

**RIDGEBACK REGISTER**

**CENTRAL RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

185 W. Citrus Springs Blvd.  
Citrus Springs, FL 34434

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<http://cre.citrusschools.org>

Interim Principal: Lynne Kirby  
PTA President: Kassie DiMase

Editor/Publisher: Kathy Withrington

MAY 1, 2020

Dates to Remember



- 6 SAEC Meeting—4:00 p.m.—Zoom
- 11-15 Staff Appreciation Week
- 14 Kindergarten Round-Up—Virtual—4:00-6:00 p.m.
- 25 Memorial Day Holiday—No Remote Learning
- 29 Last Day of Remote Learning for Students

Dear Central Ridge Parents and Families,

Hi, Ridgebacks! It is my honor to have been named the Principal of Central Ridge Elementary for the 2020-2021 school year. I conveyed to Mrs. Himmel that I would like the opportunity to return to the school I opened as an Assistant Principal 12 years ago to serve the staff, students and families of Central Ridge Elementary.

This is my 29th year as an educator in Citrus County. Since leaving Central Ridge 10 years ago, I have served as the Principal of Homosassa Elementary and most recently Hernando Elementary.

There are many challenges we will face when schools reopen. Most importantly, we must focus on the health of students and staff. Also, we will need to address the varied academic needs of our Ridgebacks. Following the extended distancing, the social/emotional needs of all students will need to be supported with new school wide structures. I am certain that together we will overcome each challenge and will strengthen our school.

Our Ridgebacks excel when we all come together to support them. I am looking forward to building partnerships between school staff, families and our community to ensure Central Ridge Elementary is the best it can be for our students.

Thank you!

Chris Bosse



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As our remote learning continues through the rest of the 2019-20 school year, we are filled with a sense of sadness and loss. Each day teachers come to school one at a time to gather students' belongings, they return to their classroom once alive with excitement and now so empty. We miss the smiling faces of our children and families...and each other as our remote learning continues. We are grateful that we have been able to remain in contact with each of our 783 students during this time. Our parents have done an outstanding job of navigating ZOOM, Dojo, iReady and Study Island. Because of everyone's efforts, we have remained connected.

As we plan our end of the year celebrations we are transitioning from face to face to virtual presentations. Fifth grade awards, graduation, and our annual "clap out" will all be seen online. Kindergarten Round-Up will be Thursday, May 14 from 4-6:00 pm and will be held online. Parents will receive tutorials on completing registration packets digitally. Our VPK Interest Forms are available by calling the school at 344-3833.

Please continue to stop by the school to drop off your child's work packets and library books. Information on picking up your student's belongings, classwork or art projects and returning the iPads will come out later in the month.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your devotion to our students of CRE. I have many heartwarming memories to take with me from the Remote Learning 2020.

Best wishes and stay healthy,

Lynne Kirby

**Dear Ridgeback Families!**

We hope you are well. We miss you terribly and are so sad that we didn't get to say goodbye!

A couple of updates from spring...

Our final book fair of the year was a great success! We put over 1,500 books into the hands of our students! We are always touched by the parent and grandparent donations that help entire classrooms be able to shop. Our first Mom's appreciation event, "Wild About Moms" was awesome and added to the week's success! We were able to provide muffins for all guests and their students. Thank you for your continued support!

The month of May looks very different than usual. We are working with our awesome teachers and administrators to help make the end of the year as special as possible. Keep an eye on our Facebook Page for updates.

We have placed our first order for next year's spirit shirts and we are working on some things that will hopefully better our resources to put back into the school.

Thank you again for your support this year and we are so excited to see you in the fall!

Kassie, Jen, Nicole, and Kimmy  
PTA Board Members



**CENTRAL RIDGE ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL ADVISORY  
COUNCIL MEETING**

CRE's SAC meeting will be virtually (Zoom) held on Wednesday, May 6, at 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating, please contact the school to receive a Zoom invite.



**Central Ridge Elementary  
School Yearbook**

Ridgeback Families!!! Please do not miss out on the opportunity to purchase the 2019-2020 yearbook as this year's book will have another amazing student designed cover! Yearbooks will be available for purchase during the month of May (days and method of pickup will be determined). The end of the year price is \$20 and we will only be accepting cash only.

If you have any questions, please contact Jen Vybiral at [vybiral@citrus.k12.fl.us](mailto:vybiral@citrus.k12.fl.us) or 352-344-3833 (ext. 4023). Please remember to leave a detailed message for a reply.

*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.*

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER ...

These trying times can be overwhelming and stressful for everyone, including kids. With the extension of virtual learning through the end of the year, here a few ideas to help.

### 1. Stay in a routine.

With virtual schooling, it is important to establish a new daily routine. Wake up, get dressed, complete distance learning, eat meals and go to bed the same time each as much as possible. Create a schedule that includes relaxation time, chores, exercise, etc. This predictability helps children cope and feel some sense of security/certainty when things have changed so drastically.

### 2. Reach out for help.

If you are feeling overwhelmed with technology and taking on a teaching role, please reach out to the school or your child's teacher. Let them know that you are having a hard time balancing all these tasks. They will be able to help you prioritize so you know which tasks are mandatory and which are enrichment. If you are concerned about your child's emotional health, please reach out me, Mrs. Williams, here at CRE.

### 3. Manage leisure time.

Let your kids have a "diet" of television, books and other media. Make certain that a good portion of leisure activity is active, both mentally and physically. Board games are an excellent family bonding and mentally engaging activity. Origami may be a new activity your family can try during this time. Deputy Lahera has been making origami for our students who come to school drive-thru for lunches. Mr. McCoy and Mrs. Hunter, our PE teachers, have posted videos about how to stay active. Watch those as a family so you can do them with your kids to model the importance of physical activity. They are fun! Your teacher will be able to direct you to those links.

