



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Sharon Slusser, Principal
Dan Wolfe, Asst. Principal

Lightning Flash Newsletter
7515 Plathe Road New Port Richey, FL 34653
727-774-3000
727-774-3091 Fax

August 14, 2018

August & September 2018:

- 08/27-8/31 – Fall Book Fair, Media, 9-3 pm
- 08/29 – 5th Grade Art Club, 8:30 am
- 08/30 – Get to Know CRES Title 1 Meeting, 5:15 pm
- 08/30 – PreK-2nd Open House, 6:00-6:45 pm
- 08/30 – 3rd-5th Open House, 7:00-7:45 pm
- 09/03 – NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
- 09/06 – Pancake Breakfast & Parent Practice, Room 703, 9:30-10:30 am
- 09/10 – Grandparent Breakfast, Café, 8:45-9:30 am
- 09/10 – PTA Meeting, Media, 6:00 pm
- 09/11 – 3rd-5th Grade Lightning Chorus Club, 8:30 am
- 09/12 – 1st-2nd Grade Thunder Chorus Club, 8:30 am
- 09/13 – Volunteer Trainings, 10:00 am or 5:00 pm
- 09/13 – SAC Meeting (Voting Officers), 4:15 pm
- 09/13 – PBIS Night w/Dinner, 5:30-7:00 pm
- 09/14 – Special Parts Chorus, 8:30 am
- 09/14 – PTA Donuts with Dad, MPR, 9-9:30 am
- 09/14 – Progress Reports Go Home
- 09/17 – 3rd-5th Grades Spirit Club, 4-5 pm
- 09/17 – Chick-fil-a Family Night, 5-7 pm
- 09/25 – Baycare & CRES Trauma Informed Care, 6-7 pm
- 09/28 – Scholar of the Month, 2:40 pm
- 09/28 – Bolt Tastic Dance & Kona Ice, 4:00-5:30 pm

NOTICE TO BUILDING OCCUPANTS AND PARENTS

NOTIFICATION OF INSPECTION FOR ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a final rule, 40 CFR Part 763, Asbestos Containing Material in schools, commonly referred to as AHERA. This rule requires all Local Education Agencies (LEA's) to identify asbestos containing materials (ACM) in their school buildings and to take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers.

All inspections for Cotee River Elementary have been completed and a Management Plan describing the results of the inspection and the action plan to control any asbestos found during the inspection, where applicable, has been submitted to the governor for approval. A copy of this plan is located in the administrative office of this school and at the Pasco County Schools Maintenance & Facility Services Department and is available for review upon request.

WELCOME BACK

Welcome to the opening of what promises to be an awesome school year. Cotee River Elementary is celebrating 25 years! The faculty and staff have been very busy preparing the school and classrooms for an exciting year of learning and growth. Scholar success is the goal of every staff member. We believe we are a community of learners. Our staff of highly qualified professional educators and support personnel are committed to providing our scholars many opportunities, both inside and outside of the classroom, for high caliber and quality learning, continual growth, leadership opportunities, and achieving at a high level of excellence. During this 2018- 2019 school year, we will continue to build upon and refine our foundation of great work and many worthwhile traditions, with none being more important than continuing to build upon our tradition of excellence in education. In order to add to the many services we provide to our scholars, this upcoming school year we are adding gifted inclusion in grades 1st through 5th. This school year we will be able to provide direct services to any child who is found eligible for gifted.

Our school-wide theme for the next two school years is Game On: Bring It Everyday! Together we can team up for our scholars' futures! Our strategic game plan is designed to provide all scholars the differentiated instruction they need to be star players. We will meet our scholars where they are and lift them to their greatest potential and give each and every one hope. We believe that all of us, the school and the community, must work together in an extended family environment to insure success for all our scholars. We believe it is everyone's responsibility to empower children with the creative, intellectual, and decision-making skills necessary for them to become academically, socially, physically, and emotionally successful and responsible. *Together we can do this for our scholars!*

Again, we welcome you to Cotee River and to our professional learning community where there is high energy, passion and high standards for excellence! The staff, faculty, and administration are honored that you entrust us with your children. We appreciate your support as your child enters the classroom, learns, and grows through the year. The hours that your children are with us each and every day are so important. Let's all commit to having an AWESOME school year, setting everyone, scholars, as well as teachers, up for success. Remember together we can do this 😊.

