



10/02/2014

Mustang Messenger

3750 International Golf Pkwy., St. Augustine, FL 32092

904-547-3720

www-mce.stjohns.k12.fl.us

Volume #137, Newsletter #6

Attendance Line: 547-3737

AM Drop-off time: 8:10 AM

School Start Time: 8:30 AM

School End Time: 2:50 PM

1 hr. early release every Wed.

Calendar of Events

October

Responsibility

10/2—Learning Together Night,
6-7:30PM

10/8—National Walk to School
Day, 7:30 AM at WGV park



PTA Board Mtg., 9:15 AM

10/17—Fall Carnival
5:30-8 PM

10/21-10/24—Character Counts
Week

10/24—Teacher Planning Day
No school for students

10/28—Fall Picture Retakes
Character Counts Celebration,
9:30 AM in café'

SAC Mtg., 4 PM

10/31—Report Cards



**Please support our
Business Partners!**



Riedl's Round Up



School Improvement Plan (Part 2)

I also wanted to share with you my commitment to building the capacity of Mill Creek teachers. The teachers have been working hard gaining a deeper conceptual understanding about reading instruction, math instruction, and writing instruction and how the Florida Standards will change the way we teach, requiring us to move much deeper into our thinking. Our students, more than ever, are being asked to analyze text by recognizing when they are developing character empathy, setting empathy, or conflict empathy, and how the author strategically used words and phrases to help readers connect. I had this brilliant conversation with a group of 5th graders recently about why books that have been produced as movies are a "letdown" to readers. We discussed in detail how when we read we are able to use our reading strategies like, visualizing and inference to develop characters and setting in ways that are much more descriptive and deeper than movies can really represent. They spoke about how as readers we have built these movies in our heads and when the movies come out, it really isn't aligned at all to the words and phrases that helped us become those deep thinkers as we read. The students were able to use academic vocabulary to describe their experiences as a reader - such as how the author influenced them through specific language and how they used that language to understand the author and build meaning around a central theme, using this information to develop bigger ideas within their reading. I could go on with the conversations that our students are having about their reading, but that would take many pages. We are continuing to move our readers from "reading to just answer questions," to truly becoming analytical thinkers as we read! It is our "commitment" as learning leaders to provide very purposeful lesson and learning opportunities so students understand the reading at much deeper levels and most importantly the impact it has to their overall success, not just for a test. In addition to reading, our students are beginning to see how their writing is directly tied to being a reader. They have begun to use their favorite authors as mentor writers, learning how to craft their own writing with the same crafts, voice, and techniques as the authors that they read. We are excited about our work, even though at times it seems overwhelming.

In Math, I know you have recognized the shift in teaching and learning that has taken place in the last few years. With feedback from our SAC committee last year, we are providing more opportunities for our families to become involved directly with the learning to help educate our entire community around the new Math standards. The Math standards are very demanding and rigorous and this year at Mill Creek, teachers will be working together weekly, analyzing student work, identifying strengths and weaknesses of both groups of students and individual students, and planning for differentiated instruction to meet student needs. We are excited about this opportunity to learn together and to continue to deepen our understanding of Math concepts. Each year, we will work diligently to increase our learning capacity as practitioners, preparing ourselves to reach the needs of every learner in our building. We continuously strive to provide a rigorous education that equips our students with the necessary tools to be high achievers in a world that is ever changing.

I leave you today with this: we believe at Mill Creek that we will do "Whatever It Takes," to meet the needs of our students. Whether that is learning a new strategy or improving those strategies we know work well, we are committed to "Every Child, Every Need, Every Day!" We hope that you will partner with us this year and make 2014 - 2015 an "All-Star" year at Mill Creek!

Amanda L. Riedl

Counselor's Corral



Congratulations to our September Character Counts Award winners for Fairness!

