



Trailblazers in Learning

Mill Creek Elementary
3750 International Golf Pkwy
St. Augustine, FL 32092
Phone: (904) 547-3720



IMPORTANT DATES

October Responsibility

October 28, 2016

Character Counts, 9:30 AM

November Citizenship

November 4, 2016

Fall Picture Retakes

November 8, 2016

PTA Meeting

November 10, 2016

In Your Honor Veterans Day Program , 9 AM and
9:40 AM

Friday, November 11, 2016

Veterans Day – Student/Teacher Holiday

November 18, 2016

Fall Carnival
Character Counts, 9:30 AM

Wednesday – Friday, November 23-25, 2016

Thanksgiving Break – Student/Teacher Holiday

November 29, 2016

SAC Meeting, 4 PM Room 520

December All Pillars

December 1, 2016

Box Tops Begins

December 14, 2016

Teacher Luncheon

December 16, 2016

Box Top Ends

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

Second Quarter/First Semester Ends
EARLY RELEASE

Resource Classes

The Wonderful World of **SCIENCE**

There will be outstanding scientific learning happening in the month of November! Our kindergarten friends will be learning about properties of matter; as well as, near and far. Our 1st graders will explore magnifiers and land changes. Students in 2nd grade will investigate properties of matter. This month, 3rd graders will learn about stars. Our 4th grade friends will participate in labs on mass. Students in 5th grade will explore energy in motion and static electricity. I look forward to lots of fun and fabulous learning in the science lab!

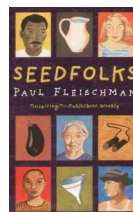


Mr. Drinkuth, in IT, gives us the scoop on all that was studied in the computer lab last month:

This month 3rd – 5th grade students have been learning about advertising methods. The students have made their own username and password to be able to re-enter the website. Students will be developing critical thinking skills and the ability to understand what advertisers and

advertisements are really trying to do. They will be entering an online world of advertising challenges that will test their knowledge and agility. The website we are using is www.admongo.gov and it is from the Federal Trade Commission.

The media moment...A lot of learning is going on in the media center besides checking out books. Our fifth grade is beginning a cultural novel study with the book *The Seedfolks*. Fourth grade will continue with our poetry unit- working toward having poetry published in the National Young Poets Digest. The third grade is learning how to use our online card catalog. If you would like to access our card catalog at home feel free - go to the Mill Creek website and click on links for students and the tab *Destiny Quest*. We welcome you to pick out books with your kids. Our second and first graders are learning about the importance of how to use nonfictional text features to identify key information and our wonderful kinders and learning all about the parts of a book.



Resource Classes



In music resource, we are still learning about **NOTATION**. You can notate rhythms, melodies and form.

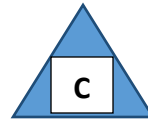
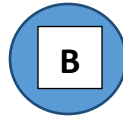
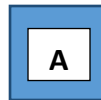
Example Check out the **FORM** of the following songs:

MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB: A A A A or the **MEXICAN HAT DANCE:** A B A B A B A

Grades 3rd – 5th will be adding “C” soon, as we look at the theme from **STAR WARS** with an outdoor parachute game. Can't wait!

MUSIC VOCABULARY: FORM

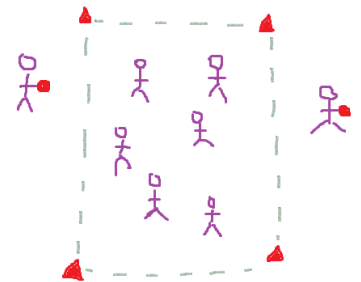
Form is the outline of a song. You can use shapes and letters such as “A, B, C” to note the sections of a song.



Parent Resources: If you are looking for fun music games, check out Artie Almeida's “**MUSIC MADNESS**” – an interactive DVD game for every grade.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Now that weather has cooled down we are playing ‘Poison Ball’. The game improves cardio-respiratory fitness levels and increases eye-hand coordination. The students can use all their throwing skills: overhand, underhand and sidearm. They will throw the ball with control. Focus on different strategies for success. Teamwork and sportsmanship will be encouraged.