Sincerely,
Sharon Slusser, Principal; Dan Wolfe, Assistant Principal;
Jennifer Bermudez Assistant Principal Intern

Recycling – Did you know that CRES has a green dumpster (located at the front of the school along the loop, by the PLACE turn off) where you can donate ANY kind of paper good for recycling? Help us to help the environment by saving all the paper trash including newspaper, cardboard, and packaging. By placing these items in our green dumpster, you also help CRES earn \$\$\$\$! Every little bit helps. Also we have battery recycling drop off next to the dumpster and at the front entrance of the office. You will also find attached to our newsletter a flyer for recycling plastic bags and other household plastics that we have started collecting, we have a container in our Café and the Front Office. We appreciate your support.



No Homework Policy Continues Growth Mind Set is the Goal

What does this mean:

Reading Nightly 15-30 MINUTES (Based on grade level)
District required projects (STEM and TedX)
Provide additional practice/resources to families (ex. Eureka math) upon request
Study Skills

Cotee River Elementary Business & Community Partners:

*Achieva Credit Union, Rowan Rd.
All Children's Hospital
After Hours Pediatrics Urgent Care, Little Rd.
Disparti Law Group
Horace Mann Insurance
Hyundai of NPR
Kona Ice
Kwanis of Greater West Pasco
Marjorie's Hope
Next Motorcycle FL
Publix, River Crossing
Sugar Darlings, Old 54
Target #1967, Little Rd.
Timber Greens Helping Hands
UBS, Clearwater
Walgreens #06886*

Thank you for supporting our school! To become a CRES partner please call Ms. O'Brien at the Main Office for more information. 727-774-3002

Interested in Volunteering?

At Cotee River, we LOVE volunteers! Our teachers have many different activities that volunteers can assist with. If you work full time and think you want to participate in just one activity (field trip, field day, etc.) with your child, you must be approved by district. The best thing to do is complete the online application now so you won't have to worry about it when you are ready to volunteer.

Applications need to be completed online at website:

<http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/comm/volunteer/>

Be sure to attend one of the Volunteer Trainings, if you can not please see Front Office for information.

CLASSROOM CELEBRATIONS

Important Notice to Our Families

Starting this school year there are changes in classroom celebrations. Our School Board's Wellness Policy and Procedures 8510 were recently updated to comply with

USDA Local School Wellness Policy requirements and

birthday parties and/or classroom celebration food items must now meet USDA Smart Snack Standards and be prepared in a commercial kitchen. Celebration foods are available to parents to purchase for their child's class through their school cafeteria, Pasco Smart Snack Celebrations. These foods are already Smart Snack approved for ease of access and can be delivered directly to your child's classroom. The Alliance for

a Healthier Generation Smart Food Planner provides a link to Smart Snack compliant products available through Amazon as well as a calculator to check your food labels for compliance. We are encouraging the use of non-food items for celebrations such as pencils, erasers, stickers or craft items. We appreciate your support with the updated Wellness Policy and Procedures 8510.

ART NEWS:



Welcome back!

Mrs. Bridges and I can't wait to see all of our artists. We hope your family had a wonderful summer break. We are looking forward to a great year, continuing the tradition of kicking off the year with our Square One Art fundraiser, and celebrating our artists at the end of the year with a Spring Art Show. More information to come on both of these exciting events!

