

# The Country Isles Chronicle



★ Over 25 Years of Educating Responsible Citizens

November 3, 2016

Volume 17 Number 3

## Around Country Isles Elementary

### Principal's Message

The first quarter was a huge success for our faculty and staff. The students are working towards meeting their goals and setting high expectations. Report cards will be coming home on November 17th. It is always good practice to review the report card with your child and set goals for the upcoming quarter. Define their strengths and the areas that they will continue to work on. Set goals at home and hold them accountable for the steps they take towards their goals.

We are looking forward to having all our students show their P.R.I.D.E. by helping others during the Harvest Drive. The Harvest Drive collection is from November 1st-November 18th. Each grade will be collecting different items. The list can be found on our website. The children will also be making cards to send to the families wishing them a Happy Thanksgiving. I am proud of our students and their will to help others.

I hope that all CIE families have a restful and Happy Thanksgiving!

### A Message from Our School Counselor:

October 31st-November 4th was Red Ribbon Week. We discussed saying "No" to drugs and making responsible choices. We also spoke about teamwork and how if we work together, we can help each other make good choices. The whole school enjoyed dressing up in team gear to celebrate working as a team. Thank you to Mrs. Gomez for making Red Ribbon Week a huge success!



Red Ribbon Week ties into our character trait of the month, which is responsibility. If we teach our children to be responsible citizens at an early age, they will continue to make responsible choices as they become independent.

### PTA Corner



We have had a very busy and exciting start to the school year at Country Isles, with more activities and events on the way. Let's see what the Country Isles PTA is doing!

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](mailto: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 (even those who were registered volunteers during the last school year) must register through Broward County at [www.browardschools.com](http://www.browardschools.com). 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.

All volunteers need to scan in and out at the computer in the front office. In addition, ALL volunteer hours should be accounted for in the Volunteer Log Books 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](mailto:juliepetlicka@comcast.net).

### In the Spotlight: Harvest Drive

Last year Country Isles' students worked together and donated 4,000 non-perishable items that helped Harvest Drive feed 2,200

Broward County families. This holiday season, CIE is committed to surpassing this goal!

We are excited to announce that the Harvest Drive Kick-Off started on Monday, October 24th. A flyer was sent home listing the non-perishable items that may be donated. Each grade is assigned a suggested item, but all non-perishables are welcome. Please help your child participate in the act of giving. The collection will be from Monday, October 24th – Friday, November 18th. On Friday, November 18th, every class will bring their donations to the cafeteria where they will be sorted, loaded and driven to Western High School for distribution. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact one of our Harvest Drive Co-Chairpersons: Karen Vizzini, [karen.vizzini@gmail.com](mailto:karen.vizzini@gmail.com) or Samy Smith, [samyl@att.net](mailto:samyl@att.net).

CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN is what Harvest Drive is all about!



### Veteran's Week & Troop Support

Calling all cadets, active duty, or veterans of the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Marine Corps, or U.S. Navy! Country Isles would like to thank and honor you in our week-long celebration November 7-11 (no school November 8 & 11). We offer countless ways for CIE families to participate: send photos or video clips of your service member, greet students from 7:15-8:00 am any day that week, join your child on the morning announcements with a description of your job, sign autographs at our greeting tables and take photos. Students are encouraged to wear red, white and blue.

For more information, please contact Gina DeLuca Watson at [gunthermax@aol.com](mailto:gunthermax@aol.com) or Christina Hagin at [tommyandjuliasmommy@gmail.com](mailto:tommyandjuliasmommy@gmail.com).

### 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.

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.

This is an interesting and fun way to get involved with your child's classroom 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!

ALL of the materials and lessons will be available to you online and in advance! So, please join us and have a little fun while helping your children grow!

*The Volunteer Training for Artist #2 will be Thursday, November 10th, at 9:00 am, in the Meet the Masters portable by the kindergarten playground. Refreshments will be served.*

**Meet the Masters Contacts:** Nicole – [peytonnicole@gmail.com](mailto:peytonnicole@gmail.com); and Heather – [hthiakos@gmail.com](mailto:hthiakos@gmail.com).



## Meet the Masters

## **Book Exchange**



Want to refresh your child's library for FREE? The Book Exchange is 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.

Book Exchange needs a chairperson! The Book Exchange is run by volunteers, and we need you! Please contact Julie Petlicka at [juliepetlicka@comcast.net](mailto:juliepetlicka@comcast.net) if you are interested in running this great program.

## **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, and 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](http://browardschools.com/mobileapp) for more information.

## **Green Team & TerraCycle**

The Green Team – Country Isles' recycling program – is up and running! A group of 5<sup>th</sup> 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. Collect them at home or work and have your child bring them into the cafeteria.

*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](http://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**

This year we are excited to be partnering again 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](http://shoparoo.com) to learn more.

Thank you for your support!

## **Upcoming Dates**

### **November 2016**

Veterans' Week	Monday-Friday, November 7-11
NO SCHOOL – Teacher Planning	Tuesday, November 8
Meet the Masters Artist #2 Training	Thursday, November 10 (9:00 am)
NO SCHOOL – Veterans' Day	Friday, November 11
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Washington Trip	Monday-Friday, November 14-18
SAC Meeting	Monday, November 14 (2:15 pm)
Spaghetti Family Night Kick-Off Meeting	Wednesday, November 16 (8:15 am)
Harvest Drive Delivery @Western High	Friday, November 18
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Feast	Tuesday, November 22
NO SCHOOL	Wednesday-Friday, November 23-25



