers.
- *Identify shapes and colors. Can sort and classify by shape, size, and color.
- *Share, wait their turn, and communicate with words, not actions when they are upset.
- *Pay attention: students should be able to sit long enough to hear a story and be able to understand and follow two-step and three-step directions.
- *Zip, snap, tie, button, and fasten Velcro. They should be able to tie their own shoes and take care of their bathroom needs independently.
- *Cut and glue independently.
- *They should be practicing their phone number and address.
- *Please see the additional handout with *SOME* of the high frequency words your child will learn in kindergarten.



Below is a sample of **some** high frequency and decodable words your child will be expected to know in Kindergarten. Be proactive! Print these words to practice with your child over the summer. Happy reading! ☺

I	see	my	like	to	a
an	the	can	go	am	is
for	had	what	you	It	will
me	in	that	be	up	play



Report Cards will be posted on Monday, April 4th.
To view your child's progress you will need to access
Home Access Center (HAC).

Click the link below to create an account or sign in.

If you need assistance please email
Christina.King@stjohns.k12.fl.us
<http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/hac/>



ATTENTION RISING 5TH GRADERS!

Safety Leader Applications for 2016-2017 are available!

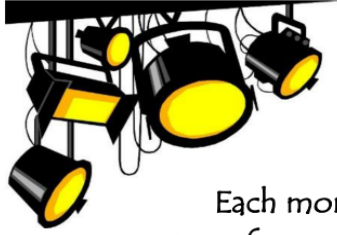
Visit our webpage for an application and more info.

If you have questions please see Mrs. King. ☺

<http://www-wce.stjohns.k12.fl.us/patrols>

Applicant Timeline

1. April 1st: Applications Due to Mrs. King
*Late applications WILL NOT be accepted.
2. May 2nd – 6th: Selections Finalized
3. May 9th – New Safety Leaders Announced ☺
4. May 9th – 13th: New Safety Leader Training
5. May 16th – 27th: Fulltime Safety Leader!



Safety Leader Spotlight

Each month we feature students who are nominated for outstanding performance. These students arrive to school early, leave late, and have additional jobs around school during the day in addition to their regular duties as a 5th grade students.



Caden W. was nominated by Mrs. Kenyon. He is the BEST! He is responsible, respectful, and gets the job done! Way to go Caden!

Reagan was nominated by Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Tassopoulos. She is a ray of sunshine each morning when she comes to pick up folders. She brightens the room and asks if we need anything else! Mrs. Tassopoulos also says that she is super sweet, helpful, and always punctual. Thank you Reagan!



Alyssa W. was nominated by Mrs. Keller and Mrs. Shreves. She takes the extra time to double check with teachers to see if their items are ready for the front desk. She is also very polite. YOU ROCK Alyssa!

Wards Creek Elementary

Price Now
\$25.00

Price After
February 12, 2016
\$35.00

**Order your yearbook
with credit card at:**
www.leonards.com/yearbooks
Then enter your order number: 34786

ONLINE ORDERING ONLY!

No Cash will be accepted.
No Checks will be accepted.
No Money Orders will be accepted.

Guarantee of satisfaction or payment will be refunded.
100% Satisfacción Garantizada.



Photography ♦ Printing ♦ Publishing
P.O. Box 1928 ♦ St. Augustine, Florida 32085-1928 ♦ (904) 209-3300 ♦ www.leonards.com

http://www.leonards.com/yearbooks?con_no=34786

March Technology Bytes

By Mrs. Battaglini and Ms. D. Smith

It's said that "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." We have certainly been approaching "technology parenting" like a lion. While being diligent and proactive with your family's technology use can't be stressed enough, let's flip-our-focus and take a closer look at all of the amazing learning and fun that technology provides. Check out the link below!

https://www.common sense media.org/lists/50-apps-all-kids-should-play-at-least-once?utm_source=012216+Default&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=weekly

Extended Day 2016/17:

Extended Day Early Registration for 2016-17 will open on March 1, 2016.

We will be accepting early registration for the extended day program for 2016-17 school year starting March 1st through May 26th. The benefits of registering early is you will receive a \$25 discount and it will hold your child's slot in our program. The amount to register is \$50.00 if registered on or before the last day of school. Registration will open again on August 3rd 2016. The registration on August 3rd will be \$75.00. Please note that there will be two monthly payments due in August. The first monthly payment will be due on August 3rd and the second monthly payment will be due on August 15th. (See page 11 for the payment calendar!)

