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Notes from the Principal

Dear Parents and Families,



As we move into the month of February, I want our parents and staff alike to remember the example we set for our children every day. Not quitting or giving up shows character. It is so important to have a sense of humor, to laugh at ourselves, to take frequent breaks, and to practice saying I'm sorry when we are wrong. We know that hard work and perseverance are not easy but they do pay off. We also know that we will all face frustrations, failures and we all make mistakes. It's how we handle those mistakes that show our character. Being a responsible student is hard work and saying I'm sorry when I'm wrong builds character. But most importantly changing behavior and choosing to do the right thing instead of repeating our mistakes is so important. Experience has taught me that the next few months are the most challenging of the year. With that said, I ask that you continue to have good communication with your child's teacher and the school. We want to help your child be successful. That will require frequent communication.



Respectfully,

Lee Mulder
Principal, CREST

Notes from the Assistant Principal



CREST Families,

February is American **Heart Month**. Traditionally known as the **month** for Valentines and all things **heart** related, **February** also reminds us to take care of our **heart**. The annual celebration began in 1963 to encourage Americans to join the battle against **heart disease**. **Heart** disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States. On the first Friday of February we encourage everyone to wear **red** and join our nation in the awareness of heart disease.



Our students have been learning about heart disease and will participate in Jump Rope for Heart on February the 7th. Students can collect donations from family and friends and join the heart disease fight. All donations go to the American Heart Society and the American Heart Society shows their appreciation by awarding students with thank you gifts.

Another special heart related event this month is our prom. This year the prom will be held on February the 12th and our theme is "Be my Valentine". CREST prom is a favorite event of the school year. Our students look amazing in their prom attire and their smiles light up the room when they hear the dancing music and see the transformation of the CREST gym. Don't forget to order your prom pictures, you will definitely want those special memories.

Lastly, I would like to encourage everyone to model kindness this February. Children learn from the role models in their lives. If we as adults model kindness by using nice words, complimenting people, and paying kindness forward, we can change mind sets and create a world of kindness.

Love,

Melanie Howard
Assistant Principal, CREST



Curriculum



I want to thank everyone who came to our 2nd curriculum day on January 17. We were fortunate enough to have heroes from all over Citrus County join us. There were vehicles from the School Resource Officer, Florida Highway Patrol, Bomb Squad, Police Motorcycles, K-9 units, Citrus Fire and Rescue, Citrus County Transit, Animal Control, Cement trucks, Utility trucks, Fish and Wildlife airboat, Fish and Wildlife Brush truck, Forensic unit, and the Homosassa Wildlife Park. The students were able to climb onto the vehicles as well as participate in hands on activities. We were also lucky enough to have Mike Scott Plumbing supply our water and Twistee Treat supply us with ice cream.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/JX6DBGUk5V1HkSfw6>

Julie Henry
Curriculum TOSA

Behavior



CREST Family and Friends,

Kindness can have a profound impact on the way that we approach our daily lives. The positive impact of kindness can often begin trends toward successful relationships. When we practice kindness, it can influence others. Simple acts such as a welcome or greeting can let others know that they are cared for. Treating others with our expectation of respect can show dignity to someone who may be having a tough time. Practicing kindness can also impact us personally. By treating others with kindness it can positively effect our own mental well-being, esteem, and health. Kindness can build relationships here at CREST.

“Kind words can be short and easy to speak but their echoes are truly endless.”

Mother Teresa

Sincerely,

Your friendly neighborhood behavior TOSA’s

Ms. Tanya Finch-Goodwin

Mr. Brian Hengesbach

Ms. Jasmine Welter

CREST Classroom Spotlights



Ms. Green’s Class

Our class has an amazing group of students and staff. The paraprofessionals rock (Mr. Tres and Ms. Ann) and are so kind and patient with the children. In our class we start the day off with breakfast and circle time. During circle time the students use pictures to describe what zone they are in and how they are feeling. In addition, we review our visual schedules for the day and refer back to those schedules throughout the school day. We then set the timer (6 min. increments) and begin our structured teach zones, where the students usually transition quite nicely (we are very proud). At 10:00 am we transition to specials, 10:45 back to class for more structured teaching zones. Our zones consist of; the paraprofessional table, 2 independent zones, computer zone and the teacher zone. In each zone the students are able to shine and receive lots of one on one instruction and also some down time. When the students are on task, they earn rewards and free time/choice in addition to tickets which they can use to buy choice items from our treasure box.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/g9HruW9LM8fUaJrn7>



Ms. Carey's Class



Welcome 2020! As we enter this new decade, I can't help but look back over my 22 years of teaching and wonder how I found myself in Room 152 of Crest School. I spent 17 years at Floral City Elementary before I chose to come to Crest 5 years ago. Since coming to Crest I have worked with all grade levels, multiple learning capabilities, wonderful families, and the most caring and dedicated staff. Everyday I see people go above and beyond in what they do for our most vulnerable and I am amazed. I've met with parents who have dedicated their lives to making sure their kiddos have all that they need. I am blessed. I just want to say thank you to all of you for what you do for our students.

