

RIDGEBACK REGISTER

CENTRAL RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

185 W. Citrus Springs Blvd.

Citrus Springs, FL 34434

352-344-3833 (Citrus) - 352-465-5709 (Marion) - 352-249-2103 (FAX)

<http://cre.citruschools.org>

Principal: Nancy Simon

PTA President: Kassie DiMase

Editor/Publisher: Kathy Withrington

DECEMBER 1, 2017

DATES TO REMEMBER



5	F.O.C.U.S. Graduation-Gr. 5—9:45
7	CRE Chorus & C.R.E.W. Concert— 6:30 p.m. (Doors open at 6:00 p.m.)
11-15	The Gingerbread Holiday Shop
15	PTA—Cookies with Santa 6-8 p.m.
21	Early Dismissal—12:30 p.m.
22	Early Dismissal—12:30 p.m.
25-31	Christmas Vacation

Students Return to School on Wednesday, January 10

Dear Parents,

At this time of year, we often find ourselves visualizing our winter break; many of us see a Christmas tree with gifts under it, a Santa with a white beard and red suit, we smell apple cider, and can almost taste those buttery holiday cookies. At CRE, we encourage visualizing as it is one of the comprehension strategies we explicitly teach our students. We often refer to it as seeing a movie in our minds as we read. Visualizing is the creation of images in the mind as the student reads, processes and recalls what has been read. Visualizing a picture or scene with the words and phrases allows the reader to organize the ideas, to see the relationship among the ideas, and to make meaningful connections with them. Using visualization and discussing the pictures to check for understanding and discrepancies help a reader increase comprehension.

Students continue to make connections and use their schema (background knowledge) as they make mental pictures, or visualize. Our visualizations are all different because our schema for text is different.

In Citrus County, our schema includes selecting a Teacher of the Year and a School Related Employee of the Year. We no longer need to visualize the recipients as we have made our selections! Nominees for Teacher of the Year included: Natalie Columbus, Caitlin Hamzawi, Jessie Hodges Carlucci, Sarahy Ramallo and Joan Tilton. Mrs. Jessie Hodges Carlucci will represent us for this honor. Mrs. Hodges Carlucci has been a teacher at CRE since 2010, teaching kindergarten, second grade and currently 5th grade. Our nominees for School Related Employee of the Year were: Amy Blyth, Karen Chiavetta, and Karen Moran. Mrs. Karen Moran, teacher aide, has been selected to represent us. Mrs. Moran has been a Ridgeback since 2014. **Congratulations Mrs. Hodges Carlucci and Mrs. Moran!** Please see their photo in this newsletter. They will now compete at the district level. We are very proud of our nominees and representatives.

I am excited to share with you that our Dragon Boat Race Team came in first place in our division! We had virtually no schema on this concept going into it, but quickly made connections and inferred relative to the expectations and met with success! We paddled a 21 person boat, winning our first race by more than 5 seconds, and our second race by just over a second! We could not have done this without the support of our sponsors: Keene Construction, Lada Construction, G and R Pharmacy, and The Breakfast Station!

I hope you have a safe and wonderful holiday break. May this season remind us of our many blessings. I feel so privileged to be the principal of CRE. We have the most dedicated staff, thoughtful, considerate, and enthusiastic, students, and a highly involved and caring community.

Respectfully,

Nancy Simon



Dear Ridgeback Families,

We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving Break. We are so thankful for you!

Our first ever Mom's Night Out with Hammer and Stain, was a great success! We will definitely keep this on the calendar. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

As we continue into the Holiday Season, we are gearing up for our Gingerbread Shop! Students will have the opportunity to shop with their class December 11-15.

We are also looking forward to our next family event—Milk and Cookies with Santa! This event will take place from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Friday, December 15. The Gingerbread Shop will remain open for last minute shopping during the evening. Keep an eye out for additional information!

Congratulations to the November Box Tops Winning Class: Ms. Miller (KG)!

Happy December!

Kassie, Jen, Nicole, Kimmy & Tiffany
PTA Board Members



Congratulations to Jessie Hodges Carlucci, CRE Teacher of the Year, and Karen Moran, CRE School Related Employee of the Year!

Central Ridge School Advisory Enhancement Council (SAEC)

The 2017-2018 School Advisory Enhancement Council (SAEC) met on Tuesday, November 7. The SAEC is a team of parents, teachers, administrators, support staff, business people, and interested community members with the goal of improving student performance by monitoring student achievement and planning for continuous improvement. Members of the council were able to review the proposed calendars for the 2018-2019 school year and submitted one vote on behalf of the council. Mrs. Hamzawi gave a presentation on kindergarten writing and we discussed the purchase of Brain Pop software for the school. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, at 4:15 p.m. All parents are welcome to attend!

Sincerely,

Kassie DiMase
CRE SAEC Chairperson



COUNSELOR'S NOOK ...

As part of our **Growth Mindset** study, the emphasis, up to this point in the year, is on having a "desire to learn" as well as having the ability to "evaluate situations" that one may find to be difficult.