The registration forms and fee schedules can be found on our website or you can get a copy from the front office. If you have any questions please contact Casey Messenger at (904)547-8750 or casiemessenger@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Wards Creek
Elementary

Schedule of Fees

2016-2017
School Year

Extended Day

In an effort to help clarify our fee schedule; below is a detailed explanation of our payment procedures.

The school calendar year consists of 180 days that the children are in attendance. Each month varies from another in the amount of days attended. Due to the variance, we have broken up the extended day fees into 10 equal payments for your convenience. Each payment covers 18 days of child care.

Florida state law requires that all services must be paid in full prior to services being rendered.

Due to state law and regulation payments are due on the 15th of the month (exp-August before we are in attendance). All payments past due by 5 days will be rendered a \$5.00 late fee and \$5.00 fee per every 5 days late after that. If balance is unpaid by the date in the "Covers Your Childs Care Through:" box below, your child will be unable to attend Extended Day until balance is paid in full.

*Please make all checks payable to WCE.
Please indicate your child's name in the notes.

AUG 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

OCT 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOV 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DEC 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JAN 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEB 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JUNE 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Payment #	Due	Payment covers care through-
1	Aug 1st	Aug. 10th - Sept. 2nd
2	Aug. 15th	Sept. 6th - Sept. 29th
3	Sept. 15th	Sept. 30th - October 26th
4	Oct. 15th	Oct. 27th - Nov. 22nd
5	Nov. 15th	Nov. 28th - Dec. 21st
6	Dec. 15th	Jan. 5th - Jan. 31st
7	Jan. 15th	Feb. 1st - Feb. 28th
8	Feb. 15th	March 1st - April 3rd
9	March 15th	April 4th - April 28th
10	April 15th	May 1st - May 24th

Program Per-month	Quantity Per-student	Daily Per-day
AM	1	\$5.56
		Fulltime only
After Care	1	\$11.11
		Fulltime only
Before and After	1	\$16.67
		Fulltime only
Misc.		
Wednesday Only	per child	\$20.00
Drop In PM	per child	\$30.00
Drop In AM	per child	\$20.00

Wards Creek Elementary Home Access Center (HAC) Account Registration Instructions



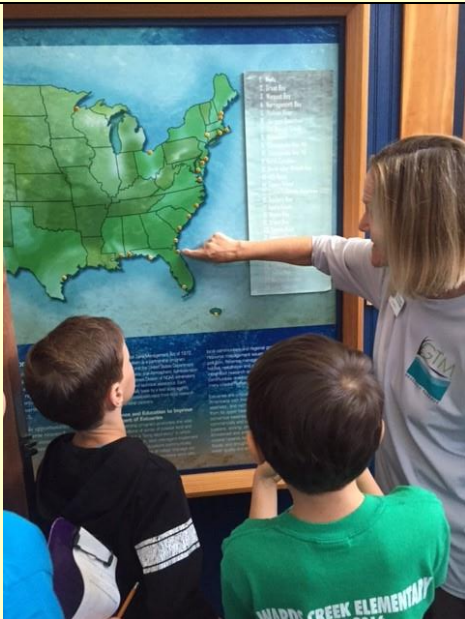
Accessing Home Access Center (HAC) for the first time (applies to new users and existing Parent Assistant (PA) users):

1. **If you have a current PA account**, you can use the same Username and Password to login to HAC. Enter your Username and Password at the new HAC website:
<http://parents.stjohns.k12.fl.us/hac>
2. **How to get a Home Access Center account (for new users who do not have a Parent Assistant (PA) account):**
 - a. Parents/Guardians can then register online:
 - i. <http://parents.stjohns.k12.fl.us/hac>
 - ii. At the Home Access Center Login screen, click "here" below the statement, "If you do not have a username and password...."
 - iii. At the Home Access Center User Registration:
 1. Enter your First name, Last name, City and Zip Code as it appears in eSchoolPlus
 - a. Standard City spellings include: Saint Augustine, East Palatka, Ponte Vedra, Ponte Vedra Beach, Elkton, Jacksonville, Saint Johns, Hastings and Fruit Cove
 2. Then click the Register button
 3. (next screen) Then create your Username (using your email address)
 4. Then create two challenge questions (something detailed only you would know) (Example: What was your first car?)
 5. Review and accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy
 6. Click the Finish button
 - iv. Click the link in your HAC email to create your HAC password
 - v. A webpage will load with your challenge questions. After you answer your challenge questions, you will then be able to create your password, (please use at least eight characters including a number or special character)
 - vi. You can now login to HAC using your new Username and Password
3. **If you have forgotten your Password:**
 - a. On the login screen, click the "forgot my username or password" link
 - b. At the Forgotten Username or Password screen, enter your email address on file
 - c. Then click the "submit" button
 - d. An email will be sent to you with a web link to a HAC challenge question
 - e. After you answer the challenge questions correctly, you will be able to view your Username or reset your password. (You cannot change your Username once set)