In Guidance Resource classes we have been learning about responsibility, most specifically:



When you agree to do something, do it. If you let people down, they'll stop believing you. When you follow through on your commitments, people take you seriously.

Answer for your own actions. Don't make excuses or blame others for what you do. When you take responsibility for your actions you are saying "I am the one who's in charge of my life."

Take care of your own matters. Don't rely on adults to remind you when you're supposed to be somewhere or what you're supposed to bring. You take the responsibility.

Be trustworthy. If somebody trusts you to borrow or take care of something, take care of it. If somebody tells you something in confidence, keep it to yourself. It's important for people to know they can count on you.

Always use your head. Think things through and use good judgment. When you use your head you make better choices. That shows your parents they can trust you.

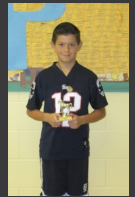
Good lessons for good character!



The members of the St. Johns County School Board selected four finalists to be interviewed for the next Superintendent of the St. Johns County School District (SJCSD). Two of these finalists have withdrawn from consideration, Dr. Elizabeth Alves and Mr. Mark Porter. Interviews were originally scheduled for early October, but had to be rescheduled due to Hurricane Matthew. The two remaining candidates, Dr. Vickie Cartwright and Mr. Tim Forson, will be interviewed on Tuesday, November 1 at First Coast Technical College, Building C, 2980 Collins Ave., St. Augustine, 32084.

To view the interview schedule for specific times, visit the SJCSD's homepage at www.stjohns.k12.fl.us and click on the Superintendent Search button. Candidate interviews with the School Board are open to the public. In addition, all employees and community residents are invited to a community reception for the finalists on Tuesday, November 1 at 6 p.m. at First Coast Technical College - Building C, 2980 Collins Ave., St. Augustine, 32084. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from and meet each of the finalists as well as provide input to the School Board for consideration.

Congratulations to this week's
Mustang Pride
recipients:



Aubrey D, Cheyanne S, Maxim V,
Carmella D, Marshall S, Ryan C,
Sophia L, Makenna B, Madison S,
Siriana D, Anthony M, Sophia A,
Brenda M, Nicholas S, Andres S

In Your Honor, Veterans Day Program



Mill Creek Elementary will be hosting its annual Veterans Day Program to recognize the men and women of the armed forces. There are two program on November 10th. Our PreK, K, 2nd, and 5th graders will attend the 9 AM program and our 1st, 3rd and 5th graders will attend the 9:40 Performance. If you would like to attend, please RSVP on the flyer that was sent home last week. If you would like to share a digital picture of yourself for the wall of honor, please send it to kathleen.richards@stjohns.k12.fl.us.



Transportation Changes

Should you need to change your child's dismissal transportation, please email or send a written note to your child's teacher BEFORE 8:00 AM. If there is a situation during the day and a change in normal dismissal is needed, please email mcestransportation@stjohns.k12.fl.us BEFORE 2 PM (1 PM on Wednesdays). Include your child's name, grade, teacher and how they need to get home.



Thank you for participating last week in our Character Counts /Red Ribbon Week. The students were dressed each day and the support in donations for hurricane relief supplies and socks for the St. Francis House was outstanding. It is such an honor to be part of a community that finds giving back is a priority. Thank you!

Student Council News

The Student Council needs your help more than ever after Hurricane Matthew devastated areas of St. Augustine. Our annual food drive will benefit St. Francis House, our local homeless shelter. There was damage to their building and they are currently remodeling their dining room. Starting Monday, October 31st, we will be collecting canned food and non-perishable food items. The food drive ends Monday, November 21st. The top 2 classrooms with the most items collected will enjoy a pizza party. Let's all help to restock St. Francis Food Pantry.

- Jordan Klucharich, Student Council Secretary

Mill 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):

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://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/hac/>

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://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/hac/>
 - ii. At the Home Access Center Login screen, click “[here](#)” below the statement, “If you do not have 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

If you have forgotten your username and/or password please contact the front office at 904-547-3720 for assistance.