

# COUNTRY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROWLS N' GROWLS

“SAILING ON A VOYAGE OF LOVE AND LEARNING”

SEPTEMBER 2018 EDITION

## Principals' Message

Dear Families,

It has been a great start to the school year! We couldn't have done it without all your patience and support! Staff and students have been working hard on routines and procedures for classroom tasks as well as school-wide tasks such as safety drills. We have completed our first round of safety drills but will continue to practice monthly.

As I have walked around Country Hills Elementary, it is a pleasure to see and hear our children engaged in standards-based activities and using academic language to discuss what they are learning in math and all the content areas. In addition to academics, I have witnessed a loving environment where students care for one another and are kind to each other. This year we are working on our Social and Emotional Learning as well as academics and we will be starting a new Program from Sandy Hook that is called, Start with Hello. This is a program that helps students understand how to be a friend and when someone may just need a buddy. We will send more information home as the program begins. We will also have a club for our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders and they will serve as the ambassadors of initiative for CHE.

Arrival and dismissal continue to be a work in progress. We do our very best to make sure all of our students are safe while moving our car lines along as quickly as possible. Please remember at arrival time to pull your car all the way to the front of the loop to drop off your children. This will help the flow of traffic. We have noticed a backup at around 8am due to the amount of people dropping off at this time in conjunction with the crossing guards, the traffic lights and being in a school zone. You can drop students off as early as 7:40am.

Please consider joining our fabulous PTA. They do so much for the students and staff at our school. You can volunteer to help with just one event or be involved daily while getting to know other CHE families! We hope you were all able to participate in our coupon book sales. The money or coupon book is due back by Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you out at Rise on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> for a donut and coffee. They are generously donating 10% of all sales to our school. Coupons are coming home with students!

We thank you for all that you do to make Country Hills the BEST school in Broward County! Have a great month!

Ms. Ortega, Principal



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

**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.

## Calendar of Events



Monday, September 3rd  
No School-Labor Day

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

Thursday, September 6th  
Grandparents Breakfast 7:40 - 8:05 a.m.

Friday, September 7th  
Coupon Book Fundraiser ends  
Volunteer Training 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, September 8th  
Biscuits Rise Donuts fundraiser  
Coral Springs store

Monday, September 10th  
No School Rosh Hashanah

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

Saturday, September 15th  
PTA Campus Clean-up

Monday, September 17th  
Interims go home

Wednesday, September 19th  
No School

Thursday, September 20th  
Picture Day  
ELOP Clubs begin

Monday, September 24th  
SAC/SAF @ 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 25th  
Student Council Speeches @ 8:30 a.m.



# 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.



### Volunteer Training September 7th @ 9:15

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>

A big THANKS  
to Officer  
Andrade and  
Officer Dittman  
for keeping us  
safe each and  
every day at  
Country Hills  
Elementary!





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

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 11th at 9:15 a.m. in the cafeteria. We hope to see you there!



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.

## OPEN HOUSE

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

*The purpose of Open House is to 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!*



Find us on  
**Facebook**

## CHE PTA

Our Facebook page is more of an informational tool of activities that we can post instantly but you do not have to be a member of PTA to join it. If you want to know what's happening at CHE, here's one form of communication available to you!  
LIKE US!



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 lane is for those cars that are parking.
4. Pull all the way up. The safety of your children is our utmost concern.



**Meet our 2nd grade team:**  
Ms. Meireles, Ms. Wheeler, Ms. Caldwell Dent, Ms. Davis, and Ms. Hanson



**Meet our Kindergarten team:**  
Ms. Read, Ms. LaPaglia, Ms. Jones and Ms. Bush

### SAC Meeting Dates for 18-19

- Monday, September 24, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, October 29, 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](mailto:nancy.john@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.

### **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.



**Meet our Kindergarten team:**  
Ms. Read, Ms. LaPaglia, Ms. Jones and Ms. Bush

It's time to **POWER UP!**  
Dade County Public Schools  
Food and Nutrition Services

**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](http://MyschoolApps.com).  
For more information on Meal Benefits, contact the Food and Nutrition Services Department at  
**754-321-0250**  
[FREEANDREDUCEDMEALS@BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM](mailto:FREEANDREDUCEDMEALS@BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM)

