

PROWL N'GROWL

COUNTRY HILLS ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2021



WELCOME BACK!

Hello Rising Stars! We are so thrilled to welcome you back for the 2021-2022 school year! As we begin our journey back to face-to-face learning, we are committed and ready to embrace our theme this year: "Rising Beyond the Stars".

We look forward to working together to achieve and promote excellence in academics, behavior, and citizenship while simultaneously providing our students with high-quality teaching in a safe and supportive environment. It is a great privilege to work with our dedicated teachers, staff, and parents who are committed to the success of all our children!

At Country Hills Elementary, we R.O.A.R. (Respect All, Obey Safety Rules, Act Responsibly, and are always Ready to Learn). Our website contains the most up-to-date information available on our many outstanding programs and initiatives. Please take a moment to navigate our electronic home. It is our sincere hope that it will give you a glimpse into the joy and excitement felt daily at our wonderful school.

Additionally, please consider joining our amazing PTA. Our PTA members work tirelessly to support our school and provide fun educational experiences that contribute to the overall success of our students and staff. We are proud to serve as your administrators and are truly excited about this upcoming year and the new opportunities for Country Hills to grow and shine.

It's going to be an amazing year as we continue to "Shine Bright"!

With Great Love,
Nicole Ortega & April Wyche

Nicole Ortega
Principal

April Wyche
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

Important Dates and INFORMATION

August 19 - Independence Day - Students will walk to class all by themselves or with the help of CHE staff

September 1 - Open House

K-2 & Multi-Age K/1 - 6:00-6:45 PM

Special Programs - 6:00-6:45 PM

3-5 & Multi-age 2/3 - 7:00-7:45 PM

September 1 & 2 - Health Screenings grades K, 1st, and 3rd



**Per Broward County Public School
Mandate, all staff, students, and
visitors MUST wear a facial covering
for entry into the school building.**

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Recent legislation requires that all schools observe a moment of silence at the beginning of the school day.

Classes will participate in the moment of silence during homeroom.

The moment of silence will last one minute during which time students may not interfere with other students' participation. Teachers may not make suggestions as to the nature of any reflection that a student may engage in during the moment of silence. However, parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss the moment of silence with their child and to make suggestions as to the best use of this time.

The legislation states "in today's hectic society too few persons are able to experience a moment of quiet reflection before plunging headlong into the activities of daily life. The Legislature finds that our youth will be well served if students are afforded a moment of silence at the beginning of each school day."



Volunteer
do good, feel good

The District is pleased to welcome back our volunteers to school campuses for the 2021/22 school year. All volunteers are asked to complete a new application for the upcoming school year at browardschools.com/volunteerapplication.

Back-To-School Online Documents

Complete all Back-to-School forms needed on line!

<https://scaweb.browardschools.com/bts/>



Parents and students can report tips in a number of ways.

They can:

1. Call (754) 321-0911
2. Text SBBC with a tip to 274637 (CRIMES)
3. Email a concern to school911@browardschools.com
4. Submit an electronic tip at <https://www.browardschools.com/Anonymous-Tips>

Please remember these methods of reporting are NOT a replacement for calling 9-1-1, when there is a crime in progress or an emergency.



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

- Officers Andrade and Dittman will be returning this year.
- All doors will be locked, including the front office door.
- All visitors must report to the single point of entry. (front office)
- A camera system is installed and 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 of car riders must have a Curbsmart Sign to pickup
- Students must wear their I.D.s while on campus.
- Parents must update their contact information.
- All students should be in uniform per 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.

Thank you for your cooperation



All students in Broward County Schools are required to wear identification tags.

Country Hills will provide your child with an ID badge and lanyard. The ID Badge will remain in school. All staff members are also required to wear ID badges as well.



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

To JOIN, visit us online @
<https://countryhillselem.new.memberhub.store/store>

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Country Hills Elementary School is a Unified Dress School. All students are expected to adhere to the unified dress policy.

- **Recommended Attire:** Collared or Polo shirts in red, white, blue or gray.
Bottoms: khaki, blue or black
- Country Hills T-Shirts may be worn any day of the week.
- Jeans are allowable any day of the week.
- Shorts and skirts must be appropriate in length. Administration has the right to ask students to cover up if need be.
- Sweatshirts are permitted. Hoodies may be worn without the hood on during the school day.
- Closed toed shoes must always be worn for safety.

Arrival Procedures

Gates will open and supervision will be provided at 7:40 AM each morning.

Please do not leave your child unattended before 7:40 am! Remember, all students are invited to eat breakfast at no charge. Students not eating breakfast will wait inside their designated buildings until the first bell rings at 8:05.

All gates will be locked at 8:10 am. Any student arriving after the second bell @ 8:10 AM must be escorted into the front office by a parent.

It is vital that all students arrive to school on time. Teachers plan important morning activities which immerse students immediately in learning.

There is no parking or leaving cars unattended in the Car Rider Loop or Bus Loop.

Violations will be enforced by our School Resource Officer.

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

1. **No cell phones when dropping off or picking up your child.**
2. **Children are to exit the car from the right side(sidewalk).**
3. **Please stay in one lane, the outside lane is for those cars that are passing or parking**
4. **Pull all the way forward, students will walk up to their vehicles.**

The safety of your children is our utmost concern.





