



Cougar Chronicle

Administrator's Message

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Caloosa Elementary
620 Del Prado Blvd. S.,
Cape Coral, FL 33990
(239) 574-3113
<http://coe.leeschools.net>

Mrs. Shelley Markgraf, Principal
Mr. Tommy Bowens, Principal on Assignment
Mrs. Danielle Hudzina, Assistant Principal

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your patience the first few weeks of school during the dismissal process. There have been many **rainy day dismissals** due to lightning within a 10 mile radius. When we have lightning we can only load 1-2 busses at a time, which delays the time that the busses leave the school. We do send out text messages on these days, so if you are not getting our texts, please call us at 574-3113 to let us know so that we can check the number we have. **Parent Link text messaging** is our main form of communi-

cating to all of you quickly. If you are frustrated with the wait time during the morning drop off, we have two car ramps staffed in the morning. The car ramp in front of the school has a long wait time. The earlier you drop off, the better you will be. We open the doors to all students at 7:30. There is supervision outside as early as 7:20. If you would like to drop off on the Caloosa Middle School Car Ramp, we have an employee that supervises this ramp from **7:30—7:50** each morning. If you drop off on this ramp, students will walk down our

bus ramp, which is supervised by administration, and enter in through the side entrance where the bus students enter. The wait time on this car ramp is much shorter.

If you would like to get involved in our school, we have many opportunities for you this month.

On Thursday, September 7th, you can join us for our quarterly **PTO (Parent Teacher Organization)** and **SAC (School Advisory Committee)** meeting at 5:30. Many parents ask what the difference is between these two groups.

Our **PTO** leads almost everything we do that is **fun**. This group fundraises, provides incentives for children, organizes fun events, and meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 2:30. You are welcome to bring your children to these meetings.

Our **School Advisory Committee (SAC)** is involved in making decisions that pertain to academic school improvement. The meetings are held once a quarter at 5:30 p.m.

There are many **volunteer opportunities** at Caloosa. Our teachers love to have volunteers come in and help with centers, file and organize papers, cut things out for projects, check out books in the media center, or count box tops for education. The opportunities are limitless. If this is something you are interested in, please join us on Thursday, September 14th at 8:30 for our **Volunteer Orientation**. Please be sure to complete a volunteer application from the front office, if you haven't done so yet.

We will have our parent/teacher conferences in October, but if you have concerns about academics or other issues, please call the teacher at 574-3113 and he/she will return your call within 24 hours. All concerns should be addressed with the teacher before requesting to speak to an administrator.

Shelley Markgraf
Principal

September Events:

- 4—School closed for Labor Day
- 6—Fall pictures—uniforms required since this will be the year-book picture.
- 7—SAC/PTO Meeting @ 5:30
Come meet and welcome our new administrators, Tommy Bowens and Danielle Hudzina ; Child care will be available
- 8—Grandparents Day for Kindergarten—1:20 p.m.
- 11— Quarter 1 Interim Grade Reports sent home
- 12—PTO monthly meeting @ 2:30
- 14—Volunteer Orientation @ 8:30 am—in the Cafeteria
- 15—Kdg. Movie Night Fundraiser
- 21—School closed in observance of Rosh Hashanah

Art

Aloha from the Art Room! We will be collecting **donations for the ART room** throughout the year. Families can drop off donations to the office or have your child hand deliver them to the Art Room in the mornings. Thank you so much! We are looking for: *Bottle caps (water bottle caps, Sport Drink caps, Soda caps, etc.) *Newspaper (flat, not rolled or wrinkled, please) *Empty, Clean and dried water & soda bottles *cardboard (flat pieces) *toilet paper and paper towel rolls *plastic baby food containers (single serving size) *plastic food containers (very clean, please) *Buttons *Aluminum caps from soda bottles *lids of all sizes (plastic or aluminum)
I'm passionate about recycling and reusing, so donations are truly appreciated. Recycled items will be magnificently transformed into pieces of art. Watch for the projects to come home! Thank you for your contribution!

Mrs. Heidi J. Bearman
ART TEACHER

Clinic

The Lee County School Nurses want you to be aware of a medical condition that has become increasingly worrisome: the dreaded **peanut allergy**. We have more students than ever enrolling each year with this problem. The symptoms range from a simple rash, to anaphylactic shock, which includes hives, swelling, and respiratory distress. Most students with the allergy are affected by ingesting the peanut or peanut oil. However, some students can have a life-threatening reaction just from smelling peanut butter, even from another student's sandwich. Therefore, please do not send any snacks, lunches, or classroom treats to school if peanuts or peanut oil is a possible ingredient. If you have any questions, call the school clinic at 574-3113. Thank you for your assistance.

Jill Books
R.N.

From the Library

Hello! My name is Mrs. Bravard and I am the Media Specialist for Caloosa Elementary. I am looking forward to working with your children and helping them to learn a myriad of library skills and fostering a lifelong love for reading.

Students will be using the Accelerated Reader program this year. The teacher will help them set a personal goal each quarter. Students will reach their goal by reading at school and home. Please ask your child what they are reading and share their books with them. Reading time together is special!

Children are made readers on the laps of

PTO

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Open House.

The purpose of our Parent / Teacher Organization (PTO) is to directly support the faculty, staff, parents, and most importantly our students at Caloosa Elementary. Your PTO Executive Committee has been busy developing the details for a very productive and exciting year aimed at enhancing the educational environment for all of our students.

In order to be successful, we know that the support and involvement of the parents of our students, the faculty and staff at Caloosa Elementary, as well as, the business leaders in our community, will be of utmost importance. One way you can help will be to participate in the events and activities that we have planned throughout the year. Your participation might be that of a committee member, volunteer, or as an attendee. Whatever level of participation you select, your time and involvement will certainly be appreciated!

If at any time during the school year, you have comments, suggestions, or ideas regarding any of our initiatives, please feel free to contact us at 574-3113. We value your thoughts!

We believe that it is of ultimate importance that we do everything we can to enhance the learning environment of our children as they truly are our future. It will take all of us working together to ensure that this happens.

We look forward to working with you this year!!!
Leigh, Michelle, Robyn, and Jenn