



The TORCH

Wards Creek
Elementary

August 2022

Welcome Back Warriors

We hope your summer has been fantastic and you have been able to spend lots of time having fun with friends and family. It seems almost impossible that the 2022-2023 school year is just around the corner. Important details to ensure we have another GREAT START to a new year of learning together are outlined in the TORCH.

Mission (why we exist) – At WCES we ensure **Achievement, Learning, and Leadership** for **ALL**.

Vision (what must we become) – To build and sustain a culture that provides a safe environment where all stake holders collaborate to ensure growth and achievement for all.

Last year, our students worked hard to do their very best everyday learning and developing friendships. The greatest success at WCES were the relationships that we created with our students. With so many new Warriors and families, we made it a priority to develop relationships and will continue to do so as we grow. We know when students feel valued, in return they value themselves and their learning environment.

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we are committed to continuing our traditions of excellence in a learning environment that ensures achievement, learning and leadership for all! It is great to be a WARRIOR!

We are currently working on class placement and are super excited about sharing this information with you soon. Class placement will be available in HAC Monday, August 8.

Although the next few weeks may become extremely busy, we are never too busy to answer your questions. Please contact the front office if we can be of any assistance.

We cannot wait to see you!



Meet The Teacher Tuesday, August 9

- Teachers will send placement emails to families **August 8.**
- **Placement information is also available in HAC August 8.**

K - 5 - MEET AND GREET DATES AND TIMES

8:00-10:00 – Pre-k, K – 2nd Grade

10:00-12:00 – 3rd -5th Grade

Coming Up:

- **8/9 Chalk the Walk 5:30-6:30**
- **8/12 Ice Cream Social 6:00-8:00**
- **8/19 Wear your favorite sports team t-shirt**
- **8/23 Curriculum Chat K – 2nd grade**
- **8/25 Curriculum Chat 3rd – 5th grade**
- **8/26 Wear yellow for national banana day**
- **8/30 Coldstone Spirit Night 5:00-8:00**

First Day of School

Wednesday, August 10

- ✓ Doors open at 7:50
- ✓ Parents can walk their child to class Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday only
- ✓ It is an early release day- dismissal begins at 1:45

Kindergarten Placement

- ALL Kindergarten students will receive an email from their teacher by August 8
- **Staggered Start** – Teachers will include a sign-up for parents to use to choose their preferred staggered start day in their placement email
- **Staggered start dates will be August 10, 11, OR 12.**
- **ALL KINDERGARTEN students will start their first full day together on Monday, August 15.**



Welcome new Warrior Mrs. Kasey Baker, Assistant Principal

Meet Ms. Kasey Baker, Assistant Principal

Ms. Baker is new to the Wards Creek family this year but comes to our school with extensive experience in St. Johns County Schools. She enjoyed many years as a 4th and 5th grade teacher at Cunningham Creek Elementary and has been an Assistant Principal and LEA previously at Palencia, Ocean Palms, and Hartley Elementary. Ms. Baker is an instructional leader who believes that all children have gifts and talents, and that it is our role as educators to discover and nurture those talents. She and fellow Assistant Principal, Ms. Julie Haynes, will work as a team to meet the needs of our growing student population.

In her free time, Mrs. Baker is an avid reader, beach-walker, and concert goer. She is looking forward to getting to know all our Wards Creek Warriors this year! If your child has an IEP or EP within the general education setting, Mrs. Baker will be your contact.



- Drop off begins at 7:50
- Please pay attention – no cell phones
- Please use the time in the car line to make sure your child has their backpack, lunchbox, water bottle and is ready to exit the car
- At dismissal, please leave your car tag hanger with your child's name on display while you are in the car line
- If you arrive after 8:25am, you must bring your child to the front office to check in

School District Illness Policy:

- For the 2022-2023 SY, please refer to the St. Johns County School District Illness Guidelines found here: <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/health/illness/> for general health concerns related to your child.
- There is no longer a dedicated district COVID hotline. For all future COVID-related testing, questions, or concerns, please consult your child's pediatrician for guidance and recommendations.
- Should the pediatrician recommend your child stay home from school, please notify your child's teacher(s) of their upcoming absence. Upon return to school, a parent or doctor's note must be provided to excuse the absence.
- St. Johns County School District will no longer provide exposure notifications for the upcoming school year.



August 2022



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Add WCES PTO on the Remind App for up to date info!	2 	3 Wear your Class Shirt every Wednesday!	4	5
8 Staff Welcome Back Breakfast	9 MEET THE TEACHER	10 * first day of school *	11	12 PTO Ice Cream Social 6-8pm
15	16 BOARD MEETING 6PM	17 Early Dismissal 1:45pm	18	19 Wear your favorite sports team shirt
22	23 Curriculum Night 3rd-5th 5:30-6:30pm	24 Early Dismissal 1:45pm	25 Curriculum Night PreK-2nd 5:30-6:30pm	26 Wear YELLOW for Banana Split Day
29	30 Spirit Night at COLD STONE CREAMERY	31 Early Dismissal 1:45pm		



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