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in helping out as a **volunteer in the art rooms**, please contact us. It could be once a month or once a week, whenever it fits in to your schedule. We often have copying, laminating, and putting up/taking down displays that we could use help with. We would welcome you as our ART ROOM MOM, ART ROOM DAD, or ART ROOM GRANDPARENT! You do need to be a registered volunteer.

Art Club Information

Art Club will meet once a week, on Wednesday mornings before school. During the first semester, fifth grade Art Club members will be selected and will meet weekly until winter break. After winter break, fourth grade Art Club members will be selected and will meet weekly until the end of the year. If you have a 5th grader interested in joining, see and print the attached Art Club Application. The completed application is due on or before August 22. (4th graders will get information home just prior to winter break.)

Miscellaneous

Please note what day of the week your child has art class, and have them dress appropriately. You are welcome to send your child to school with a **smock** on art days, if you are worried about their clothes. We hope to see you at Open House, where we will have information available about our curriculum, behavior expectations, and grading policies. All of this information is also posted on our art department website. It can be accessed through the CRES home page. Additionally, you will find information about units of study, local art exhibit information, displays and contest information, and links to fun and educational art websites!

Michele Parris
Art Specialist

Importance of School Attendance:

One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: going to school every day. In fact, research has shown that your child's attendance record may be the biggest factor influencing their academic success.

Benefits of daily attendance: By attending class regularly, your child is more likely to keep up with the daily lessons & assignments, & take quizzes & tests on time.

Achievement: students who attend school regularly are more likely to pass reading & math assessments than students who don't attend school regularly.

Being part of the school community: just by being present at school, your child is learning how to be a good citizen by participating in the school community, learning valuable social skills, & developing a broader world view.

The importance of education: Your commitment of school attendance will also send a message to your child that education is priority your family, going to school every day is a critical part of educational success, & that it's important to take your responsibilities seriously including going to school.

What you can do? Help your child get to school on time every day.

Follow the school's guidelines & attendance policy, & report excused absences immediately. Schedule family events with your child's school schedule in mind. Plan ahead. Promote good health. Create a restful environment.

By making your child's school attendance a priority, you will be taking an important step in supporting your child's school success, and setting a good example. Remember every day counts!



Cotee River Spirit Day – Every Friday
CRES has a Spirit Day and we ask for scholars to wear their Cotee River t-shirts.

If you would like to purchase a school t-shirt for \$10.00, please stop in the main office.

MyStudent Access –

Please be sure to sign up online to create a parent account, see below on directions This school year progress reports & report cards will be available online in the myStudent portal. What this means for families is that paper progress reports & report cards will not be sent home; they only will be accessible in the parent and student portals of myStudent.

To create a parent account, go to the district website, www.pascoschools.org, and click on the Parents link at the top. Then click on the Parent Access to myStudent link below the video.

Mrs. Miller our Parent Involvement Coordinator can help parents who need assistance setting up an account. If you have questions about creating your account, please contact her at 727-774-3098.

CRES Clothing Closet If your family is in need of any clothing items, we invite you to contact Mrs. Miller or Ms. O'Brien to set up a time during the school day to come in and get what you need. In the event transportation and/ or timing is an issue, we have created a form which can be sent home upon request (please call the front office). When we receive the request form, we will call your child/ children down to pick out the items requested and send them home in their backpack. Our goal is to be sure all our students have clothing (including shoes and jackets) to keep them safe and comfortable.



**Cotee River Elementary School
Parent Involvement Plan
2018-2019**

Our Mission Statement

Cotee River is dedicated to creating life long learners through high expectations and a safe learning environment. We believe all children can learn. The Cotee River Elementary community will provide opportunities for all students to reach their academic, social, and developmental potential.

Belief Statement

Cotee River Elementary School believes parents are the key to the educational success of their children. We see parents as a valuable resource in developing the most effective educational plan for each child. As a school, we strive to be a part of the community and a place where parents are always welcome. We recognize the need to work with parents and families to accomplish our goals of academic achievement and personal growth for each child. Ongoing staff training is critical in us meeting our goals.

