

RIDGEBACK REGISTER

CENTRAL RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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<http://cre.citruschools.org>

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PTA President: Kassie DiMase

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JANUARY 10, 2018 DATES TO REMEMBER



15	Student Holiday-No School
	Martin Luther King Day
19	Volunteer/Mentor Training @ DSC
30	PTA Meeting at 4:15 p.m.
31	Early Dismissal—12:30 p.m.

Dear Parents,

As we usher in a new year, we often reflect on that which is important to us and resolve to improve an area of our lives. As adults, we are using the very strategies we teach our children at CRE to apply each day. We rely on our *schema* (background knowledge) to help us *connect* (using text to self, text to text, or text to world connections) to a new *visual* (movie or picture in our mind) of a better self. We sometimes struggle with *determining importance*, our focus strategy for my letter this month. Readers use *determining importance* to distinguish what information is important versus that which may be interesting but is not necessary for understanding the text. Just as we may struggle with knowing what is important in our lives versus what might be more interesting or fun, but doesn't help us achieve our goals. This is a very difficult strategy for most students and must be modeled and explicitly taught by the teacher. Not only is it challenging for our children, but many of us may find it difficult to truly grasp this as well; while I may enjoy eating a donut now, it is not necessary or helpful for me to reach my new visual of myself!

You can help your student *determine important* information in nonfiction text by pointing out text features such as font size or italicized information. This can be seen even on billboards while driving or in television ads. In fiction text, it is critical to determine the main idea and supporting details. It is important to infer the theme of a passage. As you watch shows together, ask your child about the important actions of the characters, what is interesting in the show, but not important, and what is the message or theme of the program.

We have *determined* that one of the many *important* responsibilities we continue to face is preparing our students for the upcoming Florida Standards Assessment (FSA). We know that this test is rigorous. I encourage you to visit the state's website (www.fsassessments.org) and explore the training test site (enter as a guest). Here is an example of a problem from the math test that is considered to be a third grade question:

Select all of the situations that can be represented by $35/5$.

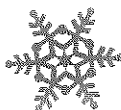
- ◆ Heidi has 35 apples after picking the same number of apples each day for 5 days.
- ◆ Heidi has 35 apples and places an equal number of apples into 5 baskets.
- ◆ Heidi has 5 apples and needs more apples to deliver to a customer.
- ◆ Heidi has 35 apples, and her friend gives her 5 more.
- ◆ Heidi has 35 apples and gives 5 of them to a friend.

As you can see, there can be more than one correct choice and the answer will not be correct unless only and all of the correct answers are selected.

If you have worked on *determining importance* this holiday season and have committed to a new visual of some aspect of your life, I wish you well! Happy New Year!

Respectfully,

Nancy Simon



Dear Ridgeback Families,

Happy New Year! We sure ended 2017 with an amazing week! Our Gingerbread Shoppe was a huge success—putting over \$2000 back into our school. It warmed our hearts counting all those sticky coins and checking off little lists. We hope you felt as much love in each little bag, as we felt stuffing them! We rounded off the fun with Cookies and Milk with Santa. The looks on those little Ridgeback faces was priceless, and we are happy to report that you all made the nice list!

A huge thank you goes out to all who donated to the Giving Tree, located in the front lobby, in December. Because of your generosity, we were able to make donations of supplies to Citrus United Basket and the CRES Clinic! You all helped to make the holidays a bit brighter and we appreciate that!

Please mark your calendar to join us for the PTA General Meeting on Tuesday, January 30, at 4:15 p.m. Get an update on the fall events and information on the upcoming winter and spring events. All are invited!

Congratulations to the December Box Tops Winning Class:
Mr. Hammond (2nd)

Please remember to label your child's Box Tops bag/envelope with their name and teacher's name so they can earn credit.

Another Very Happy New Year!

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



Tropicana Speeches Finalists



We are very excited to announce our three finalists: 1st place—Kaileigh Moran (Mrs. Columbus), 2nd place—Emorie Gipe (Mrs. Ear/Mrs. Sullenberger), and 3rd place—Jason Columbus (Mrs. Hicks), from CRE's Tropicana Speech Competition held on December 15. Kaileigh and Emorie will move forward to compete in the district-wide contest which will be held on Wednesday, January 17, at the Citrus County Canning Center in Lecanto. Congratulations to all 4th and 5th graders for a job well done on their Tropicana Speeches!

