

NOVEMBER 30, 2017

Mustang Messenger

December All Pillars

Friday, December 1, 2017
Box Tops begins

Wednesday, December 6, 2017
Donuts with Dad

Thursday, December 14, 2017
Family Fun Learning Night

Friday, December 15, 2017
Box Top ends

Thursday, December 21, 2017
Second Quarter/First Semester Ends
EARLY RELEASE

Friday, Thursday, Dec. 22, 2017 – Jan. 4, 2018
Winter Break – Student/Teacher Holiday

January Respect

Friday, January 5, 2018
Teacher Planning Day – Student Holiday

Monday, January 8, 2018
Classes Resume for Students/Second Semester Begins

Wednesday, January 10, 2017
General PTA Meeting 9 AM

Monday, January 15, 2018
Martin Luther King Day – Student/Teacher Holiday

Monday – Friday, January 22-26, 2017
Literacy Week

Thursday, January 25, 2017
Literacy Night

We've Got ALL the Pieces For a FUN Family Night!

Thursday, December 14, 2017

Music Performance by MCES Chorus and Orff, 5:30-6:15 PM
Math Learning, 6 PM or 6:45 PM
Science Learning, anytime 6-8 PM
Dinner, 6:30 PM -8PM

Dinners must be pre-purchased for \$2/meal. Meals will be available for pick up beginning at 6:30 PM to take home or the Café will be open for families to eat on campus. *Food will not be allowed to be eaten on campus outside the Café.*

Math Learning

Parents and guardians become learners! Teachers will engage parents/guardians in hands-on learning experiences with math strategies and problem-solving situations. Students are welcome to join their family to help support the learning of parents/guardians. It will be a great time of learning together!

Math Learning Times – Session 1— 6:00 PM or Session 2— 6:45 PM

Please choose only one math learning session to attend with your student and plan to be part of the learning time from beginning to end!

Science Learning

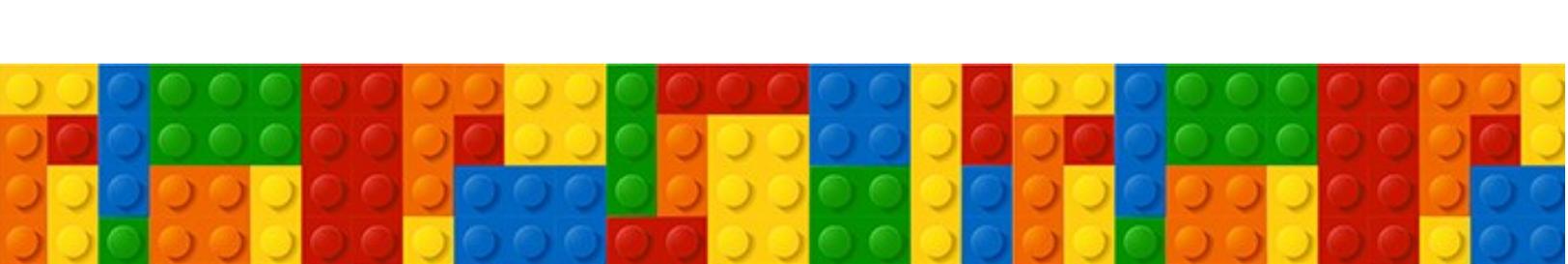
Club Scientific will be hosting Science Learning Experiences throughout the building that are grade-level specific. Families are invited to participate in Science Learning together, engaging in hands-on experiments as we explore what makes up the world around us, and why it really MATTERS (get it?). Come see how much FUN science can be!

Science Learning Times – Anytime 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Families will be able to visit the Science Learning Experiences as they choose and visit them throughout the evening. There will be not be set times; however, we encourage families to visit grade-level appropriate experiences that are available. A site map will be available upon arrival on Dec. 14 in the main hallways.

Flyers were sent home Tuesday, but you can download another one [here](#). Deadline for registration is December 8.





