

COUNTRY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROWLS N' GROWLS

“SAILING ON A VOYAGE OF LOVE AND LEARNING”

AUGUST 2018 EDITION

Principals' Message

Dear Country Hills Elementary Families and Friends,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! After 7 successful years as a Florida school administrator, I am thrilled to be a part of Country Hills Elementary, a school rich in history and tradition!

This year CHE is “Sailing on a Voyage of Love and Learning.” Our 5th graders (last years' 4th graders) developed this amazing theme for the year and it addresses our two main goals: safety and security for all and academic excellence. As we continue on our path of academic excellence, we will also be working to nurture the social and emotional needs of our students. In order to accomplish this goal, we have been afforded additional staff on campus and in our Zone to assist with working with students and staff. We are grateful to Superintendent Runcie and Broward County Public Schools for truly making safety and security our top priority.

We want to congratulate our students, staff, and community on the success of earning a school grade of an “A” again this year! This was not an easy accomplishment, and although it was a tough year for all, our students and staff prevailed. Thank you for your everlasting support. Here at Country Hills Elementary, we are committed to developing problem solvers, critical thinkers and leaders who are able to be competitive in today's society. We value collaboration and teamwork as we understand that these are the skills that are vital in 2018 and beyond.

We have some exciting events planned for this year! Teachers and staff have already begun planning for engaging and rigorous experiences that align to our State Standards. In addition to academics, it is also important to attend to our students' moral and social needs. CHE has planned a full calendar of events for after school clubs, PTA family events, field trips, and more. We look forward to joining together as a community to make sure our children get the very best education possible in order to open doors for them in the future. All students are capable of success, NO EXCEPTIONS!

Together we will create greatness in EACH ONE of our students. We TREASURE every one of you as we take this 2018-2019 voyage together! If there is ever anything you would like to share or discuss, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Ms. Nicole Ortega, Principal and Mrs. Veronica Roberts, Assistant Principal

School Website: <https://www.browardschools.com/countryhills>

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation.



Nicole Ortega
Principal

Veronica Roberts
Assistant Principal

Our mission at Country Hills Elementary is to provide a nurturing environment that encourages all students to reach their maximum potential through active participation in a developmentally appropriate and engaging learning process. In partnership with home and community, Country Hills will strive for excellence in education, while meeting the diverse needs of our students and fostering a lifelong love of learning.

10550 Westview Drive
Coral Springs, Florida 33076

Phone Number: 754-322-5950

Calendar of Events



Tuesday, August 15th
Meet and Greet
12:30 p.m. - Kindergarten
2:00 - 4: p.m. Grades 1-5

Wednesday, August 15th
First Day of School

Friday, August 17th
Independence Day/Students will walk to
Class with the assistance of a staff member if needed

Monday, August 27th
PTA Coupon Book Fundraiser begins

Tuesday, August 28th
PTA Welcome Breakfast @ 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, August 29th
Open House 2/3 Multiage & Grades 3-5 @ 6:30 p.m.

Monday, September 3rd
No School-Labor Day

Wednesday, September 5th
Open House Grades K-2 & IND
@6:30 p.m.

Monday, September 10th
No School Rosh Hashanah

Tuesday, September 11th
PTA Meeting @ 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, September 15th
PTA Campus Clean-up

Wednesday, September 19th
No School



SAFETY FIRST

Safety and security are our top priorities. Please make sure to remember the following safety procedures:

- A School Resource Officer will be on campus at all times.
- All doors will be locked, including the front office door.
- All visitors must report to the front office. This is the single point of entry.
- An updated camera system has been installed and is monitored.
- All gates will remain locked throughout the school day.
- All visitors must go through our STAR Visitor System.
- All visitors must have an I.D. in order to gain access to the school.
- Visitors will not be allowed to have breakfast or lunch in the cafeteria.
- Monthly safety drills will be conducted.
- All parents must have a Blue Car Rider Sign to pickup their child by car.
- Students will wear their I.D.s while on campus.
- Parents must update their contact information.
- All students should be in uniforms. Our uniform policy is listed in the Student Code of Conduct.
- Consistency with dismissal is critical. Please alert the teacher and office ASAP of any changes in writing.
- Help build your student's independence by ensuring they come to school prepared with their homework, lunch, laptops, etc. to avoid classroom interruption.
- Early student sign-outs will cease at 1:40 p.m.
- All volunteers must be approved before allowed in classrooms or on campus. Teachers will notify the office if they are expecting volunteers.