In the Learning Pond this year we are always looking for ways for our students to communicate their wants and needs. Of course, a few think their yelling and screaming is the optimal way to get our attention, but we feel with all the high/low tech multi-modality communication tools they will eventually find their voice. Currently, we have been loaned a new tool called a "Hip-Talker". We have a couple with only 4 communication buttons and a couple with 8-10 buttons. We are still continuing to use simple sign language, pictures, GoTalk, and Prologue. Everyday is different, everyday can be a challenge, and everyday our kiddos continue to surprise and amaze us. Thank you for sharing them with us.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/oGB2XUqqob3QfsDo9>



Ms. Antonelli and Mr. Purtee's Classes



Ms. Antonelli, Mr. Purtee, Ms. Holly, Ms. Sheila and the Middle School students went to the Marine Science station on Friday January 10th. Mr. O'Leary was our teacher for the day. We were able to take a great boat ride, look at Manatees and even saw a dolphin! We rode so fast on the boat that the waves made the boat bounce up and down so hard we almost had things fall off! Ms. Holly did not like that part! We were also able to cast a net out into the water and catch all sorts of marine life like sponges, shrimp and crabs.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/G6EohdaZ35X6JiNU7>

Information / Activities



Parent Drop off and Pick up

For the safety of all our staff and students, please use the designated drop off area for students during bus arrival and dismissal. The busses arrive between 8:35 and 9:10 and dismiss between 3:00 and 3:30.

Thank you for your concern

Santa visits CREST



Santa came to CREST on December 13th and brought each student a special gift. Check out our Santa pictures!

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/wbCXc3ogwDuVeemD6>



CREST Ugly Sweater Contest

During the holiday season CREST Staff had an ugly sweater contest.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ZM1zAJc9mjGJtK1Z9>



Spirit Week



| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Monday February 10th</p> <p>RESPECT</p> <p>Show your respect and wear your favorite team shirt/jersey</p>  | <p>Tuesday February 11th</p> <p>SAFE</p> <p>We've got safety covered wear your favorite hat</p>  | <p>Wednesday February 12th</p> <p>RED</p> <p>Wear red and high schoolers don't forget your prom attire</p>  | <p>Thursday February 13th</p> <p>RESPONSIBLE</p> <p>Dress for success day, what do you want to be when you grow up?</p>  |
|--|---|---|---|



High School & Transition students ♥ February 12th, 2020 ♥ Gym: 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION BY: FRIDAY JANUARY 31ST, 2020

STUDENT : _____ WILL ATTEND _____ WILL NOT ATTEND _____

PROM ATTIRE NEEDED: YES _____ NO _____

*** OUTSIDE GUESTS NEED TO BE APPROVED BY CREST ADMINISTRATION ***

Guest: _____ Parent Contact Number: _____



CREST

Citrus Resources for Exceptional Students in Transition

2600 S Panther Pride Dr. Lecanto, Florida 3446. Phone (352) 527-0303 / Fax (352) 249-2104

Lee Mulder
Principal

Melanie Howard
Assistant Principal

Paul M. Heinze
ESE Specialist

Julie Henry
Curriculum

Teachers Working Out-Of-Field

CREST School is proud that all 30 teachers and administrators who work with our students are certified by the State of Florida or other governing board. We appreciate the following teachers who have volunteered to teach a subject outside of their primary certification and are currently taking classes to obtain certification in the area they are teaching out-of-field.

| Teacher | Course/Class |
|---------------------|--|
| Jennifer Green | Elementary Education |
| Chris Taylor | Exceptional Student Education and Elementary Education |
| Cindy Hogle | Elementary Education |
| Deborah Raimer | Elementary Education |
| Steven Walker | Exceptional Student Education |
| Eric Thornburg | Exceptional Student Education |
| Cara Harris | Elementary Education |
| Elizabeth Antonelli | Middle Grade English & Social Studies 5-9 |

Each of these teachers has both experience and coursework in the area they are teaching. They are excellent teachers and we appreciate the extra effort they are putting forth on behalf of our students.

Best Regards

Lee Mulder
Principal
01/29/2020



Calendars

Citrus County Schools Calendar

https://crest.citruschools.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_743215/File/Calendars/Approved_2019-20_School_Calendar.pdf



February 2020

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-------------|-----|------|--|-----------|-----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| | Spirit Week | | Prom | 1/2 Day Students / Teacher work day | No School | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | No School | | | | | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

March Dates

- March 13 1/2 Day Students / Teacher Work Day
- March 17 SAEC Meeting—3:30 CREST Media Center
- March 20th — 29th Spring Break No School

McDonalds Family Night (Beverly Hills)



Mark your calendar for April 15th.
20% of all sales between 4:00 to
7:00 PM will go to CREST.

DID YOU KNOW?! Big changes are coming to Box Tops!

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

BUY
BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.

SCAN
YOUR RECEIPT

Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.

EARN
CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated at BTFE.com.

It's like Dory says:
"Just keep clipping..."

+ plus scan for a double dip reward

BOX TOPS CLIPS ON PACKAGES

Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store as packages transition to the new Box Tops labels. You can still clip these and send them to school. Please make sure each clip has a valid expiration date.

- BUY**
BOX TOPS PRODUCTS
- CUT**
OUT THE BOX TOP FROM EACH PACKAGE
- SEND**
YOUR BOX TOPS TO SCHOOL

**THE ALL-NEW BOX TOPS IS HERE!
DOWNLOAD THE APP:**



Like the CREST School Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/CRESTSchool/>