

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

BY MRS. JEFFERIS

This month, we are focusing on the Resiliency Characteristic of Gratitude – being thankful and sharing appreciation with others. In Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, children begin to demonstrate acts of kindness, understand the ability to take turns and share with others, and are learning ways to show respect to others. In 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, children are recognizing the importance of being thankful for meaningful friendships and relationships and how important it is to show respect when working with others. We encourage families to support this focus at home through open conversations, sharing what you're thankful for, and modeling gratitude in everyday life. We recently started our annual Thanksgiving Gift Card collection, and if you are able and willing to contribute \$10 gift cards from Publix, Target, Walmart, etc., we will then be distributing them to CCE families that may need a "hand up" this holiday season. Gift Card Trackers have been posted outside of classroom doors so that students who bring in gift cards may color in the amount donated and classes will be able to see the contributions add up. The primary (PreK-2<sup>nd</sup>) and intermediate (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>) class that contributes the most \$10 gift cards by Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. will win the Caring Otter award for their classroom!



### Attendance Reminder

Please report all student absences by calling 386-322-6101 and selecting option #2 for attendance. Even if you have already spoken with your child's teacher, calling the attendance line ensures the absence is properly recorded in FOCUS.

Important Guidelines:

- Up to 15 days of absence can be excused with a parent communication (e.g., illness, appointments).
- Absences exceeding 15 days require a doctor's note to be excused.

Thank you for your cooperation!

# ALL DAY EVERY DAY

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

A day missed here or there might seem insignificant, but every absence adds up and impacts learning. Each school day is a vital piece of your child's educational journey!

<p><b>2</b> When a student misses just days a month, it may not seem like much, but...</p> <p>It adds up to <b>20 days</b> of lost learning.</p> <p>Your child misses <b>30 hours</b> of crucial math instruction over the school year.</p> <p>They lose <b>60 hours</b> of essential reading and writing practice.</p> <p>By graduation, this pattern results in over a <b>1 year</b> of missed education.</p>	<p><b>4</b> When a student misses just days a month, the impact is staggering...</p> <p>By year's end, they've lost <b>40 days</b> of learning.</p> <p>That's <b>60 hours</b> of critical math instruction gone.</p> <p>It means <b>120 hours</b> of vital reading and writing practice vanish.</p> <p>Before they graduate, they've missed over <b>2 years</b> of school.</p>
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## SAFETY REMINDERS

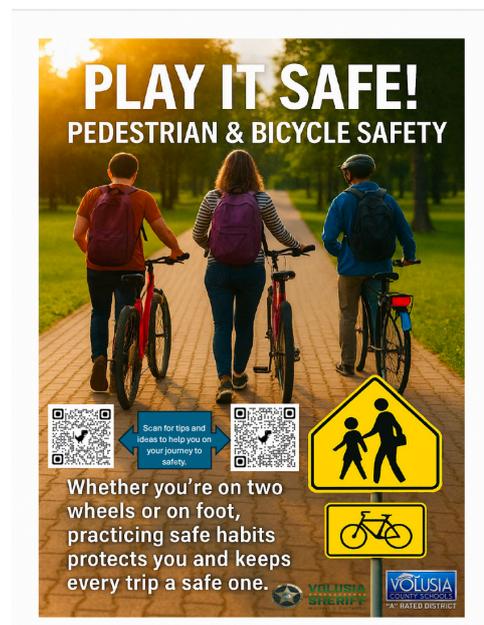
BY MRS. HEMINGS

We're proud to support this year's Play it Safe: Pedestrian & Bike Safety campaign to help keep our students and families safe in our community. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, pedestrian and bicycle crashes continue to rise across the country. In 2022 alone, more than 1,100 bicyclists and 7,300 pedestrians were killed in traffic crashes. These numbers remind us how important it is to make safety a daily habit—especially around our schools and neighborhoods.

The Play it Safe campaign focuses on helping students and families learn simple, lifesaving habits such as:

- Wearing a properly fitted helmet every time you ride.
- Crossing streets safely at crosswalks and intersections.
- Staying visible by wearing bright clothing and using lights at night.
- Paying attention to traffic and putting phones away while walking or biking.

These reminders are supported by national and state safety research and have been proven effective in reducing incidents. By talking about and modeling these behaviors, we can help our children gain the confidence and awareness to travel safely. Together, we can reduce risks, prevent accidents, and create safer streets for everyone in Volusia County.



Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> is National School Psychology Week- Join us in honoring our Cypress Creek Elementary School Psychologist Ms. Kelly O'Brien!