

THE BULL PEN

Tocoi Creek High School Weekly Newsletter

Toro Nation,

Today is the last day of the 1st quarter. Report cards will be available on HAC on Tuesday, October 24th at 4pm. This Monday, Oct 16th, is a teacher planning day for our Toro staff members. Enjoy the 3-day weekend!

TOP HONORS GO TO THE TCHS MARCHING TOROS

Congratulations are in order for our Marching Toros in the following areas at the FFCA Band Competition that was held at TCHS this past Saturday:

- Second Overall Placement
- Best Overall Colorguard
- Best Overall Percussion
- Best in Class 4A Colorguard
- Best in class 4A Percussion

Kudos to Mr. Cananzi and his army of instructors, parents, and community volunteers!





TOCOI CREEK HS
CLASS OF 2025

ORDER NOW

DEADLINE TO ORDER!
OCT. 16

RING CEREMONY
FEB. 8

Visit
JOSTENS.COM
to design your ring and place your order.

IMPORTANT DATES

TORO WEEK

at a Glance

- Monday, Oct. 16th-** No School- Teacher Planning Day
Class Ring Ordering Deadline
- Tuesday, Oct. 17th-** ACT- NCR for 11th and 12th grade
- Wednesday, Oct. 18th-** Bright Futures Application Help during Toro Time
- Thursday, Oct. 19th-**
- Friday, Oct. 20th-** Deadline to Order Cap & Gown

SAVE THE DATE

- **FEBRUARY 8TH** JUNIOR RING AND PIN CEREMONY IN AUDITORIUM
- **APRIL 12TH:** SENIOR GRADBASH @ UNIVERSAL STUDIOS
- **APRIL 18TH:** JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM @ WGV RENAISSANCE RESORT (1000 TICKETS)
- **MAY 20TH:** GRADUATION AT THE ST. AUGUSTINE AMPHITHEATER @ 7PM

TORO ATHLETICS

at a Glance

- Wed., Oct. 18th @ 4pm Girls Golf vs Bartram & Beachside @ Slammer & Squire
- Sat., Oct. 21st @ 6am Cross Country vs Ponte Vedra @ TBA

Press Release

NEWSWORTHY TOROS



Last Saturday, the Speech and Debate Team attended their first tournament and brought back lots of wins!

Varsity Public Forum Debate:

Mehna Lakshminarayanan and Sahiti Reddy: 2nd Place

Novice Public Forum Debate:

Destyni Shaw and Jahnvi Roychoudhury: 1st Place & 3rd Place overall (Novice and Varsity)

Varsity Congressional Debate:

Noah DeHaan: 3rd Place

Novice Congressional Debate:

Isha Jha: 2nd place

Dheeraj Polavarapu: 4th place

Varsity Oral Interpretation:

Shreya Singh: 1st place

Novice Declamation:

Kiarah Donahue: 3rd Place

Novice Informative Speaking:

Hannah Brown: 3rd Place





STUDENT LIFE

PURCHASE A YEARBOOK!

YEARBOOKS ARE ON SALE NOW!!
The TCHS yearbook has reached the halfway point for selling out of yearbooks for the 2023-2024 school year. To guarantee a copy, please purchase soon at www.buytheyearbook.com



ALL 4 ONE

TRACK AND FIELD CONDITIONING

WEIGHTROOM 4-5PM, COURTYARD 5-5:30
STARTING SEPTEMBER 18
MON. TUES. THURS.

ALL ATHLETES MUST HAVE ATHLETIC CLEARANCE
[HTTPS://WWW-TCHS.STJOHNS.K12.FL.US/ATHLETICS/CLEARANCE/](https://www-tchs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/athletics/clearance/)

TOCO CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

DINNER GAMES MOVIE... AND MUCH MORE

MARCH 22-23 2024
6:30PM-9:00AM

JUNIOR / SENIOR CAMP OUT

THIS EVENT AIMS TO CELEBRATE AND ENERGIZE OUR JUNIORS AND SENIORS AS THEY HEAD INTO THE LAST GRADING QUARTER OF THE YEAR.

CONTACT MR. CABRERA 2-017 FOR MORE INFO



SENIORS

STRESSED ABOUT

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS AND FINANCIAL AID?



We are here to help!

College Application/ Naviance Help Sessions

Where: 04-007
When: Sept. 13 and 20th
during Toro Time!

Complete your Bright Futures Application!

Where: 04-007
When: Oct. 4th and 18th
during Toro Time!