Title 1 Parents/Guardians

Cotee River Elementary School will involve parents in the development of the Title 1 plan and the process of school review and improvement.

Each year Cotee River Elementary School will convene an annual meeting to which all parents/guardian are invited and encouraged to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to inform parents of the school's participation in the Title 1 program and of the parent's right to be involved. Parents will be provided timely information about available programs.

Parents will be provided information to access to the School Public Accountability Report (SPAR), any other school performance data and assistance with interpreting their child's individual assessment results.

Parents will be provided a description and explanation of the curriculum and standards used at the school, the forms of assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficient levels students are expected to meet.

Parents will be invited and encouraged to meet with their child's teachers to discuss progress.

Parents are encouraged to attend monthly SAC and PTA meetings to discuss Title 1 programs and discuss options regarding how the funding will be utilized. Parents also have the opportunity to provide input when developing the School Improvement Plan and Parent Involvement Plan.

In order to facilitate communication between the school and parents in a timely manner the school uses School Connect Ed, student planners and a monthly parent letter that is sent both electronically via email as well as with the students each month upon parent request. In each newsletter, upcoming events, programs, and opportunities for parental involvement are highlighted to increase awareness. The use of the daily agenda book also provides an opportunity for teachers to communicate with parents about student progress and upcoming programs at Cotee River.

Parent Involvement Opportunities

Cotee River Elementary School supports parent involvement in a variety of ways as we strive to develop and maintain a quality learning environment for all students. We are also committed to developing a flexible schedule to meet each family's needs and encourage a high level of parental involvement in their child's education.

Parents will be encouraged to contribute to their child's education by providing a supportive home environment. Parent workshops will be offered at flexible times to assist parents with providing a supportive home environment.

Parents are encouraged to volunteer and attend school events at Cotee River.

Parents are invited to participate in parent/teacher conferences that are convenient to their schedule.

Parents are encouraged to participate with our Cotee River PTA. The PTA is our parent organization that helps provide a variety of activities for our students and families. PTA meetings provide parents additional opportunities to give input on school programs and school related topics.

Parents are encouraged to participate with our SAC Meetings. The School Advisory Council is a school-based group intended to represent the school, the community and those persons closest to the students. The group shares responsibility for guiding the school toward continuous improvement.

Parents are encouraged to complete school surveys which help to determine school needs and offerings.

Parents are encouraged to become a volunteer and get involved in school wide initiatives: Bolt Power Hour, Watch Dogs and Parent workshops.

Parents are invited to student recognition activities.

• SAC Overview

- *What is a School Advisory Council (SAC)?*
- The School Advisory Council is a school-based group intended to represent the school, the community and those persons closest to the students. The group shares responsibility for guiding the school toward continuous improvement. The district school board is responsible, by Florida law, for establishing an advisory council for each school in the district and shall develop procedures for the election and appointment of advisory council members. Each School Advisory Council shall include in its name the words "school advisory council."
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- *What is the role of the School Advisory Council?*
- The School Advisory Council is responsible for final decision making at the school relating to the implementation of the provisions of the annual School Improvement Plan. Each School Advisory Council assists in the annual preparation and



School Advisory Council (SAC)

Member Nomination Form

2018-19

You may nominate yourself or another person to be included on the SAC ballot.

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's Contact information

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

email: _____

This nominee would be a representative of the checked peer group:

Parent Name of

student(s): _____ **Grade(s):** _____

Student Student number: _____

Teacher

Education Support Employee

Business/Community Member

Parents, Teachers, Students, and Education Support Employees are elected members of the SAC.

If you are interested in having this nominee placed on the SAC ballot, please complete and submit this form to the school's front office by August 31, 2018.

