



Week at the Creek

March 30, 2026

Hawk Families,

Last week our Hawk family celebrated several recognitions! Our Character Cup team won first place overall in the county, our Battle of the Books team tied for third place overall in the county, and our Youth Volunteer of the Year, Emily Gonzalez, won third place overall in the county. Our Hawks are doing amazing things every day!

This week we begin state testing. Our 4th and 5th graders will complete the state writing test. We ask all visitors to travel through our halls quietly.

Our annual musical is coming up very soon. Our theater students have been working very hard to bring Dare to Dream to life. Ticket information can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

Please make sure that you continue to visit our website for the most up-to-date information regarding our school: <https://www-hce.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>.

Spirit Day EVERY Friday!

Wear your HCE spirit wear



April

- 4/2 World Autism Awareness Day: Wear Blue
- 4/3 NO SCHOOL: Teacher/Student Holiday
- 4/7 Month of Military Child Awareness: Wear Purple
- 4/7 SAC Meeting @ 4PM
- 4/9, 4/10 Dare to Dream, Jr.
- 4/14 PTO Monthly Meeting @ 3:30PM
- 4/14 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast @ 9:00AM
- TBD Kindergarten/New Hawk Roundup
- 4/24 Character Counts Celebration: All Pillars
- 4/28 Interim Reports Issued

May

- 5/4-5/8 Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week
- TBD Chorus Concert 6PM
- TBD Kindergarten/New Hawk Roundup
- 5/25 NO SCHOOL: Memorial Day
- 5/26 Fifth Grade Promotion @ SPMS
- 5/29 Last Day of School: Early Release @ 1:45PM

Lunch Menu for Week of 3/30

Breakfast is \$1.75; Lunch \$3.25

Monday

- Chicken Slider Biscuit
- French Toast
- Papa Johns Pizza*

Tuesday

- Penne Pasta w/Meatballs
- Penne Pasta w/Marinera Sauce
- Pepperoni Calzone

Wednesday

- Homestyle Chicken Sandwich
- Chicken Nuggets

Thursday

- Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza
- Hot Dog

Friday

- NO SCHOOL



*To purchase a la cart items, your student MUST have a positive lunch account.

HCE Lunch Visits

March Lunch Visits

Please note that there are NO photos or videotaping allowed in our cafeteria. Some students are on a do not photograph list. Please honor this request.

Please follow the directions on the HCE Lunch Visit sign up on the link above. Younger siblings should not attend.

Please know that to participate you **MUST** be a cleared volunteer. If you have not had a chance to fill out our access form, please do so now at:

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

We look forward to your visit.

2025-26 HCE Character Cup Team

Congratulations to our HCE 2025-26 Character Cup Team! Our team competed in the annual SJCS D Character Cup. Our team brought back the trophy! Hickory Creek placed 1st among all SJCS D elementary AND K-8 schools. Thank you to Coach Mecke, Coach McKay, and Coach Bennett for leading our team to victory!



2025-26 HCE Battle of the Books Team

Congratulations to our HCE 2025-26 Battle of the Books Team. Our team competed in the annual SJCS D Battle of the Books. Our team tied for third place overall! Our students memorized specific details in all 15 SSYRA books. Thank you to Mrs. Espinoza for leading our students!

Please note, in order to sign-in to our lobby computer as a volunteer, you **MUST** be a cleared volunteer and you **MUST** have a driver's license. Please follow the directions posted on the iPads to sign in.

Please visit our site regarding school access:
<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/volunteer/>



MEDIA CENTER CORNER

To access our SSYRA Books and Information 25-26: [SSYRA](#)

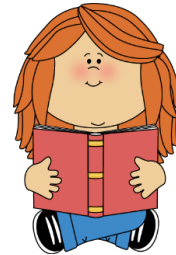
Search library catalog here:



View Instructional Materials here:



Access Parental Choice Library Book Restriction Form** here:



***Parents may utilize this form to restrict titles their child may check out in the school library.*

Absence Excusals

NOW ON PARENTSQUARE

A [written note](#) is needed within 48 hours of returning to school stating the cause of the absence.

