



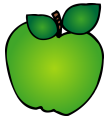
# Reptile Review

September 2019

Issue 13, Volume 1

**September 10**  
Spaghetti Dinner  
Open House  
PTA General Assembly

**September 11**  
SAC Meeting 8:00 am  
Early Release Day- pick  
up time 1:45pm



**September 13**  
Progress Reports

**September 18**  
Picture Day  
Chuck E. Cheese's Family  
Night 4:00-8:00pm

**September 24**  
Boy Scouts Night 7:00pm

## Our School Hours

9:15 a.m. Breakfast

9:20 a.m. Release to Class

9:30 a.m. Tardy Bell

3:45 p.m. Car Rider/ Walk Up-Pick Up/ PLACE  
Dismissal

3:50 p.m. Bus Rider Dismissal



## Principal's Message

Welcome back to the 2019-20 school year at New River Elementary! Due to the Hurricane day, Open House/Spaghetti Dinner have been rescheduled for Tuesday, September 10th. [Our PTA Spaghetti Dinner will be from 5:30-7:00 pm in the cafeteria.](#) You may visit your child's classroom during the following times: 6:00-6:30 pm is kindergarten and first grade, 6:30-7:00 pm is second grade and third grade, 7:00-7:30 pm is fourth grade and fifth grade. [Our PTA General Assembly Meeting will be in the cafeteria at 5:45 pm.](#) We look forward to seeing all of our families!

Our first Early Release day is scheduled for September 11th. Please make sure that you have a plan for your child. Join us for our first family night at Chuck E. Cheese from 4:30-7:30 PM on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. We also will be having our fall pictures on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Please remember that for the safety of all students, they should remain with you on campus until 9:15 AM if you walk them to school or if they are a car rider. There have been many families who have dropped off their child(ren), leaving them unsupervised and it is a safety concern. Students who ride bikes or walk to school should arrive to school after 9:15am.

Thank you for your patience during the first few weeks of school. We're looking forward to a great year! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

#committed2success  
**Sarah Bordner**  
sbordner@pasco.k12.fl.us

### Office Information

It is very important to turn in your Student Emergency Card and Information Card to the school office. These cards have the most accurate information to get in touch with you in case of an emergency.

If a child needs to be checked out of school early or make a transportation change, please do so prior to 3:00pm. This is the latest that a child can be checked out from the office or switched to a different dismissal location.

If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the school office at (813) 346-0500 or write a note/send in a doctor's note. Please include the following information: Child's full name, lunch number, teacher name, reason for the absence, and date of the absence.

### Student Fees

Student fees are \$29.00. You can access the instructions to pay online at <http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/acorn>. You can also send in cash or a check made payable to New River Elementary. Please include your child's name and student number with your payment.

## PTA News

Welcome back to school! My name is Amy Goforth and I am president of New River Elementary School PTA. We have a fantastic board that is excited to meet and work with you. You will get the chance to meet with us about membership, upcoming school events to volunteer and participate in, and our goals for this school year at our general assembly meeting. Our meeting will be held at the Spaghetti Dinner before Open House at 5:45 pm in the cafeteria on Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

The PTA is looking for all families to become members. Membership is only \$5.00 per person. Look for us each month in the school newsletter to see what we have planned and how you can be a part of our fantastic school! If you have any questions you can email me at [amy.goforth1@gmail.com](mailto:amy.goforth1@gmail.com) and I will gladly answer any questions you have or get you in touch with a board member that can assist in anything you need. It is going to be a great year!

Thanks,  
Amy Goforth

## Bus Numbers and Colors:

Purple Z516  
Red Z519  
Silver Z527  
Orange Checkered Z532  
Red Stripes Z565  
Black Checkered Z582  
Purple Checkered Z587  
Red Checkered Z589  
Blue D414  
Green D467  
Orange D469  
D450



## School Bus News

*Our school bus drivers and bus assistants are ready to safely transport your child to and from school! Here are a few reminders for safety on the bus. (Be sure to review the Student Code of Conduct with your child for additional bus rules and procedures.)*

*Students are required to obey drivers' hand signals when crossing the road.*

*Students must stay seated in assigned seat while the bus is in motion.*

*If the bus has seat belts, students must stay tightly, buckled-up until the bus stops at the student's assigned bus stop.*

*Students must use a quiet voice when talking to a student next to them. No talking if the inside bus lights are turned on.*

*The driver has full authority and must be obeyed when riding the bus.*

*Please contact Mrs. Wilkinson at [cgwilkin@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:cgwilkin@pasco.k12.fl.us) or Mrs. Basinger at [swilson@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:swilson@pasco.k12.fl.us) with any bus questions or concerns.*



## Cafeteria News

*The New River Cafeteria Staff is ready to serve our students a delicious and nutritious breakfast and lunch!*

Breakfast: \$1.35

Reduced price: \$0.30

Lunch: \$2.50

Reduced price: \$0.40

Food and Nutrition Services is pleased to offer parents a convenient, inexpensive, and safe way to pay for their child's school meals online using a debit or credit card through the prepayment service provider, [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com). It's a quick and easy way to ensure there is always lunch money on their child's account.