As the holidays approach, we will continue the Mill Creek tradition of adopting veterans for the holidays. This year we will be using a SignUpGenius. You will notice each veteran has only listed a couple of items on his/her wish list. We will need the requested items returned to the front office in a gift bag (the reusable tote bags are always appreciated) by **Friday, December 8**. Thank you for your generous spirit this time of year! If you have any questions, please contact the front office.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a4caeaf2ea7fa7-veterans2>

STUDENT COUNCIL



Student Council would like to give a big THANK-YOU to everyone who helped make our annual Food Drive a success. We delivered over 1,400 non-perishable items and over 900 pairs of socks to the St. Francis House. The staff at St. Francis House was very appreciative and thankful to be able to restock their pantry. Once again Mill Creek students show what a giving heart they have for helping others.

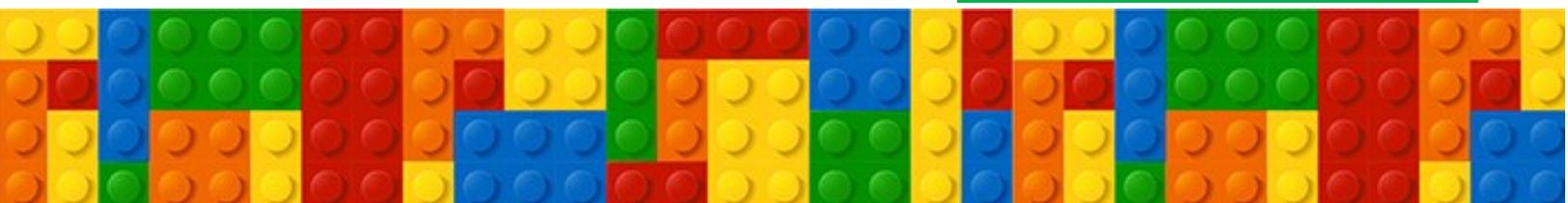
Candy Cane Grams will be on sale Monday, December 4th thru December 18th. The grams will cost \$0.50 and the order forms will go home Monday. Order forms can also be found on the MCE website [here](#). All money collected will be donated to The Empty Stocking Fund, sponsored by The St. Augustine Record to help local families in need during the holidays. Thank-you for your overwhelming support of Student Council projects.

PTA NEWS

Friday our new box top contest will start. Hope your saving your box tops to find out what this months prize will be.

Please support our business partners!

The
Village
DENTIST
& ORTHODONTIST



Donuts with Dad

December 6, 2017, 7:30 AM– 8:15 AM



Flyers were sent home on Thursday regarding Donuts with Dad. Please return the bottom portion of the flyer by **December 4th** to register to attend this event.



Please visit the site below and remember **students must be free of vomiting and diarrhea or fever for 24 hours without the aid of medication before they can return to school.** Thank you!

<http://www-mce.stjohns.k12.fl.us/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/ILLNESS-GUIDELINES.pdf>



A reminder with the holidays approaching: As required by Florida state law, everyone MUST have a cleared background check to go past the front office at Mill Creek Elementary. Picture ID (driver's license) is also required to enter the building at all times. You MUST have a background check and be cleared to volunteer at the school, attend any conferences, attend field trips, and to have lunch with your child. So now is the time to go ahead and apply for school access! Please make sure all spouses, grandparents, siblings over the age of 18, etc. who may visit the school are also approved to enter the building. The school access application is on-line at: <https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply> The cleared application is good for 3 years and can be updated in the front office or renewed at any time. **At no time should you have to resubmit another application.** If you have any questions or need further assistance please contact Mrs. Larson at 904-547-3720 or tina.larson@stjohns.k12.fl.us



**Congratulations
to our 5th grade
Spelling Bee
classroom
winners:**

**Kassidi B, Parker R, Landon B, Abigail M,
Kellin H, Jake H, Savannah W, Molly K,
Yousef S, Caitlin B, Tess M**



**CHARACTER
COUNTS! 6 Pil-
lars 6K/3K Run/
Walk**

Walkers, runners and fitness enthusiasts are invited to participate in the CHARACTER COUNTS! 6 Pillars 6K/3K Run/Walk on **Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 9 a.m.** The run/walk will begin and end at Palencia Elementary School. Register before January 1 and receive a \$5 discount!