Teacher Working Out-of-Field

Central Ridge Elementary School is proud that all 58 teachers and administrators who work with our students are certified by the State of Florida or other governing board. We appreciate the following teacher who has volunteered to teach a subject outside of her primary certification.

Teacher
Beverly Crisp

Course/Class
ESE

Mrs. Crisp has both experience and coursework in the area she is teaching. She is an excellent teacher and we appreciate the extra effort she is putting forth on behalf of our students.

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.

COUNSELOR'S NOOK ...

Central Ridge Elementary would like to thank several of our community organizations who have shown such generosity by assisting some of our families during the holiday season. We would like to thank the **Rotary Club of Crystal River** for sponsoring Children's Christmas shopping on December 2, at the Lecanto Walmart. We would also like to recognize the **Citrus County Sheriff's Department** for sponsoring "Shop with a Cop" on December 7, also at the Lecanto Walmart. This year we were also fortunate to add both Citrus County **Publix** stores, as well as the **YMCA**, as our partners in providing holiday assistance to our families in need. We are truly grateful to these organizations for their dedication and support in making the holidays brighter for more than 20 CRE students and their families.

As we leave 2017 behind and welcome in 2018, it would be a good time to make sure your child's emergency form is up to date. Please make sure we have the most current phone numbers for yourself and any emergency contacts on your child's emergency form. It is crucial that we are able to contact you in the event there is an issue at school.

Please continue to monitor your child's attendance as we begin the second semester, and remember to do the following:

- ◆ Provide a note indicating why your child was absent each time they miss school. This note should be provided within two days of your child's return. If there is no note provided, absences will automatically be coded as "unexcused." After 10 days of absences (excused or unexcused), you will then be required to provide a medical note from a doctor for each absence.
- ◆ Provide a medical excuse note if your child has seen a medical professional. It is important that you do this, as absences coded "medical" do not count toward your child's overall absences for the year.
- ◆ Keep in mind that three (3) unexcused tardies, or three (3) unexcused dismissals (or a combination of), is equal to one unexcused absence.
- ◆ To read more specifics about the attendance policy, please refer to pages 6-10 in the 2017-2018 Student Code of Conduct. This can be found online at: [http://www.citruseducation.com/news2016 2017 Student Code of Conduct.pdf](http://www.citruseducation.com/news2016%202017%20Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf)



Jessica Edstrom
Guidance Counselor

2018-2019 Citrus County School Calendar

To view, please visit www.citrus.k12.fl.us

Conscious Discipline

Resources to handle the conflict and upset that comes your way...



Conscious Discipline provides steps that help families experience the power of safety, connection and problem-solving at home.

Classes are FREE at CRE, on Fridays, 9:00-10:00 a.m., starting January 19, and will run for 10 weeks.

*For more information, contact Jessica Edstrom, EdstromJ@citrus.k12.fl.us

TITLE I NEWS ...

After 26 year's of teaching in Citrus County, we bid a fond farewell to Mrs. Pat Mulder, Title I Interventionist, as she embarks on a new adventure of "retirement." She will be greatly missed, but we wish her all the best!

Mrs. Nancy Norcross, long-term substitute, will cover for Mrs. Mulder's position. Mrs. Tara Hague, long-term substitute, will cover for Mrs. Kreusch, Title I Interventionist, until she returns from maternity leave later this month.

The Title I Team



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

The Citrus County School District and the Florida Department of Education have websites that serve to disseminate pertinent ESOL information to parents and teachers of English Language Learners (ELLs) throughout our district and state. Visit <http://esol.citruschools.org/index.html> to view the state approved District Plan for Services to English Language Learners and answers to frequently asked ESOL questions. Visit <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/eng-language-learners/> to view information about testing, placement, instruction and rights of your child, as well as the Florida Consent Decree, CELLA, and other helpful information. Additional resources and updates are posted throughout the year. Please use these valuable resources to learn more about the ESOL Program.

Questions regarding the ESOL program can be directed to one of the following:

CRE ESOL Contact: Jennifer Homan (352) 344-3833
District ESOL Contact: Mollie Chandler (352) 726-1931



Congratulations to our 2017-2018 F.O.C.U.S. Essay winners: Gia Patel, Lillian Farrell, Luke Fuller, Zachary Sala, Eboney Henry, and Alessa Proffer.