- Pre-K**—Cruz Archuleta, Matthew Capezzeria
K—Jonah Hodges, Tyler Affolder, Elizabeth Hughes, Esabella Brenneman, Madelyn Walter, Ryan Oswald, Tessa Dixon, Mason Moody, Mikaela Shreves
1st—Ella Slightom, Zoe Lindberg, Willa Ambrosius, Mason Stone, Olivia Widerstedt, Ella Estremera, Katie Cooksey, O'Malley Puyau, Ashlyn Burch, Luke Bryan
2nd—Abby Major, Briana Czelusniak, Angelee Price, Caitlyn Boyd, Maisie Tunnicliffe, Mason Roden, Jolie Hodges, Journi Warren
3rd—Addison Hendricks, Marina Boose, Finn Murr, Spencer Lawrence, Jackson Hartford, Jake Reed, Ayden Cornelius, Natalie Thompson
4th—William Barry Manaute, Mahlyah Williams, Brian Tart, Alejandro Spurlock, Isabella Dominguez, Natalie Polleschultz, Shay VanderHart, Maria Montgomery
5th—Katie McQuarry, Robert Holmes, Skyler Green, Maggie Hartman, Brooke Albrecht, Eva Elliott, Lilian Waldron, Kyndall Brown

National Walk to School Day, Wed, October 8th

- Meet at World Golf Village Park at 7:30 AM (we will start walking at 7:40 AM)
- Wear our school colors (blue & yellow)
- Parking is limited at WGV park, so carpool if you can
- After the walk, a continental breakfast will be served in Filly Plaza from 8-8:30 AM for those who RSVP'd.

It's too late to RSVP for breakfast, BUT you are still welcome to come out and walk with us!

Remind reminder!

Remind is a simple way for you to stay informed and up-to-date about Mill Creek with texts direct from Mrs. Riedl. Remind is not class or teacher specific. Download the free Remind app. and enter class code: @millcreeke An instruction sheet is also attached or you can go to www.remind.com/millcreeke

Character Counts Week

Coming up! October 20-23

- Monday**—"Random Acts of Kindness Day"
(Wear red for CARING and do as many kind acts as you can!)
- Tuesday**—"Hats off to being respectful and responsible"
(Wear an interesting hat or your craziest hat!)
- Wednesday**—"Team Up for Good Character"
(Dress in your favorite sports wear: team jersey, karate, cheerleader, etc.)
- Thursday**—"Knock Your Socks off with Good Citizenship"
(Wear a pair of crazy socks and/or bring socks to donate to St. Francis House in St. Augustine)

Congratulations to our 2014/2015 Mustang LEADS team!

Alayna Leonard, Katelyn Medina, Malia Rooker, Calista Hood, Ben Allgood, Connor Parish, Raymond Santana, Connor Turpen, Kirsten Harris, Anika Lange, Grant Hawthorne, and Eli Severt

What is LEADS, you ask? LEADS stands for **L**eaders **E**ducation **A**nd **D**oing **S**ervice. The purpose of the LEADS program is to develop leaders among our student community. The Mustang LEADS will meet weekly during lunch time, and during these meetings we will develop our leadership skills and also plan for the weekly news show. Duties of the Mustang LEADS will include the following: serving on the school news team, mentoring new students, helping the grade level fundraise for the end-of-year trip, and any other ideas our leaders brainstorm during our meeting! Congratulations to all who applied! There was a record number of applicants this year and it was a very tough process!

CAA Flag Football Registration Closes Oct. 4th!

Information about League Age 11u and below:

Players must be age 4 by August 1, 2014.

Players may register to play up one age division. Eligibility will be verified. There is one Saturday practice before games begin and it is on Thanksgiving weekend.

The CAA Flag Football season will run from November thru February 28th. Games will start on December 6th with the final playoffs in February.

There will be a two week, single elimination tournament during the final two weekends of the season. Details on the playoff schedule will be posted to our website soon.

Go to www.caafgfootball.com for Registration

PTA NEWS PTA NEWS PTA NEWS

Don't miss the 3rd Annual MCE PTA Fall Carnival Friday, October 17th from 5:30-8 PM.



Take advantage of prepaid pricing for just \$10 each for the first two students and \$5 each additional student. \$12 at the door. You can pay online at www.mcepta.blogspot.com or look for sheets coming home next week.

Also, we are in need of volunteers. Please go to www.signupgenius.com/carnival to volunteer.

Stay connected to PTA!
Check us out at
www.mcepta.blogspot.com
or facebook: