

The Country Isles Chronicle



★ Over 25 Years of Educating Responsible Citizens

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Around Country Isles Elementary

The beginning of the year has gone off without a hitch! Thank you to all our parents and students for following procedures, as it really helps everything run smoothly.

Just a few reminders:

*Volunteer badges may only be used if you are volunteering. If you are attending a conference, eating with your child(ren), visiting the Book Exchange, etc, your driver's license will need to be scanned in the front office.

*Please do not leave your car unattended in either the front or back loop.

*If your child is eating breakfast at CIE, please arrive no later than 7:40 am to allow your child time to go through the line and eat before the bell rings at 7:55 am. Parents are allowed to eat breakfast with their child(ren) one time per week.

*After the 8:00 late bell, please walk your child to the front office to sign him/her in.

*Please call our attendance line at (754) 323-5252 when your child is absent.

*When visiting your child at lunch, please sit at one of the designated visitor tables with your child only. Visits are only one time per week and please refrain from bringing fast food.

A Message from your School Counselor:

We are off to a great peaceful start of the year, as we celebrated "Choose Peace Week" at the end of September. We are strongly encouraging all of our students to help keep Country Isles a safe, friendly and peaceful place to be.



I met with all students to teach them about what bullying is, what to do and who to speak with if someone is bothering them. We spoke about the importance of speaking up when put in an uncomfortable situation.

Our first character trait of the year is cooperation. Ask your child if he/she earned the white cooperation bead. If so, how was it earned? If not, what can he/she do to earn it? It is never too late.

Family Counseling

The Family Counseling Program has an office in our Innovation Zone at **Indian Trace Elementary School** which offers free, confidential counseling services to students and families. Please call **754 321-1590** to schedule an appointment with *Mitzi Santiago, LCSW, PsyS*.

Attendance Counts!

Attendance is critical for success. Past and current research has consistently found that students with better attendance have higher GPA's and standardized test scores.



If you have any questions about the Broward County Schools' attendance policy, please refer to page 8 of the Code of Student Conduct Book, which can be found at Browardschools.com.

Save the Date

The Parent/Community Involvement Task Force and Office of Family and Communication is presenting "The 411 on Parent Engagement Conference" on Saturday, November 19th, at 8:00 am at Fort Lauderdale High School. For more information, visit the Broward School website.

PTA Corner

We are off to another exciting year at Country Isles Elementary, and we are pleased to see so many new and returning families.

If you have not yet done so, please consider becoming a PTA member. By joining and supporting the Country Isles PTA, you are helping to fund our numerous PTA programs and events. Cost is \$8 per person – we would love to see 100% participation from our teachers and families! Forms are available in the front office, or email Holly Stracquadaine at raydaine@hotmail.com.

Volunteer Reminders

We love to have volunteers and could not function without them.

Your involvement in your child's education is

the foundation to his/her success. **Please Note: ALL** volunteers must register through Broward County at www.browardschools.com, then click on the Volunteer Application banner to begin. The screening process takes about 5 days; then show your driver's license to one of the front office staff to receive your volunteer badge.



When volunteering at school, please badge in and out at the computer in the front office. In addition, ALL volunteer hours should be accounted for in the Volunteer Logbooks located on the counter to the right of the computer. Please remember that your badge should not be used as a "hall pass" to interrupt any classroom instruction.

Interested in finding out more about volunteering? Contact Julie Petlicka at juliepetlicka@comcast.net.

Miles & Smiles Boosterthon Fun Run!

Thank you for supporting our Fall Fundraiser! Boosterthon lead our students through an exciting, educational, and fun program. Thank you to all the volunteers who made the Fun Run a success and parents for coming out to cheer on our students.

Meet the Masters

Meet the Masters is an exciting supplemental art program where volunteers come together to deliver a unique program rich in art history to every child. Students experience these amazing hands-on creative projects four times throughout the school year.

This is a fun way to get involved and meet other parents – and **WE NEED YOU!** If we don't have volunteers for every class, the children lose the opportunity to enjoy the escape that art allows!

When a new artist is featured, a Volunteer Training Session is held that includes easy-to-use art videos and a variety of mixed media to help students create new projects. Every volunteer previews an actual lesson during the training and will be **easily** able to assist with Meet the Masters classes.

ALL of the materials and lessons will be available to you online and in advance. Please join us and have a little fun while helping our children grow!

Meet the Masters Contacts: Nicole – peytonnicole@gmail.com; and Erlyn – erlyn0@hotmail.com

Book Exchange



Do you want to refresh your child's library for FREE? The Book Exchange is now open every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning, from 7:30-8:00 am. Your child will receive one credit for every book brought in, which they can then use to exchange for a new-to-them book. Students must have a signed permission slip to participate. If you have not already sent one in, the form can be found under the PTA tab on the Country Isles website.

Can you spare a half hour? The Book Exchange is run by volunteers, and we need you! Please contact Kristin Castillo at castillr@bellsouth.net to volunteer.

Fall Book Fair

The "Bookaneer" Book Fair is coming! Reading is a TREASURE, and we are going to have a SWASHBUCKLING good time at CIE's Media Center! This year's Fall Book Fair will run from October 17-21. Please watch your child's backpack for more information, including Family Night (October 18) and Extended Hours (October 20).

We need VOLUNTEERS to help us host a SUPER FUN time for teachers and students! Decorating, stapling flyers, serving teachers at the preview, or helping your child's class find books to love – all of these shifts are available NOW to sign up for at: <https://volunteer.scholastic.com/#/signup/YR1hmyoFV>.

If you have any questions, please contact Danielle Suarez at mrsdani Suarez@gmail.com.

Broward County Public Schools App

The latest mobile app provides secure, personalized access to student-specific information – anytime, anywhere. Through your smart device, you can check your child's latest details on nutrition and wellness, transportation, and academics. You can receive information the way you want it – text, email or by phone.

The new mobile app features were designed especially for you:

- The Nutrition and Wellness feature displays meal menus and account balances, so you can make sure your child receives a healthy diet every school day.
- The Transportation feature displays bus route assignments, pick-up/drop-off times and bus stops, so you can keep track of your child's location before and after school.
- The Academic feature displays daily attendance, course schedules and library obligations so you can support your child and follow their daily educational experience.

Visit browardschools.com/mobileapp for more information.

Green Team & TerraCycle

The Green Team – Country Isles' recycling program – is up and running! A group of 5th grade students is now collecting paper and plastic bottles from around our campus twice per week. Also in line with our continued pledge to "go green," snack bags, wrappers, and drink pouches are being collected 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 more than \$1,000 for our school!

What can you bring to the cafeteria for recycling? ALL brands of drink pouches, ALL brands and sizes of potato chip and salty snack bags, ALL brands of granola, breakfast and protein bar wrappers, and ALL types of Entenmann's Little Bites pouches.

We are looking forward to moving further in our goal to make our school a greener and better place, and most importantly, teaching our kids that "no action is too small...every action counts."

Box Tops for Education

Please continue to clip Box Tops from participating products and send them in. Go to countryisles.net and click on the PTA tab for more information. Last year we earned over \$1,235 for CIE! That's free money!

Shoparoo

We are excited to be partnering with a fun, free, and truly easy fundraiser called Shoparoo!

Shoparoo is school fundraising made *easy*: the free app turns pictures of your everyday shopping receipts into cash donations and sweepstakes entries for our school! Yep, it's that simple.

Get started today:

1. Download the free Shoparoo app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.
2. Select our school from the list and start taking pictures of your receipts – shop anywhere, buy anything!

There's no limit to how much money we can raise with Shoparoo – the more supporters, the more we will raise for our school. Schools with just 40 supporters are earning an average of \$1,000 every year. That's free, easy money. Check out shoparoo.com to learn more.

Upcoming Dates

SAC Meeting	Monday, October 10 (2:15 pm)
NO SCHOOL	Wednesday, October 12
Book Fair	Monday, October 17 thru Friday, October 21
Book Fair Family Night	Tuesday, October 18 (5:30 – 7:30 pm)
Book Fair Extended Hours	Thursday, October 20 (2:00 – 6:00 pm)
Early Release Day	Thursday, October 27 (Noon Dismissal)
NO SCHOOL	Friday, October 28 (Teacher Planning Day)