We encourage parents to eat lunch with their child during their class designated lunch time.

After checking in at the front office, parents may sit with their child at the family table inside the cafeteria or at a picnic table located just outside of the cafeteria. Parents

may also purchase adult meals in the cafeteria for \$4.00.



Be Respectful, Be Safe,  
Be Responsible

## Early Release Days

Beginning in 2019-2020, Pasco County Schools will implement a monthly, two-hour-early release time to allow for staff to engage in professional development aligned with student needs and district and school priorities.

### Why?

- For students - increase in effective instruction and decrease in learning disruption on substitute days.
- For staff - increased opportunity to learn and grow built in to the work schedule .

### When?

Early release days will take place on the second Wednesday of each month with the exception of August, January, and May.

- September 11, 2019
- October 9, 2019
- November 13, 2019
- December 11, 2019
- January 15, 2020
- February 12, 2020
- March 11, 2020
- April 8, 2020



## Art News

Welcome back, Reptiles! We are excited to welcome our new three day art teacher, Ms. Kenzie Rhamy. She comes to us from Indiana. She will be shared with Lachocsee Elementary and will be at NRES on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

We have started the school year with teaching expectations and rules in the art rooms. Students have also started to design their art folder in which they will keep all their artwork for the year. We are also starting our unit for the element of art lines. Students are practicing drawing different kinds of lines using crayons and markers. Some students have created real pictures while others are making imaginary drawings using lines.

We are happy to inform you that student's artwork will be on display throughout the year. We will have two bulletin boards in the cafeteria and are ecstatic to show our students' wonderful creations. Pictures will be rotated throughout the year. All grade levels will be represented.

We look forward to a wonderful art year full of amazing art creations.

Thank you all for your support.

Mrs. Frain and Ms. Rhamy

## Dress Code

At New River, we ask that students are dressed for success.

That means they are wearing clothing that is comfortable and helps them learn. Students should not wear clothing that is too tight or too loose, causing them to worry about pulling it down or up. On PE days, students must wear sneakers. If a student would like to use the recess equipment, they must be wearing sneakers as well. If a child chooses to wear open shoes or flats, he/she must play in the grass area for that day.

## 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 New River Elementary School 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.

## American Girl Dolls Checkout Program Returns

**Sixteen American Girl dolls will be available for two day checkouts beginning September 3rd. Addy, Emilie, Felicity, Felicity x2, Ivy, Josefina, Josefina x2, Kaya, Kirsten, Kirsten #2, Kit, Maryellen, Melody, Molly, Rebecca or Ruthie can come to your home.**

**There will be some requirements in order to check them out:**

- 1. A signed permission slip.**
- 2. One of the American Girl books read and the RC quiz passed.**
- 3. Two day checkout policy, strictly enforced.**

### **Mission Statement:**

**New River Elementary School Community challenges students to reach their highest potential by working together to promote a love of learning, ensuring our students will be college, career, and life ready.**

# Attendance

Encouraging good habits surrounding school attendance is one of the most effective ways you can prepare your child for academic success. When school attendance is a priority, you are helping your child get better grades, practice healthy life habits, avoid dangerous behavior, and have a better chance of graduating high school.

When students are absent for fewer days, their grades and reading skills often improve. Students who attend school regularly also feel more connected to their community, develop important social skills and friendships, and are significantly more likely to graduate high school.

When kids are absent for an average of just two days of school per month—excused or unexcused – it can have a negative impact. For example, elementary school students who miss an average of just two school days per month often have difficulty keeping up with their peers academically and tend to fall behind in reading. But when students are able to read on grade level by the end of third grade, they are three to four times more likely to graduate high school and attend college than their peers who struggle with reading.

As a parent, you can prepare your child for a lifetime of success by making school attendance a priority. By figuring out the reasons for your child's absences, and taking advantage of school support services—you can help set your child on a positive academic path.

## Counselor's Corner

WELCOME BACK! My name is Miss. Clerkin and I am your counselor here at New River Elementary School. I am so excited to see familiar faces and meet more families as they join our community. As your school counselor I am here to support ALL students be successful socially, academically, and behaviorally.

### WHAT DO SCHOOL COUNSELORS DO?:

- Classroom Lessons – We visit all grades to teach social-emotional skills such as feelings, communication, problem-solving, diversity, respect, etc. Our Safer Smarter Kids curriculum provides important lessons to students to help them become respectful and responsible citizens.
- Small Group Counseling – We facilitate small groups for students who need a little extra support in a certain area (ex: social skills, coping, emotional regulation, etc.)
- Individual Counseling – We meet with students short-term to work through problems affecting their educational and personal success
- Consultation with Staff/Parents – We are available to meet/talk with teachers and parents so that we may help support students and provide resources and education about issues affecting children.

### WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR COUNSELOR...

- I am a part of our whole family of staff at New River Elementary. We all work together to ensure that our students and families are welcomed into this community and feel supported at all times.
- Please feel free to contact me at any time – I am here to help!

### WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR COUNSELORS...

- We are ONE part of our support team that works to help children succeed. We work hard to get to know ALL students so they may feel connected and safe while with us in school.
- Please feel free to reach out to use with any questions of concerns that might arise throughout the school year!

## Birthday Books

This year thanks to Scholastic Books and the NRES PTA, every student will be able to choose a book for their birthday. These books were able to be purchased through our Book Talks, Scholastic Dollars, Book Fairs, and our generous PTA. Together we are creating a school community who recognizes and supports the idea that "Reading is Essential to Success". July birthdays will be celebrated in August and June birthdays will be celebrated in May.

## Reading Counts

Reading Counts is a great way to monitor student comprehension from a book they are reading. This also helps to promote a love for reading. Please encourage your child to read 30 minutes per night and ask how they performed on their Reading Counts quiz. These reading counts points are totaled throughout the year and celebrated through our Mid-Year and End of the Year Reading

## Music News

Chorus and Orff had great auditions and a great groups of students have been chosen. If you child was chosen, please make sure they attend for Chorus every Tuesday morning at 8:30am and Orff every Wednesday morning at 8:30am. Patrols will be dismissed in time to fulfill their morning duties. If you have a chorus or Orff polo from years past you may use that shirt as we will not be changing the design.

Friday, August 30th, watch for permission forms regarding our December 4<sup>th</sup> Intermediate musical "Kid Flix". They will be sent home at the end of August. As usual we will need significant help to make this production successful. Please become an approved volunteer for Pasco County and consider traveling with us on 12/4 from 9:45a.m. to 12p.m.



## Traffic Safety On Our Campus

This year with the increase in students, that also brings an increase in cars and an increase in wait time. Our goal every morning and afternoon is to get all students dropped off and picked up safely. For this reason, we want to be sure that all families cooperate with the following reminders:

- The speed limit on school property is 15 mph at all times.
- Students may only get out of or into cars at the numbered spaces in front of the school (unless escorted to or from the parking lot by an adult). No drop offs in the parking lot.
- It is important to decide how your child is going home prior to coming to school (except in the case if an emergency). Discuss that with your child and be sure the teacher is informed. Changing frequently is confusing to your child and the staff. The choices are: CAR RIDER, WALK UP/PICK UP, BUS RIDER, WALKER/BIKE RIDER, PLACE.
- Please be sure to follow the arrows in the parking lanes of the parking lot.
- Remember our entry road is only two lanes, one entering and one leaving. It is a solid line, no pass zone.

Your patience is appreciated as we work together to make our campus safe for all students!

## Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge

We are getting close to the closing of the Summer Reading Challenge. The last day to record minutes is September 6th. If you have not recorded your minutes from May 6th- September 6th, please log into your myPascoConnect account and click on the Scholastic Summer Reading link.

Remember your nightly IRLA minutes from August 12th til September 6th would total 600 minutes (just for Monday through Friday). So fill out your missing minutes and they will be added to the New River total. We are in 2nd place in the state and with everyone reading we know we can move even higher.



## Shoppes of New River

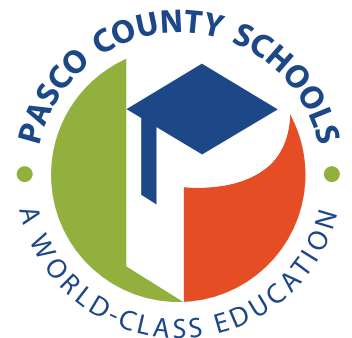
This year we have an exciting new opportunity for our students to use the money they earn daily. Student will be able to shop at the Shoppes of New River every Friday, beginning on August 30th. The shop will take place during their lunch/recess time. The items will be priced ranging from \$60 to \$200. The students will use their reptile money to shop. A child may choose to spend their money on each Friday or save to purchase a higher priced item. Following our school wide expectations and regular attendance will ensure that your child has money to shop.

If you would like to help with the shop you can either send in a monetary donation or volunteer to help run the shop. Please send donations in an envelop labeled Shoppes of New River or an email to Mrs. Wilkinson [cgwilkin@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:cgwilkin@pasco.k12.fl.us).

## PE News

**Welcome Back! We are very excited about everything we have planned for this year. Our Kindergarten, first, second and third graders will be setting goals for Reptile Run each month. Students will be running during PE class each month. After the first three miles, a chain and toe token will be given. Toe tokens are earned every three miles, t-shirts are given to students who run twenty five miles or more, a large toe token is given to the boy and girl leaders in each class and trophies are given to the boy and girl leaders in each grade level. Last year we had over 250 students earn t-shirts!**

**Our Fun Run Club will be starting its eighth season this year! Running Club is for second, third, fourth, and fifth graders. The first running date will be October 3rd. Look for information coming home soon. Running Club will be on Thursday mornings at 9:00 AM. If your child rides a bus, he/she comes out to the field when the bus arrives.**



## **Pasco County Schools**

**Kurt S. Browning,  
Superintendent**

### School Board Members

- Alan Altman - District 1
- Colleen Beaudoin - District 2
- Cynthia Armstrong- District 3
- Alison Crumbley - District 4
- Megan Harding - District 5