

# The Country Isles Chronicle



★ Over 25 Years of Educating Responsible Citizens

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Volume 17 Number 1

## From Mrs. Morgan's Desk

Welcome back! The 2016-2017 school year is going to be amazing. During this school year, we will continue to meet our high expectations through collaboration and communication. The learning culture of our school is significant to the learning process. Together, we can ensure a high quality education and build a positive environment that encourages all students to learn and meet their goals. I look forward to the all students accomplishing success.

We have an amazing staff at Country Isles. They care so deeply and make sure everyone matters. We appreciate their cooperation and professionalism to learn new curriculum and prepare your child to be college and career ready. That being said, if you would like to give input into your teacher's evaluation(s), please write to Mrs. Morgan on or before April 14, 2017. Have a great 2016-2017 school year!

## Country Isles Kids Have P.R.I.D.E.

Our students have what it takes to be successful in school and in life. They have P.R.I.D.E.: Positive attitudes, Respect, Integrity, Drive to do the right thing, and Effort towards learning. We encourage you to talk to your children about what each of these means, as we know they look up to you to show them great examples of each.

## Summer Reading Challenge

Country Isles Elementary is proud of our students and their efforts to maintain reading skills over the summer. This summer, Country Isles challenged every student to read and be a member of Camp Read-A-Lot. To meet the challenge, students in kindergarten through grade two read 25 picture books. Students in Grades 3 and 4 read six chapter books (at their independent level) to meet the challenge.

Country Isles' students logged on to **myOn** and had access to thousands of enhanced digital books that met their interest and ability level. Our students also had access to iStation and a variety of math websites that supported them in maintaining their fluency skills.

Students who meet the Camp Read-A-Lot Challenge will be recognized by Mrs. Morgan and Mrs. Cox. They will host a special awards ceremony (date TBA) for all students who have completed the challenge. Students must return all completed logs to their teacher by Monday, August 29, 2016.

Thank you for supporting your child's summer reading!

## Important Information

### Code of Conduct

The 2016-2017 *Code of Student Conduct Handbook* has been posted on Broward Schools' website at <http://www.browardschools.com>. You may also access the *Code of Student Conduct Handbook* through the BEEP Portal. You will be asked to sign the *Code of Student Conduct Handbook Acknowledgement Form* at Open House.

### Arrival/Dismissal Procedures

Car riders should be dropped off and picked up at the front of the school for students in 2-5 and on the east side of school for students in K-1. **Please be advised that the late bell rings at 8:00 am.** Older siblings of Kindergarten and first grade students will meet on the east side car loop for dismissal. Students will wait on the sidewalk until your car has moved as far forward as possible. Please refrain from using cell phones in the school zones. **Please arrive before 7:55 a.m. and promptly at 2:00 pm.**

Bus riders arrive to school before the first bell at 7:55 AM. If a bus is late, students will still be allowed to have breakfast in the cafeteria and will not be marked tardy. Buses load for dismissal at 1:55 PM.

Walkers and bicycle riders should not arrive to the crossing points more than one half hour before the start of school, as the crossing guards will not be present. Bicycles should be walked on campus and parked and locked in the bike rack on the east side of campus.

### Phone Numbers

Front Office-(754) 323-5250 Fax-(754) 323-5290  
Attendance-(754) 323-5252



## Uniforms

CIE students should be in uniform every day, unless a waiver is submitted to the front office within the first 10 days of school. The uniform policy is as follows:

Tops: red, white, navy, light blue, or gray collared polo shirts OR white, gray, or blue CIE T-shirts (available through the PTA office)

Bottoms: navy, khaki, or black (NO DENIM)

Boys-pants or shorts

Girls-pants, shorts, skorts, capris, or jumpers

School spirit days are on Fridays. Please wear your tie-dyed spirit shirt (available through the PTA office) to show your CIE pride! Denim is allowed on Fridays only.

## Breakfast/Lunch

Breakfast and lunch are offered daily.

Breakfast will be free for all students this school year and lunch is \$2.00. A cafeteria menu is posted on our website. Students will have two entrees or a salad to choose from every day for lunch.



If your child is having breakfast at school, please make sure he/she arrives to school before 7:45 a.m., as there is often times a line. We want students to be able to eat their breakfast in the cafeteria and not in their classroom since it can disrupt the class and the student's morning routine.

Please refrain from sending fast food, junk foods, candy, carbonated drinks, aluminum cans, and glass containers with your child for lunch.

Lunch can be prepaid by the week or month. We suggest you use our online service to prepay for your student's meals. You may pay online at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com), or if you prefer to send in money, it MUST be in an envelope labeled with the amount, student's name, teacher's name, and grade. Prepaid envelopes should be taken to the cafeteria in the morning. Please make checks payable to: "Country Isles Elementary School."

Forgotten lunch boxes/lunch money that is dropped off in the office will be placed on the side counter. Please be advised there will be no interruptions to the classroom. On the way to the cafeteria, students can check the office counter for their lunch boxes/lunch money.

Parents may visit their child during lunch once per week. Parents will sit with their child at the designated Visitor Tables, apart from the class. Visiting parents must sign in and out through the front office.

## Class Size Reduction

As you may be aware, legislation has passed by the state of Florida to reduce class size. Due to the State Class Size Reduction law, students may need to be moved between teachers **after the start of school** to ensure compliance with the required student limits. The mandated limits are 18 students for Pre-K through grade 3 and 22 students for grades 4 through 5.

Please know that students' needs will continue to be met through proper instruction and services. Additional information on Class Size Reduction is available on the School Board website at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/classsize/>.