If you have trouble creating a HAC user account, please contact Mrs. King at Christina.King@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Warrior Highlights: Super Second Grade

Since only two classes can go at a time to the Guana, Tolomato, Matanzas Reserve (GTM Reserve), some of the second graders have gone and some are anxiously waiting to experience this awesome field trip. Check out the learning fun had by Mrs. Kamm's class when they went to GTM:



Learning the importance of estuaries.



Using binoculars to see the birds!



Hands-on learning!



Watch out for flying whales!

Warrior Highlights!

Cool Kindergarten

Kindergarten is preparing for spring with a study of plants and bugs. We have many butterflies to be released in our Kinder Garden! We also took a trip see the Bartram Trail High School production of Mary Poppins. It was fun to see high school students on stage and singing. Our students really enjoyed the experience.



Excellent ESE!

Pre-K Happenings with Mrs. O'Rourke!

Pre-K has been busy learning pre-academic concepts through their study of trees! We've counted & sorted tree parts. We practiced our letters with our favorite book Chicka Chicka Boom Boom! We shared what we knew about trees, and did some cool tree crafts!



Fabulous First Grade!

The First Grade Team would like to thank the families of WCE for helping support their service project with Wolfson Children's Hospital. We were able to make a great contribution to the patients at Wolfson.

Mrs. Adams
 Mr. Heise
 Mrs. Keller
 Mrs. Miller
 Mrs. Piggott
 Mrs. Romano
 Mrs. Shinkre
 Mrs. Washington



Phenomenal Fifth Grade!

Our fabulous fifth grade students began preparing in November for the fifth grade service project, **I HEART BOOKS**. They decorated boxes to go in each commons area so students all over the school could donate gently used books. They also helped to collect and sort the books every week. The book swap was held February 17-19. As a result of their hard work, every student in Wards Creek walked away from the book swap with books in their hands. In addition to placing a book in every child's hand, \$526 was raised to benefit the American Heart Association. Thank you Wards Creek students for your support!



Warrior Highlights!

THIRD GRADE LEADERS WITH CHARACTER

We are very proud of our Third Grade Warriors who were elected by their peers for exhibiting good character.

These are the students for **February: Caring** ~

- From Mrs. Lawless' Class- **Fiona Polatas**
- From Mrs. Oswald's Class- **Erin Bastow**
- From Mrs. Allen & Ms. Jacobs' Class- **Brienna Jones**
- From Mrs. Jarriel's Class- **Grace Maxham**
- From Mrs. Lareau's Class- **Kalyn Willis**
- From Mrs. Klein's Class - **Kaitlyn Alexander**
- From Mrs. Truelove's Class- **Kyle Nelson**
- From Mrs. Blaylock's Class- **Maurade Miller**
- From Mr. Milite's Class- **Christopher Johns**

Warrior Highlights!



News from the P.E. Hut

- 1) Creekside High School Elementary Track Meet is on April 6th, 2016. Information coming out soon.
Contact Mrs. Washington with questions.
- 2) First Coast Kids Triathlon: Information coming soon!
Race Date: May 21 and 22 Triathlon Club signups are in April!



Fantastic Fourth Grade!

We are currently preparing for our Math and Reading FSA testing! Our test dates for math are April 1st and April 4th. Our FSA testing will be from April 11 through April 14. To help prepare your children here are a few helpful tips!

Reading:

- Read
- Read newspapers, periodicals, fairy tales, and biographies. Encourage your child to read every night.
- Talk and write about what you've read.
- Stop at unknown words. Discuss what the words might mean and if the text helps understand the unknown word.
- Summarization is one of the most difficult tasks; provide relevant practice.
- Read

Math:

- Underline the question - you need to know what is being asked
- Think about how to solve the problem - which process, operations, equations
- Re-read the problem completely
- Draw a picture or diagram if appropriate
- Circle key words that will help guide your problem solving process
- Solve the problem and determine if the solution makes sense.
- Check your work

Test taking Strategies:

- Practice using the online tools provided through DOE (fsaassessments.org)
- Organize your work folder and work out problems completely
- Don't stay on a question too long. If you can't think about how to begin, flag the questions and move to another questions. Often a different questions will help you remember how to solve one you've flagged
- Don't leave questions blank.