BACK TO SCHOOL ONLINE FORMS



Parents/Guardians can fill out your child's back-to-school forms online. The forms are easy to complete, and all data is protected and secure. For Back to Schools Forms and more, visit the Back to School online toolkit at <http://browardschools.com/backtoschool>.



To volunteer or chaperone a field trip in a Broward County Public School, you must be cleared first. Please fill out the application on the link provided and make sure you do it within enough time for the application to be processed, which may take several days. <https://www.browardschools.com/Page/37924>



Please support our PTA!
Membership is \$10. You can join during Meet & Greet. Monthly meeting dates and times will be listed each month in the newsletter. We look forward to seeing you!

School t-shirts will be on sale for \$12 during

Meet & Greet on
Tuesday, August 14th in
the cafeteria.



Country Hills Elementary School is a Unified Dress School. All students are expected to adhere to the unified dress policy. Shirts may be red, navy blue, light blue, gray or white or a school t-shirt. Shorts, slacks, jeans or skirts may be navy, black or khaki. Information regarding uniform styles is available in the school office. All shoes must be closed toes and heel.

Meet & Greet

Tuesday, August 14
12:30 - Kindergarten
2:00 - 4:00 Grades 1-5

At this time, you will find out your Child's teacher, go to the classroom, drop off supplies, inform the teacher how your child gets home, put money in the lunch account, join PTA, buy school t-shirts, and allow yourself and your child to become familiar with our CHE family!

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, August 29th @ 6:30 pm
Multiage 2/3 & Grades 3-5

Wednesday, September 5th @ 6:30
Multiage K/1 &, Grades K-2 & IND
Special Programs

The purpose of Open House is meet directly with your child's classroom teacher. At this time, teachers will discuss curriculum, homework procedures, classroom routines, and how you can support your child at home. You will learn about promotion criteria, safety tips, and academic resources available in the community and online. Please make every attempt to attend!



Meet Our Administration & Support Staff



Veronica Roberts
Assistant Principal

Nicole Ortega
Principal



From Left to Right:
Veronica Roberts, Assistant Principal; Adanna Nelson, Guidance Counselor; Tonia Lupa, School Psychologist; Nicole Ortega, Principal; Nina Koerner, Literacy Coach; Agar McNulty, ESE Specialist

The first bell rings at 8:05 a.m. each morning. The gates will open at 7:40 a.m. for students to eat breakfast. Supervision begins for students waiting to enter the campus at 7:40 a.m. Please do not leave your child unattended before 7:40 a.m. as there is no supervision.

Remember, all students are invited to eat breakfast at no charge. All students wait outside their buildings until the first bell rings at 8:05. Staff will be on post at 7:40 a.m. supervising students at their arrival locations. It is vital that all students arrive to school on-time. Teachers plan important morning activities which immerse students immediately in learning. All gates will be locked at 8:10 a.m. Any student arriving after the second bell must be escorted to the front office by a parent.

There is no parking or leaving cars unattended in the Car Rider Loop or any other location on campus. Violations will be enforced by our School Resource Officer.

For the safety of our students, we ask that parents in the arrival car lane abide by some simple safety rules:

1. No cell phones when dropping off your child.
2. Children are to exit the car from the right side(sidewalk).
3. Please stay in one lane, the outside land is for those cars that are parking.
4. Pull all the way up. The safety of your children is our utmost concern.

Birthday Celebrations:

Due to new safety measures, cupcakes or small treats for birthday recognition will be dropped in the front office only. Teachers will decide whether they want them to be shared in the cafeteria or in the classroom. Parents will not be allowed to celebrate birthdays on school campus.

SAC Meeting Dates for 18-19

Monday, September 24, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Monday, October 20, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Monday, November 26, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Monday, January 28, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Monday, February 25, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Monday, March 18, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Monday, April 29, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Monday, May 20, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m.

If you would like to join our SAC committee, please contact our SAC Chairperson, Mrs. Nancy John at 754-322-5950 or through email at nancy.john@browardschools.com

APPLY ONLINE!
FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH
 Free and reduced price lunches are available to students that meet economic eligibilities.

MYSCHOOLAPPS.COM
 The online meal application is available in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, and Portuguese at MyschoolApps.com.
 For more information on Meal Benefits, contact the Food and Nutrition Services Department at
754-321-0250
FREEANDREDUCEDMEALS@BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM



You're Invited....Become a Member of Our School Advisory Council

What is the School Advisory Council?

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is a team of people representing various segments of the community parents, teachers, administrators, support staff, business/industry people and other interested community members. The purpose of SAC is to assist in the preparation and evaluation of the results of the school improvement plan.