We will make every effort to maintain stability as best as possible. You will be notified before any changes are made.

## Birthday Celebrations

We recognize the students' birthdays on our morning T.V. announcements, in the lunch line, and in class. Please do not send cakes or treats for your child's birthday. If you would like special recognition for your child, please see Ms. Blanco, our Media Specialist, and purchase a book for our Media Center in your child's name.

*Please see reverse side for more information*

## Attendance

Country Isles Elementary participates in the Broward Truancy Intervention Program (BTIP), which is a joint venture between Broward Public Schools and the State Attorney's Office. Your child's attendance will be monitored on a daily basis.

Every absence must be followed by a note from home or a call from a parent within two days. Our attendance phone number is 754-323-5252. No absence is an excused absence without communication. You will receive an automated call regarding unexcused absences. Increasing student achievement is one of the District's goals. In order for your child to be successful at school, it is critical for your child to attend school every day.

Any child arriving after 8:00 a.m. must be accompanied into the office by a parent. For attendance purposes, you must sign your child in.

There will be no early dismissals after 1:30 p.m., per District policy. When possible, please send a note with your child the day of the early dismissal.

Students will be released to the parents on the registration form and to any emergency contacts listed on the registration/Emergency Contact Card with written permission. All students must be signed out through the school office with proper identification. Please limit dismissal changes to a minimum for safety reasons.



## PTA Corner

Country Isles' PTA is pleased to welcome everyone back to school! And, if you are new to CIE, we are excited that you have become part of the CIE family. We look forward to working together to give our children an amazing year!



Please join us for our first PTA meeting on Wednesday, September 7, at 8:30 am, in the cafeteria. Refreshments will be served.

**Note:** PTA meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month beginning at 8:30 am in the cafeteria.

### Volunteer Breakfast

Calling all volunteers! Please attend the Volunteer Breakfast on Wednesday, September 14, at 8:15 am, in the cafeteria. Come hear about the many volunteer opportunities available at CIE – there is something for everyone! Review the "Get Involved at Country Isles" handout included in your child's first day packet for a quick overview.

**Please Note:** ALL volunteers must register through Broward County at [getinvolvedineducation.com](http://getinvolvedineducation.com). Click on "Online Volunteer Application" in the right-hand corner to begin. The screening process takes about 5 days; then show your driver's license at the school's front desk to receive your volunteer badge.

**Please Note:** There is no "roll over" for volunteers from last year to this year, so be sure to register!

## PTA Membership Drive

Please send in the PTA membership envelope included in the first day packet. Cost per person is only \$8; we'd love to see 100% participation from our families and teachers this year! A portion of each membership covers national dues with the remainder benefitting our students at CIE.

## T-Shirts and Agendas

School t-shirts and agendas will be available for sale in the front PTA office. For your convenience an online order form is also available under the PTA tab on the CIE website at [countryisles.net](http://countryisles.net). T-shirts (royal blue, gray or white) are \$10 each or 2 for \$18. The blue tie-dyed Friday spirit shirt is \$12. Agendas for grades 1-5 are \$5. CIE logo polo shirts are available at Planet T Uniforms, located at 2214 N. Flamingo Road (SW corner of Flamingo Road and Sheridan Street) in Pembroke Pines.

## Fun-Filled Fall Fundraiser

We're getting ready to kick off this year's Miles & Smiles for Country Isles fundraiser, which is scheduled for Thursday, September 29. Be sure to check your child's folder in the coming weeks for information about this fun and interactive event that has in the past raised funds for technology improvements and program enhancements at CIE.

## Book Exchange

Want to refresh your library for FREE? Country Isles offers an easy way for your child to get new-to-them books. Bring in one or more of your already read K-5 books, and for every book brought in your child will receive one credit. They can then use a credit to get a new-to-them book. Students must have a signed permission slip from parents, which is in the first day packet.

**Don't miss the Book Exchange Open House on Wednesday, September 14, from 7:30-8:00 am.** For hours of operation and more information look under the PTA tab on the school's website.

## Green Team - Terracycle

Please continue to collect and send in your juice pouches (any brand), chip bags (all sizes) and granola/energy bar wrappers. Collection bins are located in the cafeteria. These non-recyclable items are sent to Terracycle to be upcycled into eco-friendly products and CIE earns cash for every piece shipped! Last year, we earned almost \$1,000 for our school!



## Box Tops for Education

CIE collects Box Tops for Education. Please continue to clip from participating products and send them in. Go to [countryisles.net](http://countryisles.net) and click on the PTA tab for more information. Last year we earned over \$1,235 for CIE!

## Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, August 24  
Wednesday, August 31  
Monday, September 5  
Tuesday, September 6  
Wednesday, September 7  
Thursday, September 8  
Monday, September 12  
Wednesday, September 14  
  
Thursday, September 15  
Tuesday, September 20  
Wednesday, September 21  
Tuesday, September 27  
Thursday, September 29  
Monday, October 3  
Monday, 9/28

Open House 6:00-7:00 pm (K-2)  
Open House 6:00-7:00 pm (3-5)  
NO SCHOOL – Labor Day  
Student Independence Day  
PTA Meeting (8:30 am)  
Fall Pictures  
SAC Meeting (2:15 pm)  
Book Exchange Open House (7:30-8:00 am)  
& Volunteer Breakfast (8:15 am)  
EARLY RELEASE  
Miles & Smiles Boosterthon Kick-off  
Room Parent Meeting  
MTM Training Artist #1  
Miles & Smiles Boosterthon Run  
NO SCHOOL  
September SAC Meeting (2:15 p.m.)

