

Amanda Riedl  
Principal

Michelle  
Conroy  
Assistant Principal

Todd Watson  
Assistant Principal



Joan White &  
Melody Cashwell  
Guidance

Kathleen Richards  
Bookkeeper

Robert Davis  
Maintenance  
Manager

## Mill Creek Elementary

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

July 2016

Dear Mill Creek Friends and Family,

I hope this letter finds you enjoying countless moments of fun with your family and friends. Those moments that bring a lifetime of memories! We have already begun our preparations for the 2016 – 2017 school year and are more excited than ever to encounter the continued learning growth of “Our Students.”

Our students, “*The Mighty Mustangs – Trailblazers of Learning.*” Our theme for the new year captures the excellence and tradition of the Mill Creek Mustangs bringing to life the innovation, determination, and forward-thinking of a trailblazer, one that forges new paths, that isn’t afraid of risks, and leads for success. A story that is told through the learning growth of our students.

As I enter my fifth year at Mill Creek, we are at a place of learning that is more progressive, rigorous, and challenging than ever before. We continue to challenge ourselves as the Lead Learners, and Teachers, to become smarter every day to ensure that we are able, capable, and equipped with the necessary knowledge and understanding to serve our students. In return, we observe our students seeking the same opportunities to become smarter, excited about the work they produce, and constantly seeking the challenge of conquering new learning. This level of learning is confirmed by the learning growth we have seen through a variety of learning outcomes, not just measured from assessments, but rather, independence and ownership in their own learning! A priceless gift!

As we forge ahead as “*Trailblazers in Learning,*” our commitment to our students and community 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!*” **We are The Mighty Mustangs!**

With school beginning soon, I wanted to give you some information that may be helpful in the upcoming weeks:

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 8 – 6:00pm – 7:30pm

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

PreK and Kindergarten families are invited to meet their teacher, visit their classroom, tour Mill Creek, and gain important information about the upcoming year. It is highly encouraged that all families plan to attend.

**Grade 1 – 5 Meet the Teacher:**

**August 9 – 9:00 – 10:30 – Last Name A – L**  
**10:45 – 12:15 – Last Name M - Z**

**9:30am** – New Family Orientation – MCES Cafe

Children and families are invited to visit their student’s classroom, meet the teacher and drop off school supplies. 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 Nights on September 13(K – 2) and Sept. 15(3 – 5). The Café and Extended Day staff will be available for parents to gain information regarding these programs.

**First day of school:**

**August 10** – regular school hours (**FULL DAY - 8:10 – 2:50**)

Just a reminder: We ask that parents **DO NOT** plan to visit their child during lunch until September 6. This will allow for our CAFÉ Leaders to establish CAFÉ routines and behaviors with our students.

In addition, we welcome parents in escorting their child to class **until Wednesday, August 17, 2016**. At this time, we believe our students will have established independence and will be able to walk as an independent learner to their classroom. It is important that our students are confident learners! Thank you so much for your support as we begin this year.

By **Thursday, August 4**, an email or phone call will be sent introducing your student’s new teacher for the school year. We are still working on placement and are super excited about sharing this information with you soon.

With the continued growth of Mill Creek, we are blessed to have many new additions to our staff. Please help me welcome:

- Kindergarten – Ms. Danielle Johnson
- 1<sup>st</sup> grade – Ms. Jessica Ferrara
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Teachers – Mrs. Christine Wojnar and Mrs. Michelle Hernandez
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade – Mrs. Lauren Nourse
- Guidance – Mrs. Melody Cashwell
- Front Office Secretary – Ms. Kivi Hermans
- LEA Clerk – Mrs. Nerissa Hartford
- PreK Paraprofessional – Ms. Paige Madancy and Mrs. Pam Kramer
- Para Professional – Ms. Mary Dezell
- Extended Day/CAFÉ Leaders – Roxann Hawkins, Reanna Franklin, and Ericka Blount

We are very fortunate to have these new staff members join the 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.

Everything gets extremely busy this time of year as we gear up for another year of learning, however we are never too busy to answer your questions or listen to your concerns. Please contact the front office if we can be of any assistance.

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 summer learning challenges. I look forward to celebrating with students!!