

DECEMBER 7, 2017

Mustang Messenger

December All Pillars

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

Friday, January 26, 2017
Character Counts

Monday, January 29, 2018
Teacher Inservice Day – Student Holiday

What is in the name - Mill Creek Mustangs!

“Mill Creek Mustangs” is a name that is known throughout St. Johns County. We are a school that has a rich culture of family engagement, family support, and family traditions. This time of year, many of us begin to reflect over the past year. There are so many people in our lives that have done so much, words don’t seem to pay tribute to their deeds. I feel it only fitting to send our families and community a special “thank you from the heart” for the countless hours you have given to our students, staff, and school.

Thank you parents and families; your work never goes unnoticed! Your continued partnership in your child’s education is priceless. It is what gives Mill Creek’s staff and teachers the strength to drive forward in progressive learning opportunities, raising the level of learning rigor and providing students with innovative approaches to new learning. Your trust in our leadership is never taken for granted, but cherished and honored as we meet every need, of every student, every day! Thank you Mill Creek parents and families for your commitment!

Thank you Mill Creek PTA – Each year our PTA hosts family events that are fun for all ages! Life seems to be very busy these days, however family time together is priceless and Mill Creek’s PTA has done an amazing job this year providing times that highlight family! This year with the help of many people, PTA has hosted the mother/son scavenger hunt games, the Fall Festival, our 1st annual Dads with Donuts and soon will help host our Math/Science learning night. I feel honored to be part of such a wonderful organization. Thank you to all those that serve with diligence, unwavering dedication, and countless hours of service. Your work is always appreciated!

What is in the name- Mill Creek Mustangs – it represents a strong community of family, service, and high expectations. Our community believes in the importance of family and taking time to pour into the lives of our children. It’s a community committed to doing what it takes to ensure our students have the necessary resources, human and fiscal, that provide innovative, progressive ways to engage in learning. It is a community that cares and loves deeply for our community, understands the importance of education, and supports our school and school district in great ways. Thank you for making Mill Creek the greatest school in St. Johns County. I hope we have given you so much to be thankful for, and celebrations that remind us how thankful that we are to be a part of the Mill Creek Mustangs. Many thanks and blessings to you and your family during the holiday season!

- Amanda Riedl, Learning Leader



As the spirit of giving infuses the holiday season, the Mill Creek LEADS encourages you to join our

Giving Tree Campaign.

December 4th through December 15th,

we will be collecting items to help sponsor Hugs Across the County,

a nonprofit organization that helps children in need in St. Johns county.

Please consider donating the following items:

- **Chef Boyardee meals**
 - **Hearty soups**
- **Cereal (such as Cheerios/Chex/Life)**
 - **Crackers such as Saltines/Ritz**
 - **Fruit cups**
 - **Granola bars**

In addition to foods items, Hugs Across the County is looking for **gently used or new fleece jackets and zip hoodies**. Students can drop off items in their classrooms.

Thank you for your generosity.



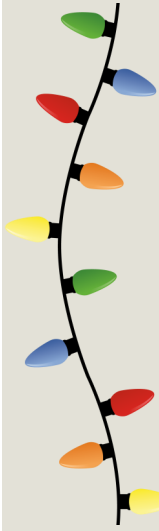
Candy Cane Grams will be on sale Monday, December 4th thru December 18th. The grams will cost \$0.50 and the order forms will go home Monday. Order forms can also be found on the MCE website [here](#). All money collected will be donated to The Empty Stocking Fund, sponsored by The St. Augustine Record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



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

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.***

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



CHARACTER COUNTS! 6 Pillars 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!](#)



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:

Ava A, Carmella D, Carlie K, Amelia L, James D, Avery C, Kennedy S, Coleton S, Ashlyn M, Juan C, Leah M, Braxton Y, Elise R, Hunter D, Ethan B