

Amanda Riedl
Principal

Michelle Conroy
Assistant Principal

Todd Watson
Assistant Principal



Magen Day
Joan White
Guidance

Kathleen Richards
Bookkeeper

Robert Davis
Maintenance
Manager

Mill Creek Elementary

3750 International Golf Parkway St. Augustine, Fl 32092
904-547-3720

July 12, 2015

Dear Mill Creek Family and Friends,

Mill Creek is "*Sailing with Success*" this year as we celebrate the traditions of excellence in learning, collaboration, forward thinking, and innovation of ALL learners!

Mill Creek Mustangs – Are you ready! We are quickly preparing for another year of great learning together. In the past 3 years I have had the honor to lead Mill Creek and this summer has been the most fun and engaging in preparing for the upcoming school year!

Last year, teachers across grade levels engaged students in high levels of rigorous learning that provoked our students to “own” their learning, become critical thinkers, and begin to engage in learning conversations with their peers and teachers. Students were put in collaborative learning groups where problem-solving, teamwork, and active listening and speaking were challenged throughout their work time. The real-life work we believe that has to begin as we prepare them to be our Leaders of the Future.

Students have begun to see themselves as writers, mathematicians, and more determined than ever to become “readers for life.” Teachers have brought life to learning and we are excited to continue these practices in 2015 – 2015 as teachers have been preparing and studying all summer to enrich their craft as Learning Leaders in their classrooms. At Mill Creek we pride ourselves in being life-long learners, never becoming stagnant in our instructional practices, but reaching beyond to improve student learning. Our commitment to our students continues to drive our vision, *“The Learning Community of Mill Creek will ensure that ALL achieve their fullest potential through challenging, purposeful learning opportunities; where learning is the only option!”*

Join us as we “**S.A.I.L.**” into a new year of learning together where – Students and Staff are **Active In Learning.**”

With school beginning soon, I wanted to give you some information that may be helpful in the upcoming weeks that will be critical in preparation for the new year!

Calendar:

Registration (going on NOW):

If you will **NOT** be returning to Mill Creek, please call 547-3720 and let us know immediately. We want to make sure that we are staffed correctly for the upcoming year, as you and I both know it is always hard when we have to move students once school starts.

Also, if you have new neighbors or know of new families that have come to register, please encourage them to do so ASAP. We know students are more successful when they are ready to start school the first day.

PreK/Kindergarten “Meet the Teacher”:

August 6 – 6:00pm – 7:30pm

We will begin in the CAFÉ with a brief information meeting at **6:00PM**.

PreK and Kindergartner families are invited to meet their teacher, visit their classroom, tour Mill Creek, and gain important information about the upcoming year this evening.

Kindergarten Teachers will also establish a schedule for the staggered start schedule for August 10, August 11, and August 13. Friday, August 14 **ALL** Kindergarten students will attend. It is highly encouraged that all families plan to attend this informational evening.

Grade 1 – 5 Meet and Greet Morning:

August 7 – See Schedule Below – We are changing the format this year so please see schedule below for your families scheduled time to meet their teacher!

**9:00 – 10:30 – Last Name A – L
10:30 – 12:00 – Last Name M – Z**

Principal Information Meeting – 10:00AM(Both Sessions – New Families only)

Children and families are invited to visit your child’s new classroom, meet the teacher and put school supplies away. This time will not be dedicated to discovering classroom expectations, but rather getting acquainted with the classroom and teacher. Learning routines and schedules will be discussed during Curriculum Chat Night on September 1. The Café and Extended Day staff will be available for parents to gain information about these programs.

First day of school:

August 10 – regular school hours (8:10 – 2:50)

Lunch Request - We ask that parents **DO NOT** come visit their child at lunch until **August 24**. This will allow for our CAFÉ staff to establish CAFÉ routines and behaviors with our students.

Walking your child to class - Parents will be able to walk their child to class until Wednesday, August 18, 2015. At this time, we believe our students will have established independence and will be able to walk to their classroom alone. It is important that our students are confident learners! Thank you so much for your support as we begin this year.

The week of August 3 you will receive a welcome email from your child’s teacher. We are still working on placement and are super excited about sharing this information with you in the near weeks.

As our student population continues to grow at Mill Creek, we are blessed to have a few additions to our staff. We have one additional para-professional to hire! I will keep you updated as we continue to add excellence to our already great “crew” of Learning Leaders. Please help me welcome:

- Guidance Counselor – Ms. Megan Day
- ESE Teacher – Mrs. Katie Wheaton
- Kindergarten – Ms. Sarah Breslin
- 1st grade – Ms. Alex Krupski
- 2nd grade – Mrs. Kaitlyn Leonard
- 3rd grade – Mrs. Laurie Misch
- Facility Team Member – Mr. Stephan Whitfield

We are very fortunate to have these new staff members join our Mill Creek learning community. I know they will enjoy their time with our students, staff, and families. It is my goal to have all new staff hired as soon as possible.

As you know, we never stop at Mill Creek, and this time of year does seem to start moving much quicker than sometimes we can even imagine. However, we are never too busy to answer your questions or listen to your concerns. Please contact Mrs. Diana Mink(Registration needs), Mrs. Conroy, Mr. Watson, or I should you need assistance. Our priority is to serve our Mill Creek families with the greatest care and attention!

Enjoy the remainder of your summer and I look forward to seeing you very soon!

Sincerely,

Amanda L. Riedl, Learning Leader

P.S. Don't forget about our Reading and Math Learning Challenges. I look forward to celebrating with students!!