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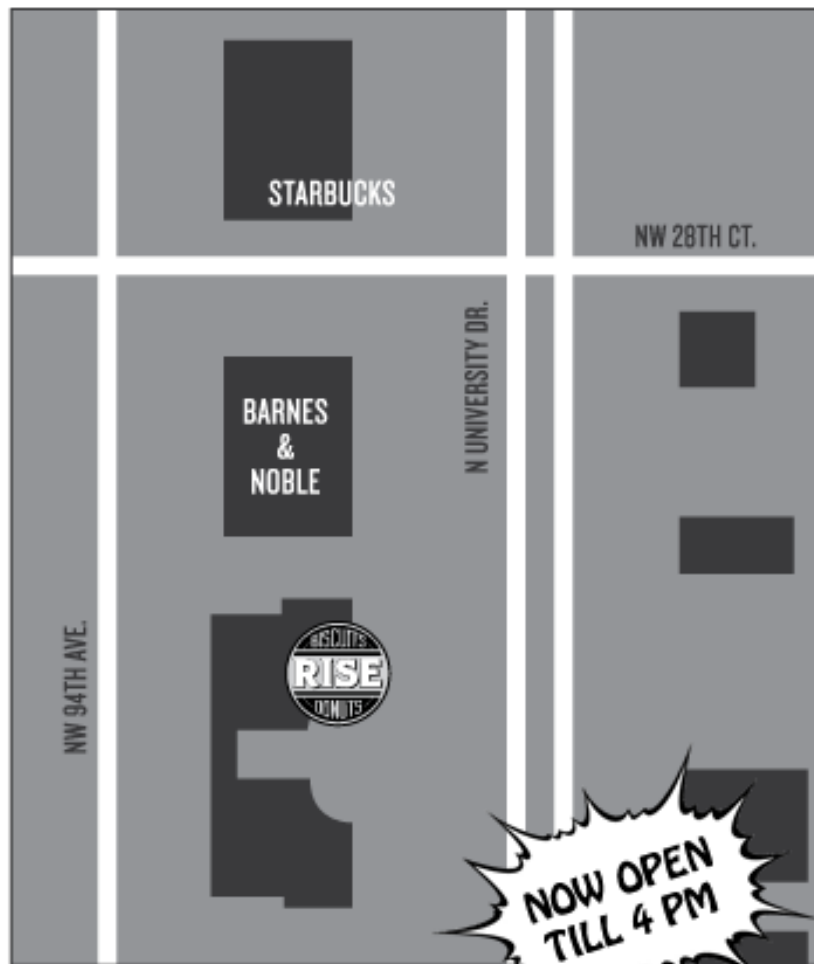
# **THE BEST DANG BISCUITS & DONUTS**

**ARE IN CORAL SPRINGS!**

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**10% OF SALES  
ON SEPT 8  
DONATED TO  
COUNTRY HILLS  
ELEMENTARY**



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**RISE CORAL SPRINGS • THE WALK • 2764 N UNIVERSITY DRIVE CORAL SPRINGS, FL 33065**

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Dear Parents,

I'm excited to announce that we will be using the app Beanstack to track your child's reading this year. The county has purchased this awesome app that can be accessed through your child's Single Sign On Page ([www.browardschools/sso](http://www.browardschools/sso)). Their log-in is his/her #06 school number and the password is his/her birthday with a capital P in the front with two digits for month, two digits for day, and 4 digits for year (PXX/XX/XXXX). Your child's teacher has his/her log-in information and will send it home – in fact, it may already be in his/her take-home folder! 😊

When you (or your child) logs into Beanstack, you can add books read by title (which counts for Reading Across Broward) or minutes (which counts for Paws for Reading). Please remember, each book counts for both sections (title & minutes). You can even add Award Winners like Sunshine State Young Readers Award books (students will have to answer questions related to these books). As your child meets goals, new badges will appear on their home page!

I know many of you have begun working on your Reading Across Broward forms and filling out your Paws for Reading sheets for your child's teacher. The good news is, all information can be backdated so your child does not lose any hard work!!

Teachers can pull reports of how much your child is reading throughout the month and I will pull reports as well for our Reading Program monthly rewards.

I am always here to answer any questions and will putting a video up on the school website by next week (under departments/media center) to show you the steps to Beanstack.

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Cuadra

# Country Hills Elementary

## PTA News!

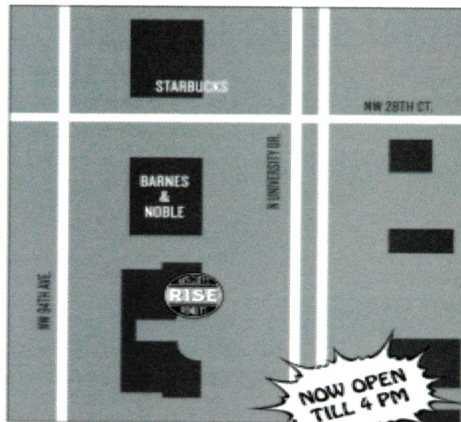
🚢 Please join the CHE PTA Facebook Group for up-to-date information about the AMAZING things happening at Country Hills Elementary

🚢 We are having a fundraiser this Saturday at Rise! See the flyer attached! Coupons are coming home as well!

**THE BEST DANG  
BISCUITS & DONUTS  
ARE IN CORAL SPRINGS!**



**10% OF SALES  
ON SEPT 8  
DONATED TO  
COUNTRY HILLS  
ELEMENTARY**



RISE CORAL SPRINGS - THE WALK - 2764 N UNIVERSITY DRIVE CORAL SPRINGS, FL 33065

🚢 **Coupon Book Sales are DUE this Friday. Please send in your \$ for the books or return the sample book to school.**