[Learn more and register today!](#)

UPDATED: ATTENDANCE POLICY

THANK YOU FOR YOUR QUICK RESPONSE AND ADHERENCE TO THESE PROCEDURES THIS WEEK, WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION.

- Regular attendance is important for your child's success in school. The county's attendance policy in its entirety can be found at <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/student/attendance/>
- ***UPDATED: Any student who has been absent from school is required to bring a completed and signed Mill Creek Absentee Note from the student's parent/guardian the day the student returns to school stating the cause of the absence. If your student has been out 3 or more consecutive days, you will also need to provide a note from a physician. Beginning January 1, 2018, the MCES Absentee Form will be required for all absences.***
- Please call our attendance line at 547-3737 to report each absence. Calling the attendance line does not excuse the absence.
- The "Blackboard Connect" Rapid Notification system will be used to make calls to report student absences to parents.
- After 15 days of absence per school year, whether excused or unexcused, a student must have a doctor's verification for all subsequent absences. The following constitutes an excused absence: personal illness, illness of an immediate family member, death in the family, doctor's appointment, dentist appointment, religious holidays of the student's established religious faith, special events (when approved by the Principal).
- Students having a communicable disease or infection that can be transmitted to others are to be excluded from school and are not allowed to return until they are no longer infectious. (Florida Statute 1003.22).

Mill Creek is Filling Up with Mustang P-R-I-D-E!

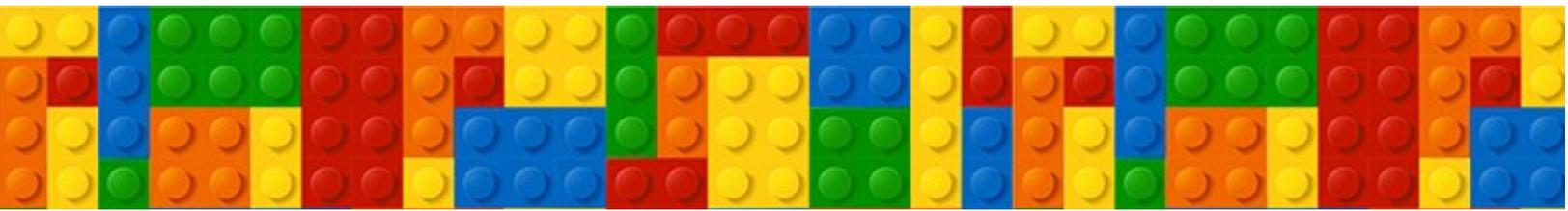
Students deposit their pride bucks in the hopper and then we draw students' names each week to receive the Golden PRIDE trophies to keep on their desk for the remainder of the week! Keep up the great PRIDE, Mustangs!



Congratulations to this week's recipients:



Y, Andrea O, Gio C, Wyatt B, Sahiti R, Kailyn S, Olivia K, Carter A, Jacey B, Hudson T, Blake K



In the last newsletter of each month, we will dedicate a section of the newsletter to showcasing our Resource Classes and what the students are learning.

November Art News from Mrs. Locke



Kindergarten has explored the culture of the American Indians. We studied a print of Cornelius Krieghoff's Indian Family and noticed how the family was keeping the papoose from harm by using a cradleboard.



Ms. Godaire's and Ms. Wojnar's 3rd grade created American Flags using foreshortening techniques, crayons and blue watercolor to honor our American Veterans.



Our third graders are also working on a puppy collage project inspired by the impressionistic artist, Paul Gauguin. They used only torn paper and glue, no scissors! Notice the spark of life in the eyes.