Fall Tasks for Seniors

- Complete your college applications (deadlines are as early as October 15th!)
- Requests transcripts in Naviance if needed
- Complete your Bright Futures application (after October 1 and before the semester ends!)

FAFSA Parent Night



Coming in January!

The NEW FAFSA will open in December this year. Stay tuned for more information!

Get tagged for Toro Time sessions in 1st floor guidance office.



JUNIORS!

Jostens®



TOCOI CREEK

HS

CLASS OF 2025

ORDER NOW

DEADLINE TO ORDER!

OCT. 16

RING CEREMONY

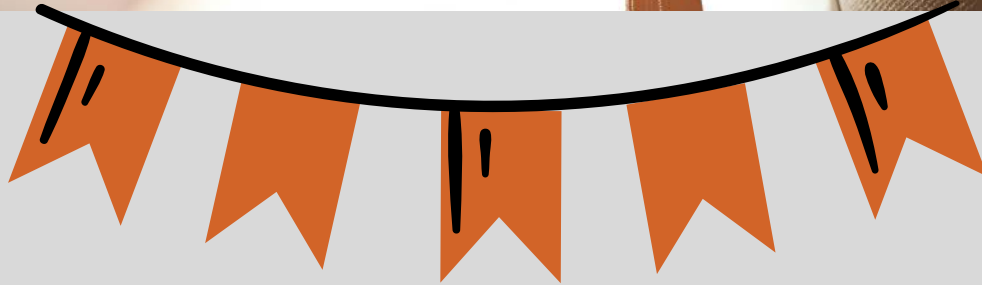
FEB. 8

Visit

JOSTENS.COM

to design your ring and place your order.

SENIOR INFORMATION



SENIOR DATES:

- April 12th: GradBash @ Universal Studios
- April 18th: Prom @ WGV Renaissance Resort
- May 20th: Graduation at St. Augustine Amphitheater



Grad Bash tickets are going fast! We currently have 90 seats left to attend the senior class overnight event at Universal Studios/Islands of Adventures on April 12th. To purchase tickets, you need to pay senior dues and select the first deposit for Grad Bash available in School Pay.

Helpful Links for Seniors:

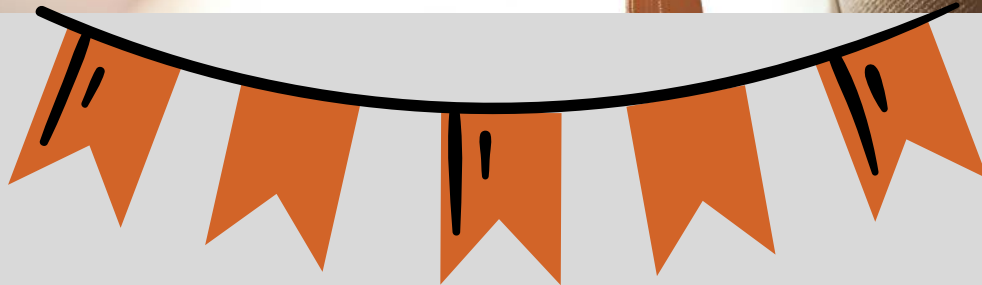
[FAFSA \(Financial Aid\)](#)

[Naviance Help](#)

[Senior Guidance Page](#)

[Senior Info on TCHS Webpage](#)

SENIOR INFORMATION



SENIOR TO-DO LIST:

- **By October 21st:** Order your Cap and Gown
- **By December 1st:** Order Senior Ads for Yearbook
- **By December 1st:** Pay Senior Dues: \$100
- **By January 15th or until full:** Pay Grad Bash Deposit 1: \$125.00 (Limited spots- please reserve early to guarantee a seat.) **must pay senior dues first

Yearbook ads for seniors are now open until sold out. To order an ad for your senior, please visit www.buytheyearbook.com and enter in school id 715033. There are a limited number of senior ad spaces available, and spaces will sell out.



GUIDANCE INFO FOR SENIORS



Published by the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance

NAVIGATING YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

NyFF
NAVIGATING YOUR
FINANCIAL FUTURE

OCT - NOV 2023

View information about the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program at the following link:
www.FloridaStudentFinancialAids.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN



The Bright Futures Student Handbook is divided into three chapters covering a variety of topics.

CHAPTER 1: INITIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDES:

- Requirements for Scholarship Types (FAS, FMS, GSC, and GSV); and
- Non-Traditional Students (Home-Educated, Personalized Education Program, GED, Out-of-State, and Mid-Year).