A **desire to learn**, with an emphasis on growth mindset, means that students push themselves to take risks and learn new things. These students enjoy a challenge. What we don't want to see are students who are only concerned about looking smart and feel that they can never fail. When children are only concerned about looking smart, they won't push themselves to new levels due to a fear of failure.

Another important growth mindset trait is for students to be able to **look at a difficult situation** and ask themselves if the situation will allow them to grow or help them to overcome a challenge. Having a positive mindset is important. Rather than looking at a situation as "will I succeed or fail?" or "will it make me look intelligent or stupid?", it is important to think about how the situation can lead to eventual success. Again, the focus should not be on always looking smart, but on always looking for ways to improve oneself.

The following strategies were shared with the students on how to develop and/or increase growth mindset:

1. Challenge yourself to try something new every day.
2. Make a habit of asking "what if" questions.
 - a. What if I read for 30 minutes instead of twenty?
 - b. What if I practice my spelling words, math facts, etc. for 20 minutes instead of ten?
 - c. What if I ask my teacher for help when I don't understand a concept, rather than just trying to figure it out on my own?
3. Ask a lot of questions.
4. Participate! Make your presence known by enthusiastically taking part in discussions and activities.
5. Speak up. Present your ideas. Say what you think. Be comfortable with your thoughts and beliefs.
6. Admit your mistakes.
7. Set goals.
8. Make a conscious effort to always do your absolute best.



Jacque Lip
Guidance Counselor

TITLE I NEWS ...

Don't forget to ask your child about our Top Dog Words! Our list continues to grow, along with their vocabulary! The following is a list of words taught so far this year: *analyze, evaluate, trace, formulate, describe, summarize, compare, contrast, and support.*

The holidays are quickly approaching and your child may have some "down time" during their vacation. Please take the time to listen to your child read. If your child is reading a fiction book, ask them to retell the story to you, making sure that they can include key details about the text. Discussing the beginning, middle, end, problem, solution, characters and setting will support their comprehension of the text. If they happen to choose a nonfiction book, have them read headings, captions, look at any photographs, tables, etc. and have them share facts and information that they have learned while reading. This quality time spent with your child will make a huge difference in their reading and comprehension.

Title I would like to welcome Mrs. Nancy Norcross, long-term substitute, who is covering for Mrs. Kreuzsch, Title I Interventionist, during her maternity leave. Mrs. Norcross is a former elementary teacher and has been a substitute at CRE for the past six years.

Have a safe and wonderful holiday!

The Title I Team



Congratulations to CRE teachers: Kathleen Beaser, Therese Bossard, Jessie Carlucci, Kimmie Ear, Brittany Mimms, Erik Raynor and Tiffany Sullenberger for being awarded Citrus County Education Foundation Mini Grants!

You make us proud!

Mark your Calendar!!

The Ridgeback Showstoppers Chorus and C.R.E.W. will perform a Holiday Concert on Thursday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:00 p.m.) We look forward to seeing you there!



Partnering with the Citrus County School District, the Y operates an onsite before and after school child care program in all 11 elementary schools. The YMCA School Age Program provides child care for children in grades K-5. Operating hours are 6:30-8:50 a.m. and 3:30-6:00 p.m.

Fees:

- All Inclusive Plan—\$45 per week; 42 weeks (Includes all In-Service Days and all Holiday Breaks)
- Standard Plan—\$47 per week; 38 weeks (Includes all In-Service Days and Early Release Days)
- AM or PM Only—\$27 per week; 38 weeks (Includes Before Care or Afternoon Care Only, Teacher Work Days and Early Release Days)
- Annual Membership Fee—\$25 per individual/\$40 per family

*Financial assistance available for those who qualify. Financial assistance may also be available to qualifying families through the Early Learning Coalition's School Readiness Program.

For more information on the YMCA Before and After Care program, please call the Y's Administrative Office at 352-500-9622 or visit www.ymcasuncoast.org/locations/citrus-county-branch. You can also email AHall@suncoastymca.org.

ESOL News

ESOL EQ: How can parents of students in the ESOL program help their child?

- ◆ Ask your child about school work.
- ◆ Talk with your child's teacher and attend parent conferences.
- ◆ Request school information in your own language, if necessary and available, for understanding.
- ◆ Be involved in the department of your child's ESOL Student Plan.
- ◆ Read to your child in your home language.

LOST & FOUND

Is your child missing a jacket? Our Lost & Found is located on the lunchroom stage. Please stop by, or have your child look, to claim their missing jacket.

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Monday, December 25
through
Tuesday, January 9

Students Return to School
Wednesday, January 10



You are invited to participate in our annual CRE yearbook ...

The yearbook staff would like to invite you to participate and support this year's CRE yearbook by purchasing a business card size advertisement at a low cost of \$25.00. We will also be accepting Fifth Grade Family Recognition Advertisements for CRE's 2017-2018 Yearbook. This is a great way to recognize your child's accomplishments. The cost for a quarter page advertisement is \$40.00. Letters have been sent home and are due back before the Winter break. Thank you for your support!

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a school event, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Kathy Withrington at 352-344-3833, at least 7 days before the event, or immediately upon receiving this notification, if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days. If you utilize a service animal, please contact the school at least 15 days in advance to complete paperwork.