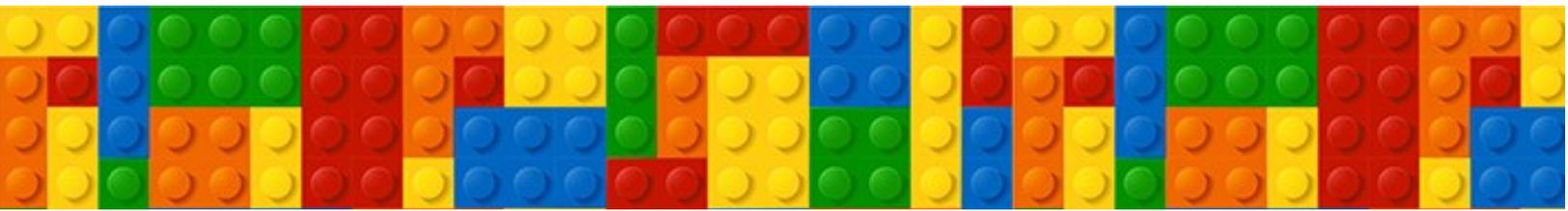
Fifth graders are madly working on a watercolor still life from real objects in class.



Fourth grade is working on Henri Matisse's impressionistic painting of "Goldfish in a Bowl". They are learning traditional watercolor techniques and creating form with value and shapes.

First and second graders have been mixing colors to create tints and secondary colors and exploring paint sticks to create an electric guitar for Pete the Cat. Second grade has also explored James Dean's Pete the Cat in his book Pete and the Magic Sunglasses. They learned how to blend analogous colors with watercolor pencils. Analogous colors are neighbors on the color wheel.

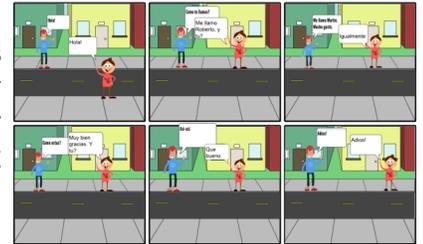




In the last newsletter of each month, we will dedicate a section of the newsletter to showcasing our Resource Classes and what the students are learning.

¡Buenos Dias!

We are learning the basic greetings in Spanish. During class students had created basic Spanish greetings conversations in a comic strip, they are practicing their basic Spanish greetings conversation with their partner, so that way they might use it in real life. We have some different games such as: tic tac toe and memory games where students can practice their words in Spanish.



Muchas gracias. Clase de Español/ Spanish class, Mrs. Blankenship

Your PE 411 for November:

Physical education classes are focusing on offense and defense. Coach Larkin taught the game “Poison Ball”. Students use their throwing skills, overhand, underhand and sidearm. They use strategies of offense, trying to hit poison ball past the other teams. They also use strategies of defense, trying to protect their boundary from the poison ball. Tying into the use of offense and defense, we played a game called “Hula-Hut Knockdown”. There were two teams with different jobs on each team. There was the Builder, Defender, and the Attacker. Students were able to switch between jobs that way everyone had an opportunity to do each job. The attacker tried to knock down the opposing teams hula-hut. The defender tried to protect their hula-hut from being knocked down. The builder built the hula-hut after it had been knocked down. The students really seemed to enjoy the activities.

- Coach Larkin and Coach Drinkuth

The media moment... The month of December not only brings about a close to the year but to several units of study. In collaboration with the 5th grade unit on research, we are learning how to cite our work and create a bibliography. The fourth grade is learning how to take a piece of prose (that they wrote) and reword it to create a poem. Going on a Quest was the Destiny of our third graders. They are learning how to locate books and resources in the library using our Destiny Quest online card catalog. The great thing is is that they can access it at home too! Our super second graders and fabulous first graders are working on discovering how nonfiction text features are just as important as reading the text – and helpful too. Kindergarten is mastering the parts of a book- not only are they learning the parts but they are also learning how they function – which helpful to know when you are a library lover.



- Mrs. Bergmann