



## Country Hills Elementary Celebrates Start with Hello Week September 20-24



Dear Parents/ Guardians,

In every school and in every community, there are young people who suffer silently because they feel left out, alone or invisible. The Sandy Hook Promise non-Profit organization is working with Broward County Schools to spread the "Start with Hello" program to our school community this year. Research shows that social isolation is a growing epidemic in the United States and within our schools. As a result, many of these children pull away further from society, struggle with learning and social development, and/or choose to hurt themselves or others. Start with Hello (SWH) week raises awareness and teaches children how to be more socially inclusive and connected to each other. By participating in SWH week Country Hills Elementary will join hundreds of schools and youth organizations from across the United States to Empower young people to create a culture of inclusion and connectedness! Please see the following planned activities for the next week:

**Monday September 20** – Start with Hello. Students will practice saying "HELLO" in different languages. Wear you a green or yellow shirt.

**Tuesday September 21** – S.T.A.R. day- Stand Together. Act Responsibly. Students can dress like movie stars (no costumes please) or star apparel.

**Wednesday September 22** – Hats off to Kindness. Wear your favorite hat. Student will be encouraged to share kind words with peers and friends.

**Thursday September 23** – Nothing Beats our Kindness Team. Wear your favorite sports attire.

**Friday September 24** – H.E.R.O Here Everyone Respects Others Day. Student can wear their favorite Superhero gear (no costumes please) or Country Hills Spirit shirts.

During the school year, Country Hills will continue to deliver events and activities that instill the Start with Hello concept and overarching message of inclusion and community. Please take this special opportunity to speak with your children about the events taking place throughout the week and encourage them to "Say Hello!" If you would like more information on The Sandy Hook Promise or with the Start With Hello Week initiative, please visit [www.sandyhookpromise.org](http://www.sandyhookpromise.org) or our schools website.