APPLY FOR FREE OR REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATION 2018-2019

1. Sign in to the Pasco County Schools website - <http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/parents>
2. On the right hand side of page scroll down to "General School Information" & click on "Free & Reduced Lunch.
3. On next screen click on RED APPLE & begin filling out the application.

Please read the following carefully before moving on. Please be aware the application appearance has changed slightly.

Please submit only **ONE** application per household. If you submit an online application, you will NOT need to fill out the paper application. Filling out more than one application will delay the processing of your application. You will be notified by letter as to your child(ren's) eligibility status. Please have your FOOD STAMP CASE NUMBER and/or GROSS INCOME available prior to starting the online application process. The online screen cannot sit unattended for more than 10 minutes. If left unattended for more than 10 minutes, the system will automatically log you out. The online application has been correctly submitted once you receive a congratulations page with a confirmation number. Please print this page for your records. Applications are processed within 5-10 business days, depending on volume. Until your application is processed, you will need to provide your child(ren) a meal from home or send money to purchase school meals.

Getting Started

What you will need to provide during the application process:

- **The names and incomes of every member of your household**
- **The school, grade, birthdate of every student in your household**
- Your social security number and electronic signature
- (Optional) A valid email address or phone number for district communication about the status of the application.
- **If you are ready to get started, click the button below to begin the online process.**



Success Plan at a Glance

<p>High Impact Instruction: PLCs will intentionally plan instruction while utilizing the four guiding principles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PLCs will collaboratively plan utilizing the four guiding questions in order to intentionally plan for all scholar learning experiences, matched to the rigor of the standards.• Identify, design and monitor supplemental interventions for academic essential standards in Tier 2.• An ELA block where complex text is utilized and a systematic approach to phonics instruction, foundational skills, vocabulary and the writing process are infused throughout the instructional day.• Scholars will engage in cognitive tasks that require them to persevere through challenging assignments and experience productive struggle through reasoning and problem solving.• A math block that includes fluency activities, conceptual development lessons with application, and a scholar debrief session.	<p>Goal</p> <p>1</p>
<p>Goal</p> <p>2</p>	<p>Collaborative Culture: Promote personal growth and sense of community and belonging, in a trauma sensitive culture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Student Wrap Around Services Team/SIT will engage in weekly problem-solving PLCs in order to analyze EWS data and monitor school wide PBIS systems in order to determine next steps for Tier 1-3.• Increase staff knowledge and practices when responding to one another, scholars' and parents' emotional/behavioral well-being needs (Phase 2 and 3 of Harmony Project).• Staff reflects and builds on how each of their individual contributions impact school culture and scholar achievement.• Increase scholar hope through awareness on secondary and post-secondary opportunities.
<p>Data Driven Decisions: Build challenging educational systematic and equitable learning experiences so that all scholars achieve through the tier level of supports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase inclusion opportunities for scholars in our self-contained access point classrooms.• Our School Based Leadership team and Student Intervention Team will collect, monitor, utilize data to identify trends and develop actionable steps to increase scholar achievement levels and communicate with stakeholders.	<p>Goal</p> <p>3</p>

Cotee River Art Club

We are so excited to announce that Art Club will begin soon! Students who are interested in Art Club must be in 4th or 5th grade to participate. Fifth grade art club will be meeting once a week on Wednesdays from 8:30-9:20 in first semester, then fourth grade art club will be meeting once a week on Wednesdays in second semester. **Members of fifth grade art club will be selected now.** In December, information will be going out to the 4th graders who are interested so that group can be selected and be ready to start meeting after winter break. ***Therefore, only fifth graders need apply at this point.***

This club is very popular, and there are only a limited number of slots available. So, a rubric will be used to select amongst students who complete an application. If your fifth grade child is interested, please complete the Art Club Application, and turn it in to Mrs. Parris by **Wednesday, August 22nd**. After all the applications are received, 12 fifth graders will be selected, based on the rubric assessment of the Art Prompt on the application. **Your child will be notified whether or not they were selected prior to the first meeting, which will be on Wednesday, August 29th.**

Rubric for assessing Art Club Application Drawing Prompt

This is the rubric that will be used to assess all of the Art Club Applications that are submitted.