CHAPTER 2: SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION, INCLUDES:

- Length of the Scholarship Award;
- Award Amounts; and
- Transferring the Award between Institutions.

CHAPTER 3: RENEWAL ELIGIBILITY, INCLUDES:

- Renewal Requirements; and
- Reinstatement/Restoration Requirements.

Bright Futures Florida Medallion Scholarship (BFFMS) students enrolled in an associate degree program at a Florida College System (FCS) institution receive 100 percent of tuition and specific fees. Upon completing an associate degree, a student may use his or her award to pursue a baccalaureate degree and receive 75 percent of tuition and specific fees.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 2024-25 *Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA)*: We encourage all high school seniors to submit an application, even if you do not plan to attend a university, college, or technical center immediately after graduation. The state application opens on October 1, 2023. Read the fact sheets for program deadlines found here: www.FloridaStudentFinancialAids.org/SAPBFMAIN/SAPBFMAIN.
- 2024-25 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*: The anticipated opening date for the federal application is December 2023. Create your FSA_ID and Password here: <https://fsaid.ed.gov/npas/index.htm>.
- Private Scholarships: Apply! Apply! Apply!
- National College Fairs: www.nacacfairs.org

PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS:

Many scholarship committees are looking for students who have the ability to communicate effectively in writing. Essays are an excellent way for scholarship judges to choose the most qualified candidates. Tips for writing the essay include:

- **Giving yourself time** - Quality essays take time;
- **Following directions** - Word count and font size may be eligibility requirements;
- **Focusing on the topic** - Answer the question that is being asked;
- **Proofreading and editing your work** - Be clear, concise, and correct any errors; and
- **Getting feedback** - Ask family or counselors to read your essay and provide feedback.

NAVIGATING YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE | FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Upcoming College Visits:

- Oct. 11th- Jacksonville University

Sign up in the 1st floor guidance office to participate!

GUIDANCE INFORMATION

ADVICE
ASSISTANCE

GUIDANCE

HELP

School Counselors attended our annual training with the State University Admission Directors, ACT/SAT/CLT representatives, and the Department of Education last week. There are a lot of updates this year that we are anxious to share with you and your students.

We will be dispersing this information in the following ways:

Individual Senior Meetings: Counselors will meet with every senior individually. The counselors will discuss graduation requirements and post-secondary planning with each student. These appointments are time consuming and will take the remainder of the nine weeks to complete so please be patient as your student waits for their turn. On campus students will receive a pass delivered by the guidance intern to one of their classes. Off campus students will be contacted to schedule an in person or virtual meeting.

Classroom Guidance:

School counselors visited 9th and 10th grade English classes during the weeks of September 25th and October 2nd. [You can view a copy of the presentation here.](#) School counselors will be visiting 11th grade English classes during the week of October 17th. A copy of the presentation will be posted on the school counseling webpage after the presentation.

Website: The following sections of the website have received significant updates:

Bright Futures- Includes updated Bright Futures test score requirements for the class of 2024 and 2025. In addition, it specifies that community service hours and paid service hours can now be combined to reach the 100 hour requirement. Bright Futures has also extended the deadline to submit standardized test scores to the August 31st after graduation!

Testing for College- Includes an introduction to the Classic Learning Test (CLT) which is an online exam that can be taken from home and used for Bright Futures, College Admissions, and to meet high school graduation testing requirements! There is also additional information about the ACT, PERT, PSAT, and SAT exams.

Graduation Requirements - Includes notification that the on-line course requirement has been removed as a graduation requirement for all grade levels as well as NEW graduation requirements for students entering high school in the 23-24 school year and beyond.

Counselor Videos- Includes an updated Toro Academic Handbook which walks students 8-12th grade through navigating the high school and post-secondary process. It also has updated guides for both the Florida Private Schools and Florida State Universities which includes average accepted GPA's and test scores all in one place!

Who is my Counselor?

- [Elizabeth Wright](#) :
 - Early College Students & Last Name A
- [Artina Coma](#):
 - Last Names B-Dh
- [Laura Kuhel](#):
 - Last Names Di-I
- [Alyssa Socket](#):
 - Last Names J-Ml
- [Rachel Blount](#) :
 - Last Names Mo-Sa
- [Linda Smith](#) :
 - Last Names Sc-Z

CAREER ACADEMIES

If you are interested in participating in a job shadow during a teacher planning day, please visit the qr code and sign up. Business partners are being secured for spots.



