



The TORCH

Wards Creek
Elementary

January 2023

Happy New Year!

Dear Wards Creek Family,

Welcome back for the second semester. It is hard to believe we are already halfway finished with the school year! We cannot wait to see what great things will happen at WCES during the second semester. As we enter 2023, we continue with our mission statement – At Wards Creek Elementary we ensure Achievement, Learning and Leadership for all. We look forward to many educational adventures in 2023. Thank you for being part of our TEAM.

Mission (why we exist) – At WCES we ensure *A*chievement, *L*earning, and *L*eadership 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.

Together Everyone Achieves More – GO TEAM Warriors!



STEM EXPO

The Elementary STEM Expo is a student-centered educational experience with the primary goal of promoting innovative use of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to solve real world problems.

If your child is interested in participating, please complete the form using the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/dBJtADaH7m>

There will be an informational meeting for students in grades 3rd-5th Wednesday, January 18 immediately after school.

Coming Up:

1/5 Back to School

1/6 Wacky Hair Day

1/13 Wear your favorite Book Shirt

1/16 Martin Luther King – student/teacher holiday

1/18 Report Cards available in HAC

1/20 Wear red for the Chinese New Year and Heart Awareness

1/20 Author Dion Leonard visit

1/24 Spirit Night at Willie Jewels

1/27 Wear Winter Gear

1/30 Fourth grade field day

1/31 Kindergarten field day

PTO Spirit Night

**Join us at Willie Jewels
Tuesday, January 24.
We look forward to
seeing you!**



CHARACTER COUNTS!

6 Pillars 6K/3K Run/Walk 2023

The CHARACTER COUNTS! Steering Committee is calling all walkers, runners and fitness enthusiasts to participate in the CHARACTER COUNTS! 6K/3K Run/Walk on Saturday, February 4, 2023, at 9 a.m. The run/walk will begin and end at Palencia Elementary School located at 355 Palencia Village Drive, St. Augustine.

Walkers and runners will enjoy a course running through the neighborhoods of Kensington and Las Calinas and can choose to participate in the 6K (3.73 miles) or 3K (1.86 miles) distance.

Registration fees are as follows:

6K-\$30 before January 1; \$35 January 1 – January 31; \$40 on race day

3K-\$25 before January 1; \$30 January 1 – January 31; \$35 on race day

[Registration forms and more information are available online.](#)

Race proceeds support CHARACTER COUNTS! initiatives throughout the St. Johns County School District (SJCSJ). The run/walk is open to all ages, and the top three winners will be awarded in each of the age categories as well as the overall male and female finishers. A cash donation will be awarded to the top three schools with the most registrants. All race registrants will receive a t-shirt and other goodies from area businesses and organizations. At the finish line, each race participant will receive a commemorative item.

This event is produced by the CHARACTER COUNTS! Steering Committee and is presented by Beaver Toyota with support from businesses and community groups. Action News Jax CBS47/FOX30 is the official media sponsor of this run/walk.

The SJCSJ, along with area businesses, youth organizations and civic groups, selected the national character education program of CHARACTER COUNTS! as a countywide initiative to instill positive character traits in young people throughout the county. Additionally, the SJCSJ became the first school district in Florida to implement Pursuing Victory With Honor in all of its athletic programs. Character education is an important part of every School Improvement Plan and a major component of the Student Code of Conduct and the school district's Strategic Plan.



DETAILS

When Saturday, February 4, 2023 - 9:00 AM Where Palencia Elementary School 355 Palencia Village Drive St. Augustine, FL 32095 Presented By Sign up before January 1 to receive a \$5 discount! Register Now!



PTO JANUARY NEWSLETTER



Happy New Year from Wards Creek PTO!

JANUARY IMPORTANT DATES:

1/5 - BACK TO SCHOOL
1/6 - WACKY HAIR DAY
1/13 - WEAR YOUR
FAVORITE BOOK SHIRT
1/16 - NO SCHOOL MLK
DAY
1/18 - REPORT CARDS
1/20 - WEAR RED FOR
CHINESE NEW YEAR &
HEART AWARENESS
1/24 - SPIRIT NIGHT -
WILLIE JEWELS
1/27 - WEAR WINTER
WEAR

JANUARY SPIRIT NIGHT:

JANUARY 24TH
5-8PM
WILLIE JEWELS IN MURABELLA



IT'S A 50'S SOCK HOP!



PTO PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023
5-8PM

TICKETS ON SALE NOW UNTIL 1/27/23
WWW.WARDSCREEKPTO.COM/STORE
\$35 FOR EACH DAD/DAUGHTER DUO
\$5 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL DAUGHTER

**GIRLS, WEAR YOUR POODLE SKIRTS, DAD, WEAR YOUR
LETTERMAN/LEATHER JACKETS & SLICKED BACK HAIR!**



January 2023



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

2	3 Winter Break	4	5 	6 WACKY HAIR DAY
9 BOARD MEETING 3:30PM	10	11 Early Dismissal 1:45pm 	12	13 Wear your Favorite Book Shirt
16 No School	17	18 Early Dismissal 1:45pm 	19	20 Wear Red for American Heart month & Chinese New Year!
23	24 Spirit Night at Willie Jewell's	25 Early Dismissal 1:45pm 	26 Last Day to purchase Daddy Daughter Tickets 	27 Wear Winter Wear
30				

2023
NEW YEAR




FORTIFYFL
 SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.




#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM




DOWNLOAD
NOW



WCES PTO Business Partners

Platinum:

- Anderson Realty
- Smiles by Glenos
- The Village Chiropractic Center
- Henry Orthodontics
- iNoodle Ramen & Dumpling

Silver:

- Tropical Smoothie
- 123 EZ Bookkeeping
- All Florida Soft Water
- Gators Dockside
- Jessica Rust - Slate Real Estate
- Craig Dewhurst State Farm Agency
- Taylor English Duma LLP
- 2 Creeks
- Home Depot Home Services
- Summit Funding, Inc.

Gold:

- Motto Mortgage Company
- Peterbrooke Durbin Park
- Christ & Susan Fedor - Florida Local Team
- Simone's Wood Fired Craft Kitchen
- Murabella Animal Hospital
- SJC Junk
- Willie Jewells
- St. Augustine Boat Tours
- Pam Belcher - Real Estate
- Our Lady of Good Counsel

Banner Only:

- Coldstone Creamery
- Bailey Martin Realtor
- Just Speechie
- Nicole with Pixie Dust Vacation Planners, LLC.
- Bernard & Schemer, PA
- Creative Farmhouse Designs

In Kind:

- Henry Orthodontics
- Garage Organization and Outdoor Concepts
- Sign Gypsies
- Papa Johns