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement
Creativity	Prompt is creatively incorporated into a drawing. Imaginative. Beyond the obvious.	Somewhat creative, but prompt is finished in a mostly predictable manner.	Prompt is not creatively incorporated into a drawing. Unimaginative and/or incomplete.
Craftsmanship	The quality and skill of the drawing and coloring technique is beyond expectations.	The quality and skill of the drawing and coloring technique is acceptable.	The quality and skill of the drawing and coloring technique is unsatisfactory.
Composition (Design)	A lot of attention to details. Drawing fills entire page; includes a background. Very effective use of elements and principles of art.	Some attention to detail. Some areas are left incomplete. Effective use of elements and principles of design.	Little attention to detail. A lot of space is left empty, like the drawing is incomplete. Ineffective use of the elements and principles of design.

Art Club Application Please turn this form in to Mrs. Parris by Wednesday, August 22 .
c Yes! My 5th grade child is interested in joining Art Club! I understand that submission of this application does not automatically mean my child is in the club, that it must be received by Mrs. Parris on or before the deadline date, and that I will be notified prior to August 29th whether or not my child is selected to participate.

Section One:

Student First and Last Name _____

Grade Level _____

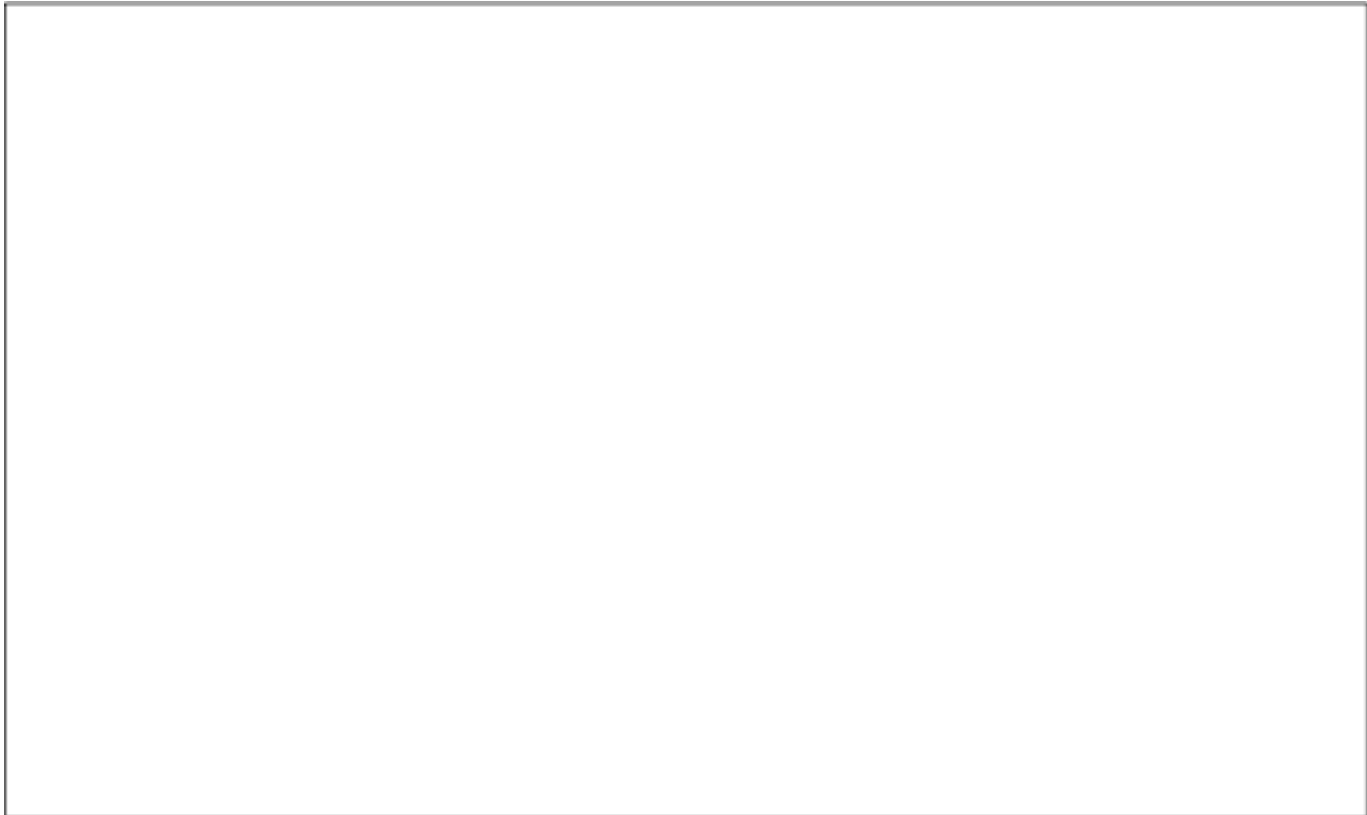
Student's Classroom Teacher's Name _____ Parent Name _____

