

# Cardinal Connection



## Mrs. McCool's Nest News

Cardinal Families, We want to start off with a great thank you to each and everyone of our families that have supported the start up of our year. It has been a great success!! We are so appreciative of your support each day. Progress reports are now available on HAC for grades 3 - 5 and paper-based for grades 1 - 2 should be coming home this week. It was exciting to see a great turn out at our Curriculum Chat night Tuesday. Teachers will soon be reaching out to set up a conference time with each of our students' families. Please consider joining our PTO and attending our SAC meetings! We appreciate family involvement.



Just a reminder that we have a new **Spirit Wear Store** this year! Order your GRADE LEVEL shirts here for field trips and school spirit! Just place your order online and your items will ship right to your door. Support our Nest in style! **Click the @SpiritWear Store link.** [@SpiritWear Store](#)



- 9/16 Boy Scouts Parent Night in Cafe
- 9/19 Student Holiday/Teacher In-Service Day
- 9/30 Spirit Night @ Moes
- 10/13 Student Holiday/Teacher Planning
- 10/21 Fall Picture Day @ CCE
- 10/22 Spirit Night @ Jersey Mikes
- 10/24 Trunk or Treat at CCE (PTO)
- 10/26 - 10/31 Red Ribbon Week
- 10/31 Character Parade at CCE
- 11/11 Veteran's Day Holiday
- 11/17 - 11/21 Penny Wars (PTO)
- 11/20 PTO Meal order Day w/ Texas Roadhouse
- 11/24 - 11/28 Thanksgiving Break

If you would like to participate in the upcoming Textbook Adoption process, please contact

Ms. Cirillo: [gina.cirillo@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:gina.cirillo@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

We are looking for parent input!



[@CCE Website](#)

[@SpiritWear Store](#)

## PTO

We hope you plan to join our PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) to help support our school and all Cardinals in having their best year yet with resources and fun for all! Click on 'PTO' above to head over to the CCE PTO Webpage!

## SAC

Join our School Advisory Committee. Click 'SAC' above to head over to the CCE SAC Webpage

**SAC Chairs: Mrs. Raymer & Mrs. Tutton.**

[andrea.raymer@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:andrea.raymer@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

[constandina.tutton@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:constandina.tutton@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

We work in collaborative relationship with all stakeholders at CCE on ways to improve the education, academic achievement, and safety of all students. Meetings are held one Tuesday per month at 3:05 pm and may be attended in-person or virtually.

**SAC Meeting Link**

**Upcoming Meeting Dates**

**9/16 ; 10/21 ; 11/18 ; 12/16**

**Lunch Menu Link for 25 - 26**

# Embracing the Past to Learn and Grow our Futures...

**Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** to Cunningham Creek Elementary School! The Nest opened in the fall of 1995 ready to take flight on a new journey with students and staff. This year we will reflect on the past to prepare and better our future. Your child will be helping to create a time capsule with their grade levels and 30 year dedication present to our school!



**We love to see our students' are display each day on campus! Mrs. Brown always brings out the best masterpieces from our Cardinal Artists!!**



**Our Cardinal Resource Team (PE, Art, Music, Media, & STEAM) are always on the lookout for students showing great Character on campus. The August Monthly Winners for each grade level receive a trophy and get their Class name on the DOJO Wall!!! Congrats to our winning classes: Kline, Patterson, Keller, Grossman, Kaufmann, & Carroll**

## Counselor Updates from Ms. McGrath!

I am thrilled to partner with you in supporting your child's academic success and emotional well-being. This year, I'll be sharing updates, resources, and opportunities to help your child thrive both in and out of the classroom. Please choose a link below to check out our resources.

[Mental Health & Wellness Portal](#)  
[Digital Safety and Awareness](#)  
[Mandated Safety Lessons](#)  
[Counselor Referral Form](#)

We are continuing to build lasting relationships with all students and will soon be meeting in small groups with students as needed.

# Character Counts & SOAR

## SOAR Program

Each Cardinal can earn **SOAR** tickets to earn prizes &/or special events on campus. Every other Friday, students are able to spend their tickets on prizes now or keep them safe to hold out for a bigger reward as they continue to earn tickets each week! Ask your students about the SOAR Expectations and if they earned a ticket at school each day! We would love the help in promoting positive actions each and every day!

### THE 6 PILLARS OF CHARACTER



RUSTWORTHINESS



RESPECT



RESPONSIBILITY



FAIRNESS



CARING



CITIZENSHIP

## Character Counts!

### September:

Our Scholars will be learning this month about the Pillar of Character:

### **FAIRNESS**

Fairness is taking turns, being open-minded, not taking advantage of others, treating people equally, and listening and not blaming others carelessly



## Cardinal Vision



We are a community of  
Caring Cardinals Committed to  
Creating an atmosphere that encourages everyone to  
reach their greatest potential through  
Communicating, Caring and achieving Excellence!

All Cardinals will soar with a passion for  
lifelong learning.

## Cardinal Mission



At Cunningham Creek Elementary School,  
we will build strong bodies, hearts, minds, and spirits  
so, we can  
Live, Love, Learn, and Lead!



