

THE TORCH

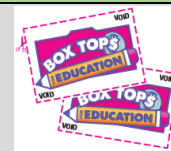
Monday	10-14	Hurricane Make-up Day. Related Arts Day D
Tuesday	10-15	TORCH News from 3:00-3:45. Bookshelf open from 4:00-6:00 pm. Related Arts Day C
Wednesday	10-16	Leaders with Character Celebration. Early Release Day – Dismissal starts at 1:45. Related Arts Day D
Thursday	10-17	TORCH Card Dance Reward. Robotics Club from 3:00-3:45. Related Arts Day E
Friday	10-18	Wear a Necktie. Related Arts Day F

Hello Warrior families! Our first Leaders with Character Celebration will be held on Wednesday, October 16th. This will be a quarterly event in which we will recognize students from each homeroom class for: Academic Excellence, Growth Mindset, Community Service, and Character Counts. These will be grade level ceremonies in which all students will participate. The family members of those being recognized will receive an invitation to attend by the teacher. Visitors must have been cleared for school access. <https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply/>

Our first TORCH card celebration will take place on Thursday, October 17th. The reward for students having the required points on their card the first nine-weeks will be a dance during the school day. Please check your child's card to see if they have earned this event.

SAVE THE DATE for our First Annual Warrior Ball will be held on Friday, November 8th from 6:00-8:00pm, at the Pacetti Bay Gymnasium. We will have food, a DJ, dancing, photo stations, and raffle baskets. Pre-Ticket Sales will start October 22nd. Keep an eye out for the flyer in Tuesday folders.

Would you like a way to send a message to your child in lights? The WCE marquee is a great opportunity to send messages to your child the entire week of their birthday. Just imagine, they can read a special saying each day as they arrive to school. For just \$20 the week is yours. Beginning November 1st, email Anita.Yurkovich@stjohns.k12.fl.us to reserve your week. This will replace the previous practice of reserving the "rock." The funds received for this will be used to support the Art Leaders in using the rock to create a signature piece to celebrate the school year theme.



It's time for Box Top Tuesday.

Send in all the box tops you've been collecting by this Tuesday, October 15th. Also, keep scanning your receipts to collect the digital box tops too! Haven't started scanning yet? Download the Box Top app on your phone, choose Wards Creek Elementary as your school, and help us earn electronically!

More TORCH News on the Next Page

We are excited to announce that Heather Shreves, 4th grade teacher, is being recognized this year as Wards Creek's Teacher of the Year. Samantha Hays, 2nd grade teacher, is being honored as Rookie Teacher of the Year. Anita Yurkovich, Receptionist, is our School-Related Employee of the Year. These outstanding individuals will be honored at the district celebrations. We are so grateful to have them represent the greatness at Wards Creek Elementary.

Spotlight on Related Arts:

Hello from the Related Arts Team. We are off to a great year and students have really shown enjoyment for sharpening their saws in music, art, P.E. and media. Applications for this year's Art Leaders Club were distributed to 5th grade and should be completed and returned no later than October 25th. If your child is interested and did not receive an application, please let Ms. Stimson know. The club is open to 5th grade students who showcase academic and artistic achievements while demonstrating leadership qualities. For music, students will soon have an opportunity to apply for this year's Ukulele club. Mr. James has reported that applications will be distributed soon. Please remember that "The Bookshelf" is open to families every Tuesday from 4-6pm in the media center. As always, there are fun activities and you can check out books for the whole family!

Each night your child should have independent reading time. Research indicates that more students read, the stronger readers they will become. Students should self-monitor while reading. Some questions they can ask themselves are:

- What is happening in my book?
- Do I understand what I am reading?
- Do I know what the words mean?
- Is the book interesting and fun to read?

The week of October 21st is Red Ribbon and Bully Awareness week. See attached activities we have planned for the students.

• The 8 Habits of Happy Kids

- Habit 1 – Be Proactive
- Habit 2 – Begin with the End in Mind
- Habit 3 – Put First Things First
- Habit 4 – Think Win-Win
- Habit 5 – Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood
- Habit 6 – Synergize
- Habit 7 – Sharpen the Saw
- Habit 8 – Find Your Voice and Inspire Others to Find Theirs