- ### UPCOMING EVENTS
- **October 13-** Academy T-shirt sales begin (link will be on Schoology page)
 - **October 17-** Teaching Academy shadow field study
 - **October 18-** Healthcare Guest Speaker- Donna Wagner - UF Health St. Johns
 - **October 24-** Project Innovation School Competition
 - **October 25-** Healthcare Guest Speaker- Sleep Disorders
 - **October 27-** Nail Drive hosted by NFBA
 - **November 7-** Project Innovation District Competition
 - **November 14-** Health Science field study to University of St. Augustine
 - **November 17-** Senior AIBE leaders field study

Check out the October edition of the Academy Newsletter Here!

A blue banner with a silhouette of a soldier in front of an American flag on the left. The text "MILITARY VETERAN FAMILIES" is in large, bold, pink letters. Below that, "TCHS" is in white. Further down, it says "is approved by the Department of Veteran Affairs to certify Chapter 35 benefits". At the bottom, there is a link and contact information for Kristina Johnson.

MILITARY VETERAN FAMILIES

TCHS

is approved by the Department of Veteran Affairs to certify Chapter 35 benefits

[When can Chapter 35 benefits be used in High School?](#)
Students who are 18 years old and eligible to receive Chapter 35 Dependent Education Assistance can receive 5 months of benefits while still retaining the full 36 months of college entitlement

Contact your School Certifying Official, Kristina Johnson, at kristina.dulaney-johnson@stjohns.k12.fl.us for more information



TESTING CORNER

TESTING DATES & INFORMATION

ACT-NCR (11th and 12th Grade ONLY)

- Tuesday, October 17th
- This test is for 11th and 12th grade students who have not met the FSA Grade 10 ELA and/or the Algebra 1 EOC graduation requirement. The cost of the ACT-NCR exam is \$38.50. **Deadline for 11th and 12th grade students to register and pay is Monday, September 4th.** Please click here to register and pay: ACT-NCR SchoolPay.
- For more information, please visit the [TCHS Testing Website here](#)



PARENT INVOLVEMENT



Please join us in supporting the fine arts at Toco Creek High School. The vision of the One Toro Arts Booster Organization is to ensure that ALL students at Toco Creek High School benefit from the collaborative support of our parent, community, and booster organization. Follow us on Facebook @OneToroArtsBoosters

Interested in joining or donating to PTSO?

- [Our Website](#)
- [Our FB Group](#)
- [Our FB Page](#)
- [Our Email](#)



Join the Athletics Booster to help with:

- Facility improvement Projects
- Fundraising
- Concession Stand
- Promoting the School



If interested, contact: [Billy Blackmon](#)

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Next SAC Meeting will be November 9th at 8:10AM in room 2-017



ONETORO ARTS

VISION OF ONE TORO ARTS

TO ENSURE ALL STUDENTS AT TOCOI CREEK HIGH SCHOOL BENEFIT FROM THE COLLABORATIVE SUPPORT OF OUR PARENTS, COMMUNITY, AND BOOSTER ORGANIZATIONS.



JOIN THE BOOSTERS!
\$35



- INCLUDES
- 2 TICKETS TO ALL-ARTS SHOWCASE
 - 2 TICKETS TO ANY THEATRE PRODUCTION
 - VOTING PRIVILEGES AT THE APRIL 26TH GENERAL ELECTION MEETING FOR THE ONE TORO ARTS EXECUTIVE BOARD (1 VOTE PER FAMILY)

COMING UP:

10/14 - MARCHING TOROS COMPETE AT BOONE OUTDOOR CONTEST, ORLANDO

10/17 - WHAT A NIGHT SPIRIT NIGHT AT WHATABURGER 4-9PM

10/21 - MARCHING TOROS COMPETE AT BOA ORLANDO

10/26 - TOCOI CREEK CAFE, TCHS COURTYARD, 6PM

10/28 - MARCHING TOROS PERFORM AT MPA, BARTRAM TRAIL HS

FOLLOW US:

[ONE TORO ARTS WEBSITE](#)



[FACEBOOK](#)



EMAIL: ONETOROARTS@GMAIL.COM

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[HTTPS://ONETOROARTS.WIXSITE.COM/ONE-TORO-ARTS](https://onetoroarts.wixsite.com/one-toro-arts)

HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**SUPPORTING
= SCHOOLS =**
Never Tasted this Good



JOIN US IN HELPING
TOCOI CREEK HIGH SCHOOL SUPPORT: ONE TORO ARTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17
FROM 4PM TO 9PM

AT 179 VILLAGE COMMONS DR., ST AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

DINE-IN, DRIVE-THRU, TAKE-OUT, ONLINE & CURBSIDE!