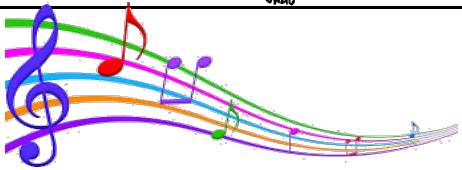
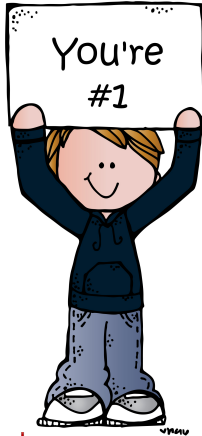
Parent Cell# () _____ Parent e-mail _____

Parent Hm# (_____) _____

Section Two:

ART PROMPT Please have your child complete the drawing prompt below as part of the Application. It must have color, but media (crayons, colored pencils, markers, etc.) is up to them. The prompt will be assessed using a rubric that looks at their craftsmanship, composition (design), and creativity. This is independent work- no help, please!
Directions: A lazy artist started the drawing below, but did not finish it! What do you think they had in mind? What can you turn it into? Build a complete picture around what is already there, then color it. Be creative! Use good craftsmanship! Think about your composition (design)!





Welcome back from the Music Department at Cotee River! Mrs. Collinson and Mrs. Kelberlau are looking forward to a great year with Quaver Music, recorders, instruments, and chorus!

If your scholar is interested in returning to or joining chorus, we have performing groups that meet before school:

Lightning Chorus (3rd/4th/5th grades): **Tuesdays**, 8:30-9:20 a.m.

Thunder Chorus (1st/2nd grades) will now meet on **Wednesdays**, 8:30-9:20 a.m.

This is a change from last year; please make note of that new day.

If your scholar is assigned a speaking part or solo,

Special Parts meets on Friday mornings, 8:30-9:20 a.m.

The first chorus rehearsals will begin on the week of



• Cotee River Special Olympics

• **Team #choosetoinc lude** is taking over our Cotee River athletes and partners!! I will be sending out information for updated medicals



**Volunteer
 Training**

Sept. 13th
 10am or 5pm

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND IF
 YOU ARE GOING TO
 VOLUNTEER!



Join us for

**DONUTS
 WITH
 DAD**

September 14th
 9-9:30am

More details to come!



Begins Monday Sept
 17th
 4-5pm
 \$25 registration
 3rd- 5th grade only

09/10/2018
 6pm

In the Library
 All are welcome!



We are looking for volunteers!
 Please fill out an application at
<http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/comm/volunteer>

