



# Week at the Creek

235 Hickory Creek Trail ♦ Saint Johns, FL 32259 ♦ (904) 547-7450

Dr. Joy Reichenberg  
Principal

Mrs. Jill Hillier  
Assistant Principal

## Greetings Fabulous Hickory Creek Families!

I hope your week is off to a good start. It seems that the flu bug has hit many of our families and teachers hard this season. Please see the letter inserted in this newsletter from the State of Florida regarding the flu epidemic.

Students had the privilege of listening to a storyteller, Kaye Byrnes, today. She did a great job of interactive storytelling with each grade level throughout the day today.

Our Kindergarten students celebrated 100 Days of School today! It is truly hard to believe we have already made it through 100 days of this school year. It has flown by. Kindergarteners had the opportunity to participate in many activities surrounding the number "100".

Please make note that next Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, will be a student holiday. Teachers will be attending professional development classes throughout the day.

Thank you for your continued support. I wish you a healthy week!

Sincerely,  
Joy Reichenberg, Principal



Throughout the week of January 22 – 26, we will celebrate literacy at HCES. Please make note of the following schedule:

Monday – Crazy about reading (crazy sock day); also Kaye Byrnes storyteller visit

Tuesday – Disney Day

Wednesday – Warm up Wednesday (bring a SMALL blanket, mittens or gloves to wear while reading)

Thursday – T-shirt Day (wear a t-shirt with words/ writing for others to read throughout the day)

Friday – Fun Friday (spirit wear); AR and RAZ (Kindergarten) celebrations



Monday 1/22 – Mac & Cheese, Chicken Nuggets, BBQ Chicken Max Snacks

Tuesday, 1/23 – Mini Corn Dogs, Mini Cheese Ravioli, Nacho Li'l Bites

Wednesday, 1/24 – Chicken Nuggets, Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza

Thursday, 1/25 – Cheeseburger, Chicken Sandwich, Chicken Nuggets

Friday, 1/26 – Hot Dog, Chicken Nuggets, Max Stix Cheese Sticks

### Upcoming Events at HCES:

- 1/22-1/26 – Celebrate Literacy Week
- 1/23 – Chili Cook Off
- 1/26 – AR Celebrations
- 1/29 – Teacher Inservice Day, no school for students



### Health Alert:

As many of you are aware, flu season is upon us. In order to help prevent the spread of the flu virus at school, parents should monitor their child for several signs and symptoms. The following may present suddenly: a high fever up to 104 degrees, chills, nasal discharge, extreme tiredness, headache and body aches and sore throat. If your child exhibits these symptoms please keep them home from school. They should remain at home until they are fever free for 24 hours (without the use of fever reducing medication). A fever at school is considered to be anything 100 degrees or greater. Upon their return to school, encourage your child to wash their hands often, as this is the best defense against the spread of germs. We appreciate your assistance with our efforts to keep our Hickory Creek students healthy!



Connect with us!!

Access our website at

<https://www.hce.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>

Find extra-curricular information at this link

on our website:

"Like" us on Facebook – Hickory Creek Elementary School



### Upcoming PTO Events

- January 23 – Chili Cook-Off
- February 6 – February Meeting, 1:00 PM
- February 16 – Dance Extravaganza, 6:00 PM

Check out our website for more details:  
<http://www.hcepto.org/>



We have many daytime events happening at HCES! When visiting the school during the day, ANY GUEST should be an approved volunteer. Please access <https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply/> to apply to be an "approved volunteer."

When coming to visit, please stop by the front desk and sign in to our Keep'n'Track system. You will need to be prepared to present your ID to whomever is working at the front desk for verification. Please wear your visitor badge whenever you are in the building to alert our employees that you have clearance to be in the building.

If you are looking to check your child out early, or pick them up in the event they are ill, please be prepared to show your identification. It is not always the same person working at the front desk, and our staff has been instructed to verify authorization before releasing a student to an adult.

If a student comes to the front office before 3:15 to retrieve an item, the front office staff will call to make sure the teacher is in the room before letting the student back in the building. If the teacher is not in the room, or if it is after 3:15, that item will have to wait to be retrieved the next school day.

In the mornings before school, students are not admitted to the commons areas or classrooms, unless they have a predetermined activity such as patrols, band, etc. Students should not be in the commons areas or classrooms until 8:05 – when teacher supervision is available.

## **Health Advisory from the State of Florida**

**The Florida Department of Health (the Department) reports that influenza, or “flu,” activity levels have increased sharply over the last several weeks.** Flu is a contagious respiratory disease caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness. Serious outcomes of flu infection can result in hospitalization or death. Some people, such as young children, the elderly, and people with certain health conditions are at high risk for serious complications from flu. The Department is encouraging families to get vaccinated for flu now.

**Vaccination is the best way to protect against the flu and severe complications from the flu.** Vaccination is most crucial for children with underlying health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, heart disease, and neurological and neurodevelopmental conditions. The flu vaccine is offered in many locations including pharmacies, clinics, employers, and schools. Contact your health care provider, county health department, or visit <http://www.floridahealth.gov/findaflushot> to find a flu vaccine center near you.

**The flu vaccine is safe.** The national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends that all individuals six months of age and older receive the flu vaccine **each year**. Since infants under six months of age are too young to get vaccinated against influenza, it is important that family members (including pregnant or breastfeeding mothers) and other caregivers for these children be vaccinated to help protect them from the disease.

It is especially important that parents **keep sick children at home** to prevent spreading the flu virus to others. Additional flu prevention steps include staying away from people who are sick, covering sneezes or coughs with a tissue or your elbow, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, and frequent handwashing.

**If your child becomes sick with flu-like illness, contact your health care provider as soon after symptoms begin as possible. Symptoms of the flu often include fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, body aches, headaches, or fatigue.** Antiviral medication for flu has been shown to reduce severity and length of disease, decrease the risk of complications from influenza, and reduce the risk of death among hospitalized patients, particularly in those that start treatment early in their illness. Health care providers can prescribe antiviral treatment if appropriate. Treatment is most effective when started within 48 hours, so contacting your health care provider as soon as your child becomes ill is important, especially if your child has underlying health conditions.

**The best way to keep yourself and your family safe and healthy during flu season is to:**

- **Get vaccinated;**
- **Keep sick family members home;**
- **Contact your health care provider if you or your child are experiencing flu-like symptoms; and**
- **Follow your doctor’s guidance on treatment.**

For more information, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/parents/index.htm>



# R.J. MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

## 2018-2019 Application



Auditions: January 29th, 2018

Applications accepted:  
January 18th–February 8th, 2018