DURING OUR FUNDRAISING EVENT, WE WILL DONATE A PORTION OF SALES TO HELP MAKE OUR COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE.

WHATABURGER

ONETORO ARTS

TOCOI CREEK CAFE

OCTOBER 26
6:00 PM
TCHS COURTYARD

\$5 ENTRY

COME ENJOY A NIGHT OF
COFFEE, TREATS, AND MUSIC



onetroartsboosters



onetroartsboosters One Toro Arts is on Instagram!
Follow us for the latest in TCHS Arts!

PTSO



Please join the PTSO Board and Principal Willets for an update on our progress and plans.

10.17.2023

PTSO GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
IN THE MEDIA CENTER 6:30PM

Tocoi Creek High School PTSO

2023-2024
COMMITTEE
INVITATION



If you're interested in co-leading or joining any of our committees, please email or message us. Each Board Member leads a committee, but they can use your help!

Committees

Internal

WHAT WE DO: THIS COMMITTEE FOCUSES ON INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS. WE FUNDRAISE, WORK WITH PRINCIPAL WILLETS ON SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

TALENTS NEEDED: CANVA ARTISTS, FUNDRAISING COLLABORATORS. MOST VOLUNTEERING WILL BE FROM HOME

Student Affairs

WHAT WE DO: THIS COMMITTEE FOCUSES ON CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING STUDENTS. WE ARE IN CHARGE OF THE QUARTERLY EVENTS AND CREATING PTSO SPONSORED EVENTS FOR THE STUDENTS.

TALENTS NEEDED: CREATIVE COLLABORATORS! YOU CAN VOLUNTEER AT SCHOOL DURING AN EVENT OR FROM HOME HELPING US PLAN AND EXECUTE

Teacher Affairs

WHAT WE DO: THIS COMMITTEE FOCUSES ON CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING TEACHERS AND STAFF! WE WORK ON THE 4TH FRIDAY CART, HOLIDAY GIFTS, AND TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

TALENTS NEEDED: EVERYTHING! YOU CAN VOLUNTEER AT SCHOOL DURING AN EVENT OR FROM HOME HELPING US PLAN AND EXECUTE.

Community Affairs

WHAT WE DO: THIS COMMITTEE FOCUSES ON PARTNERING WITH OUR COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS PARTNERS.

TALENTS NEEDED: CONNECTIONS AND A LOVE FOR TALKING! YOU CAN VOLUNTEER AT YOUR CONVENIENCE - ON THE PHONE OR IN PERSON. WE'LL HELP EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!



GENERAL SCHOOL INFO



@TOCOI_CREEKHS



@TOCOI CREEK HIGH SCHOOL



@TOCOICREEK



Helpful Links:

[SJCSD Dress Code](#)

[TCHS Clubs](#)

[Lunch Applications](#)

[TCHS Yearbook](#)

[Absences and Early
Dismissal](#)

[Athletic Tickets](#)

[Cafeteria](#)

[Clever](#)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

TCHS IS LOOKING FOR SOME OUTSTANDING STAFF MEMBERS TO WORK WITH OUR TOROS!
PLEASE EMAIL MR. WILLETS DIRECTLY AT JAY.WILLETS@STJOHNS.K12.FL.US FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

- MATH TEACHER - GEOMETRY
- MATH TEACHER - ALGEBRA
- ESE TEACHER IND UNIT



St Johns County School District

Next Hiring for

GUEST TEACHER (Substitute)

Posting September 1, 2023

in AppliTrack Application System

SJCSD is ready to hire Guest Teachers who are ready to make a difference for students in Pre-K - 12th grade. Daily hourly rate \$15.00.

The Guest Teacher role provides:

- Opportunity to put your degree to work.
- Flexibility – you pick the days and schools.
- An opportunity to work with diverse student populations.
- An opportunity to contribute to the learning and development of the students in our school district.

Come join our team.

Applicants who hold a minimum of an Associate degree or equivalent of 60 credits or higher and who are 20 years of age or older are eligible to apply. Preferences given to applicants that have graduated or are graduating from an Education program. All applicants will be reviewed for strong teaching potential, above average references, experience in critical need areas, and/or an education degree.

For full job description, requirements and to apply online,

Visit: <https://www.appliTrack.com/stjohns/onlineapp/>

Questions? Please call 904-547-7636 Smartfind Helpdesk or application questions call AppliTrack helpdesk 547-7631



DOWNLOAD TODAY



FORTIFYFL

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

#FORTIFYFL

GETFORTIFYFL.COM



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