Kindergarten Team and Comfort for Canines



This year our Kindergarten classes at Wards Creek have begun a community service project to help our local animal shelters and we need your help!

How you can help:

Clean out your closet and throw in the towel! The shelters are in need of these items:

Blankets, towels, fleece throws, pet beds, and baby blankets.

Think soft, absorbent, and not too bulky... things you'd wash at home. Items that can cushion the bottoms of crates and kennels, and keep dogs' noses, paws and ears dry.

Items that are not so good to donate:

- *For the most part, shelters do not want bed sheets—they are not absorbent enough and do not stand up to repeated laundering. Anything too bulky is difficult for the shelter staffs to manage; this precludes comforters, bedspreads, heavy area rugs, queen or king-sized quilts and mattress covers.*
- *No pillows at all.*
- *No electric blankets, please, unless the cords are removed.*
- *No clothes, please!*

Feel free to start sending in these items now. You can either send it in with your child, leave it at the front desk, or walk it in to your child's classroom. Thank you so much for your help and support. Look for an update soon after our first drop off to the shelters!

Third Grade Service Project

****Clinic Supplies****

Help the Clinic keep Warriors healthy and happy!

You may send in donated items with your child, or drop them off at the clinic. Please mention our 3rd grade service project. Our student leaders will use graphs to keep track of items donated, in order to adjust the supply list as needed. Thank you for supporting our WCE clinic and the 3rd grade service project!

Clinic Needs:

Food Stuff *(These items are listed in the priority/quantity of need . The top three items need replenishing regularly.)*

- **Small** water bottles (only **mini** water bottles, please)
- Goldfish
- Animal crackers
- Children's protein bars (suggestion: K bars made by Clif Bars)
- Gluten free children's bars (Kind bars, Lara and Luna bars have some gluten free)
- Small (4 oz.) apple juice boxes
- Small (4 oz.) variety juice boxes
- Nut free cookies (shelf stable only - suggestion: *Duo Cookies* that are individually packaged nut free cookies)
- Squeeze apple sauce
- Go Picnic brand gluten free shelf stable snack/lunch packs
- Gluten free beef and turkey jerky (must not need to be refrigerated)
- Snack pack pudding (not refrigerated)

Clinic Needs: Additional needs

- Clorox wipes
- GOOD sandwich size Ziploc bags. I cannot use dollar store bags, they leak.
- Alcohol prep pads
- Ace bandages
- Any EUC arm slings that people might have that they are no longer using

Platinum Business Partners



KEN BERRY, B.S.N., D.C.

- SHORT TERM CARE FOR PAIN
- WALK INS WELCOME
- NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY
- PAIN RELIEF IS OUR GOAL

904-940-0361

WWW.THEVILLAGECHIROPRACTOR.COM



Two missed days a month adds up to being a half a year behind by the time your child reaches 4th grade.

And once a child falls behind, they rarely catch up.

It is important that your child arrive at school between 8:00 am and 8:25 am. Please make sure your child arrives at school by **8:25 am** so that they can be in their classroom ready to learn by 8:30 am. If you child is absent please send a note or email within 48 hours of returning to school.

This Year We

GO

BIG

WE ARE RECYCLING BIG
TO EARN BIG!

DONATE LASER PRINTER CARTRIDGES
TO HELP US EARN TOWARDS OUR GOAL!



FOR MORE INFO VISIT RECYCLINGFACTORY.COM

ST. AUGUSTINE YOUTH SERVICES

Our 3rd Annual

is proud to present

Pinwheel Parade

Saturday, April 2nd, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Let's March Against Child Abuse Together!

The Parade will take place at St. Augustine Youth Services' Hutson Family Campus, located at 6624 U.S. 1 South, next to the Southeast Branch Library.

F R E E Activities for Kids, Refreshments & Helpful Information for Adults

Preventing Child Abuse is Everyone's Job!

For further information about how YOU can get involved, contact SAYS at (904) 829-1770 or visit us on Facebook



The "Pinwheel Parade" will take place in conjunction with the national Million March Against Child Abuse being held in Washington D.C. the same day.

Information contained in these materials are neither sponsored by nor endorsed by the School Board of St. Johns County, its agents or its employees.