Please know that we, here at CRE, are here to support you and your family during this time. It is a balancing act to be parent, employee, teacher, chef, etc. We recognize this and want you to know that if there's anything you need, please reach out to us. Let's be Ridgebacks...Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Peaceful.

Leona Williams, Guidance Counselor  
williamsl4@citrus.k12.fl.us  
352-344-3833 ext. 4009



## ESE News

**ESE PARENT SURVEY:** The 2019-2020 Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Survey will be open from February 1 to May 31, 2020. In an effort to increase parent participation, we are providing paper surveys for parents of all children receiving special education services. A paper survey is available for pickup at our front office. The online version of the survey is also available at [www.esesurvey.com](http://www.esesurvey.com). Please take a moment to provide feedback by completing this survey. The valuable information you give us will help us make decisions on the effectiveness of our services in meeting the needs of our students. Thank you for your time!

**SUMMER & FALL VPK APPLICATIONS:** Summer and Fall VPK applications will be available in April at the district website, [www.citrus.k12.fl.us](http://www.citrus.k12.fl.us), or at CRE's front office. To attend **Summer VPK**, your child must be "4" on or before September 1, 2019. To attend **Fall VPK**, your child must be "4" on or before September 1, 2020. Should you have any questions, please contact Doreen Lauck at 352-344-3833, extension 4014.

## ESOL News ...

English Language Learners are entitled to appropriate services to help them become English proficient. During the school year, they receive instruction from highly qualified teachers who implement and document the required ESOL strategies using appropriate instructional materials following the state and district curriculum framework.

What happens over the summer? You can help your English Language Learner continue to acquire skills over the summer. ELL students can utilize the following websites:

<http://dreamreader.net/>

This new and growing site provides reading, beginner to advanced lessons, for ELL students. Lessons are complete with written material, audio/video, quizzes, and vocabulary worksheets. Lessons can be completed entirely online or printed out to be completed at home. Lessons keep students' interest by covering a variety of topics.

<http://www.elcivics.com/>

This site provides English Language Learners with a variety of learning opportunities. ELL students can learn about U.S. History, Government, and Civics. ELL students can also practice reading fluency and comprehension with downloadable worksheets and books. In addition, ELL students can browse the videos and PowerPoint presentations to acquire academic English.

## Title I News

Greetings! We know that right now everyone is still wrapped up in providing Distance Learning support for their child(ren). However, summer is just around the corner, and with it, a chance to breathe! At CRE, we're committed to providing your child every opportunity for growth- for the *whole* child. Check out some of these ideas that you can use this summer to help continue academic learning, while also supporting their physical and social health! \*Please note, the following links will take you to a site outside of the Citrus County School District.

### Academic - Fun Activities ...

- [Ice Cream in a Bag](https://www.growingajeweledrose.com/2013/07/summer-fun-ice-cream-in-bag.html)  
<https://www.growingajeweledrose.com/2013/07/summer-fun-ice-cream-in-bag.html> - Have your child measure out the ingredients, then play tag while shaking the bag to make the ice cream!
- [Balloon Rocket Races](https://pagingfunmums.com/2013/04/24/balloon-rocketan-easy-fun-science-experiment-for-kids/)  
<https://pagingfunmums.com/2013/04/24/balloon-rocketan-easy-fun-science-experiment-for-kids/> - Make it a race, and have your children measure out how far their rocket goes! Test different sized and types of balloons!
- [Easter Egg Letter Hunt](https://www.messylittlemonster.com/2020/02/easter-egg-letter-hunt.html)  
<https://www.messylittlemonster.com/2020/02/easter-egg-letter-hunt.html> - Use those leftover Easter eggs! Hide outside or inside for loads of fun! You can even mix this up by writing Math problems on small strips of paper, and then matching the equation to an answer sheet!

### Arts & Crafts ...

- [Bubble Art](https://myhomebasedlife.com/amazing-bubble-art-activity/)  
<https://myhomebasedlife.com/amazing-bubble-art-activity/>  
This one can get messy, so plan to complete outside!
- [Coffee Filter Butterflies](https://www.organizedisland.com/how-to-make-coffee-filter-butterflies/)  
<https://www.organizedisland.com/how-to-make-coffee-filter-butterflies/>  
Make this beautiful and fun creation, while experimenting with mixing colors!
- [Sidewalk Chalk Paint](https://myhomebasedlife.com/summer-sidewalk-chalk-paint/?utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest&utm_campaign=tailwind_tribes&utm_content=tribes&utm_term=692585928_27518928_364667)  
[https://myhomebasedlife.com/summer-sidewalk-chalk-paint/?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=pinterest&utm\\_campaign=tailwind\\_tribes&utm\\_content=tribes&utm\\_term=692585928\\_27518928\\_364667](https://myhomebasedlife.com/summer-sidewalk-chalk-paint/?utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest&utm_campaign=tailwind_tribes&utm_content=tribes&utm_term=692585928_27518928_364667) - Make beautiful creations, then hose down for a clean start!

### Social Time ...

- [Zoom Party!](#)  
Now that most students and parents are familiar with using zoom, use the free version and schedule a virtual playdate with up to two of your child's friends! They'll love the chance just to see and talk with their pals.
- [Pen Pals](#)  
Kids LOVE getting mail, and this will allow them to connect to their friends while also staying safe! The best part is, you're not limited to letters! Draw pictures, create cards, or even tuck in handmade string bracelets! Network with your child's teacher to get permission and request a child's friend's number/address from their parent.

Have a wonderful summer! Take care, and be safe!

CRE's Title I Team