## Policies and Procedures

### VOLUNTEERS & SCHOOL ACCESS

**RAPTOR**  
TECHNOLOGY

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
Welcome Personal Information School Performance Families Documents Organizations Checklist Done

**District Volunteer Application**

We appreciate your interest in volunteering for the District Volunteer Program. Our district offers a variety of activities you may choose from when volunteering your time. Simply complete and submit a volunteer application and upon approval you will receive instructions on next steps.

It is very important that the information you enter on the application matches your government issued identification card including your full legal name. It is important that you provide a valid email address so you can be notified as to the status of your application and for future communication. If you are unable to provide an email address, you use the district's email address. All information collected on the application will remain confidential and not be shared outside the volunteer program.

If you have any questions about the application, please request to speak with a volunteer representative.

Thank you,  
District Volunteer Coordinator

Cancel Application Next

**RAPTOR: School access** (proceeding past the front office of any school) is required for every individual that is not a staff member of the St. Johns County School District. This is done through completion of the district's volunteer application. School access is good for 3 years. For help completing the online application, please call (904) 547-3945. Anyone entering campus must bring a photo ID to sign in.

### Absence From School

If your child is absent from school, a parent/guardian must turn in a signed note within 48 hours for the absence to be considered excused. You may also click the link above to report the absence and attach a doctor's note. The district is currently working on a district-wide absence survey. More to come when launched. Phone calls will not be accepted. We appreciate your support.

### DISMISSAL CHANGE REQUEST

Use link above prior to 1:30 (12:30 Wed) to make a Dismissal Change Request. Must use this link as no phone calls or hand written notes will be accepted.

## ***Policies and Procedures Cont.***

### **Birthday Treat Policy**

It is important that we celebrate holidays and students while keeping everyone healthy. CCE feels strongly that these celebrations are part of the school experience. If families would like to send birthday treats for the class in honor of their child's birthday, we ask that you send non-food and non-balloon items (i.e.: pencils, stickers, etc.). Our #1 priority is keeping all our students healthy and safe. If the classroom teacher sponsors a holiday party or other event, they will provide a list of items that can be sent based on classroom allergies. We appreciate your support and understanding. Teachers will also collaborate with their Room Parent for celebration (non-birthday) needs. Administrative approval is needed for all holiday activities involving non-curriculum activities and food items.

### **Tardy Policy**

CCE Tardy Bell rings at 8:25 a.m. Students must be inside their homeroom classes at that time. Students will be marked Tardy if not. The Biker/Walker Gate will be closed and locked at 8:22 a.m. each morning. Car Rider entrance doors will be closed at 8:22 a.m. At 8:24 a.m. all students must enter through the main entrance to sign in and get a Tardy Pass to get to their homeroom class. It is important to arrive on time, for our students to start their day prepared and ready to learn.

### **Cell Phone & Smart Watch Policy**

New State Law has passed stating that Elementary Students are not to have cell phones during school. Smart Watches are to be used only as watches or will be taken away and placed in backpacks. If students continue to have these items out, a parent will be called to come pick item up from front office. Repeat offenses will result in a behavioral referral with consequence.

### **Homework Policy**

A grade will not be reflected in the gradebook for homework. Homework, when assigned, is for extra practice of previously taught skills. Students should not be spending a majority of their evenings doing homework. CCE knows the importance of students participating in active play and extracurricular activities to grow in other important ways! Please contact your child's teacher with any homework concerns.

### **Early Dismissal Policy**

Early Check-Outs must occur before 2:15 p.m. on Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri, and 1:15 p.m. on Wed. Please come to the front office prior to these times with your ID and students name, grade, and teacher information for the front desk staff to call your child from class.

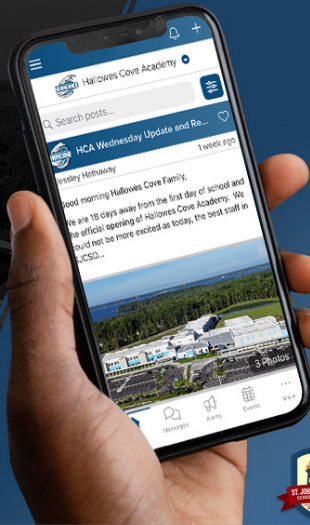
## DOWNLOAD THE PARENTSQUARE APP TODAY!

STAY INVOLVED WITH YOUR STUDENT'S  
LEARNING AND ACTIVITIES AT SCHOOL.  
FROM ANYWHERE.



ParentSquare

ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



SJCSD is pleased to launch ParentSquare as our unified communication platform for all schools. This adoption brings a consistent, modern approach to how we share information with families and staff. [Learn more!](#)

Families who have not yet logged in to the [BusPlanner website](#) or the [Chipmunk app](#) are strongly encouraged to create an account before the start of the new school year. This will help ensure that you are able to access your child's 2025-2026 bus schedule.



# BusPlanner



# chipmunk



## FORTIFYFL

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

#FORTIFYFL  
GETFORTIFYFL.COM



FortifyFL is a mobile app and web-based tool that allows students, parents, and community members in Florida to anonymously report suspicious activities, potential threats, or safety concerns related to schools. The app immediately forwards these reports to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials for rapid response