Excused absences include: personal illness, illness of an immediate family member, a death in the family, religious holidays of the student's established religious faith, required court or law agency appearances, public functions, state competitions, scheduled doctor or dentist appointments.

Unexcused absences include: shopping trips, pleasure trips, suspension from school, appointments without prior approval except in case of emergency, truancy, and other avoidable absences.

For a complete list of excused and unexcused absences, refer to the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Birthday Celebrations at Hickory Creek Elementary



We constantly monitor allergy needs and concerns throughout our building. We LOVE celebrating our students, but to ensure the safety and well-being of all, food items to celebrate birthdays will not be allowed effective January 5, 2026. We encourage non-food items such as small party favors, bookmarks, pencils, etc. If a food item is sent in, we will hold it in the front office for pick up. Please reach out to your child's teacher for additional ideas on how to celebrate your child's birthday at school! The safety and health of all students is a priority.



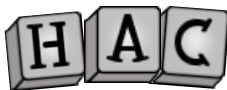
DISMISSAL CHANGES

DISMISSAL CHANGES are accepted until 2:00 p.m. (M, T, TH, F) and 1:00 p.m. (W).

EARLY CHECK-OUTS (for any reason) must be completed by 2:10 (M, T, TH, F) and 1:10 p.m. (W).

Your respect for our dismissal policy helps maintain safety and security as we complete attendance/check-out reports accurately before students prepare for and move to their dismissal stations. It is often very difficult to locate students or get them ready to leave early during the last minutes prior to dismissal bell. Teachers and students are completing lessons, packing up, or on the move to dismissal stations.

Please use the [Dismissal Change Form](#) found on the HCE website and ParentSquare.



Home Access Center

The Home Access Center (HAC) is a web-based application that is part of our Student Information System called eSchoolPlus.

Please visit the website below to access or sign up for an account:

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



This system provides parents and students with a daily summary page, schedule and attendance, discipline information, class work, test scores and course requests for all students in grades 3-5. This is also where families can access their student's interim report and report card. If you need assistance with your account, please contact our Computer Operator, Lizeth Antonetti.



Dare to Dream, Jr. Ticket Sales

Come join our HCE theatre group as they present Dare to Dream, JR. This story follows Disney Imagineers during their first training day. Our students will sing, act, and dance through the Disney song book!

Purchase tickets soon as this show will be a popular one:

Thursday, April 9th

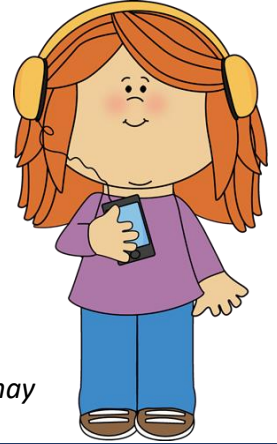
<https://www.schoolpay.com/pay/for/DARE-TO-DREAM-TICKETS-Thurs-April--9th-/Scbkuhec>

Friday, April 10th

<https://www.schoolpay.com/pay/for/DARE-TO-DREAM-TICKETS-Fri-April--10th-/Sb7cnAv>

Cell Phones and Other Wireless Devices*

Pages 25-26 of the [Student Code of Conduct](#) state- Students are permitted to possess cellular phones and other wireless communication devices on school grounds, school buses, and at school-sponsored events. However, all devices must remain powered off and securely stored in a student's backpack, purse, locker, or vehicle during the school day. In accordance with House Bill 1105, the use of wireless communication devices by elementary and middle school students is strictly prohibited during the school day. *Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in the confiscation of the device. Repeated violations will be treated as defiance of school rules and may lead to disciplinary consequences.*



**Wireless devices include smart watches. All smart watches should be on Airplane Mode. Texting, making, or receiving calls, and/or recordings are not allowed. Failure to comply may result in the device being confiscated.*