Country Hills Elementary Car Loop, Parent Walk-Up & Parking Notice



Car Loop Procedures

All vehicles picking up students are REQUIRED to hang the provided CurbSmart placard from the rear-view mirror.

Please utilize the grade designated car loop when picking up your children.

Car Loop A- Enter from Coral Springs Drive

Students in grades K-2 and Special Programs and their older siblings will be picked up at Car Loop A.

Car Loop B- Enter from Westview Drive

Students in grades 2/3 Multiage & 3-5 will be picked up at Car Loop B.



Carpools are encouraged! Carpool students should go to the car loop of the youngest child in the car.

Students will only be loaded on the passenger side of the vehicle. Vehicles **MUST** pull all the way forward in the car loop. Drivers should always remain in the car while in the car loop; use of cell phones is NOT permitted.

Parents are not permitted in the Car Loops on foot for the safety and security of our students.

Dismissal time begins at 2:10pm.

Parent Walk-Up Procedures- Located in the Bike Rack between Car Loop A and Car Loop B

Students in K-2 who are walkers must be released to an adult following these procedures.

Students in K-2 will be in the bike rack between Car Loop A and Car Loop B.

You will receive a CurbSmart placard with your child's pickup number on it.

Please show your placard to the staff member at the gate for input into the system.

This will ensure the safety and security of ALL students.



BIKES MAY BE PARKED IN THE BIKE RACKS BETWEEN CAR LOOP A AND CAR LOOP B



Dismissal Changes

ALL dismissal changes need to be in writing. No exceptions!

Friendly Reminders

- Please Do Not Park in the Fire Lane in the bus loading zone unless it is a medical emergency.
- Children may not walk alone through the parking lot area.
- Please use the crosswalks and crossing guards when walking to and from school.
- During school-wide events please use both parking lots and North Community Park to park your cars safely.
- Please remember there is no parking on the grassy areas around the school.
- Please be sure your child's teacher has your completed dismissal permission slip.

**We Thank You for your patience and support with our Dismissal Procedures!
Our #1 Priority is to keep ALL OUR kids SAFE!!!**

SCHOOL HEALTH

Country Hills health screenings September 1 & 2



Health Screening Requirements

Florida Statute 381.0056 requires that health screenings be conducted at various grade levels. Trained school-based personnel and district-level staff perform these screenings.

Below are the grade level screenings, which include: vision, hearing, Body Mass Index (BMI) and scoliosis. The required screenings are as follows:

Vision:

- Students in Kindergarten, first, third and sixth grades
- Students entering Broward County Public Schools for the first time
- Students considered for Exceptional Student Education (ESE) placement

Hearing:

- Students in kindergarten, first, and sixth grades
- Students entering the Broward County School District for the first time
- Students considered for ESE placement

Body Mass Index (BMI):

- Students in first, third, and sixth grades



The screenings and their results will be documented and placed in your child's cumulative health record folder. Schools are encouraged to complete vision and hearing screenings during the first semester of school. BMI screenings and scoliosis screenings can be done anytime during the school year

BMI documentation will be entered onto a graph. There are different graphs for boys and girls. Graphs will be placed in your child's cumulative health folder. The same graph should be used each year when screening is done. If your child's BMI is greater than the 95th percentile or below the 5th percentile, you will receive a letter with your child's specific information and a recommendation to follow up with your child's healthcare provider. You will receive a copy of the graph with the referral letter.

You need to know that you have the option to decline your child's participation in the health screenings. Parents who wish to opt-out must complete the Opt-Out form and return to your child's school. The completed Opt-Out Form will be included in your child's cumulative health record. If you have any questions, please contact your school or Coordinated Student Health Services at (754) 321-2272.



Dear Parents,

I'm excited to announce that we will continue to use Beanstack to track your child's reading this year! The app can be accessed through your child's Single Sign On Page (www.sso.browardschools.com).

Login: 06#

Password: Birthday with a capital P in the front and 2 digits for month, 2 digits for day, and 4 digits for year. Ex: (PXX/XX/XXXX).

There is also a downloadable app for your phone - "Beanstack Tracker" - the login is the same, but the password is slightly different (*still your child's birthday, but 2 digits for the month, 2 digits for the day, and 2 digits for the year XXXXXX*).

Paperwork for logging in will go home during Open House! 😊

You may need to enroll in the Reading Across Broward program if you are on a computer.

When you (*or your child*) log in to Beanstack, you will log minutes read per day. The goal is for students to read 20 minutes per day. ****We are no longer tracking titles of books.**

As your child meets goals, new badges will appear on their home page! The final goal for all grades is 900 minutes. **All minutes must be logged by March 31!**

You can also add Award Winners like Sunshine State Young Readers Award books (*students may have to answer questions related to these books*). Awards for reading SSYRA books will be announced soon!

If your child started with Beanstack this summer at the Public Library, their account should have migrated over to Country Hills. Please contact me (Mrs. Cuadra) via email and I will check to make sure the accounts linked.

Teachers can pull progress reports throughout the month and I will pull progress reports as well for our End of Year Reading Celebrations.

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Cuadra