



Welcome to Coral Reef Elementary!

We are thrilled to welcome you to the vibrant CRE community. You are joining a diverse group of involved parents, caring teachers and experienced administrators that together have helped make CRE an 'A' school for 17 years in a row. This brochure is designed to help you learn more about CRE as a school and to provide you with the information you need for a smooth transition to elementary school. You are encouraged to reach out to the CRE PTA Board with any questions and to learn more about how you can get involved with our great school. Our contact information is available at the end of the brochure. We look forward to meeting you and to a successful school year.

- The Coral Reef Elementary PTA

Get Ready for the Upcoming School Year

Save the Date: School Meet and Greet (Friday, August 16th): Traditionally, CRE holds a meet and greet on the Friday before the start of school so that parents and students can acquaint themselves with their teachers. Students are also encouraged to bring their school supplies during their scheduled meet and greet time. Upon arrival at the school for your designated meet and greet time, you will learn your child's teacher and classroom location. Meet and greet schedule:

Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2: 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Grades 3, 4 and 5: 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Set up your account on the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) Portal: You and your child have access to the MDCPS student and parent portals through which you can access textbooks and grades along with other important information. To access the portals, you must first visit CRE's main office (open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. during the summer) to obtain your child's student ID number and your parent 6-digit PIN number. You must present proper photo identification to receive this information.

- [Access the student portal](#) and log in using the student ID number. The password is your child's birth date (MMDDYY) and first name initial and last name initial. Example: John Doe, birth date January 1, 2014, would use 010114jd as his password.
- [Access the parent portal](#) and select **Create Account**.

Download the Dadeschools App: Miami-Dade Public Schools has an app that will allow you to easily access your child's grades, the school breakfast and lunch menu and other important information. Search for Dadeschools Mobile on your phone's app store. Your login credentials will be your 6-digit parent pin and the password you use when creating your parent portal account.

Buy Uniforms and Uniform Patches: Students attending CRE must follow the school's [uniform policy](#). Uniform tops, bottoms and dresses may be purchased from a wide array of retailers including Old Navy, Target and The Children's Place. The uniform top must have a CRE patch, which is available at the following retailers. These retailers will also attach the patch to your child's top/dress:

[Ibiley](#)

[Kings Bay Athletics](#)

[Miami Uniform and Embroidery](#)

CRE PTA also sells gently worn school uniforms for \$1 per piece. You will have your first opportunity to purchase these uniforms during the school meet and greet scheduled for **Friday, August 16th**. Spirit wear will also be available for purchase during the meet and greet.

Purchase School Supplies: [View the 2019-2020 school supply list](#). In addition to purchasing supplies on your own, [CRE PTA has partnered with Supply Genie](#) to allow parents to order school supplies online and have them delivered by mail. Traditionally, students bring their school supplies during the meet and greet taking place on **Friday, August 16th**.

Finish the Summer Reading Assignment (for students entering 1st through 5th grades only): To help students minimize or eliminate summer reading loss, students are asked to read an assigned book and complete a brief project over the summer. At the beginning of the year, students will be asked to bring their projects to school to be graded by their teacher. [View your child's summer reading assignment](#).

Attend a Summer Playdate (Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten only): Over the summer, parent volunteers will schedule playdates at Coral Reef Park, located next to CRE, for incoming pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students. Playdates are scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 4th and Saturday, August 10th at Coral Reef Park playground. To learn more, please contact [Tana Llinas](#).

Things to Know Before the First Day of School

Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures: The school's procedures will be addressed at length during your child's meet and greet on Friday, August 16th.

- **Morning:** Beginning at 7:45 a.m., parents may park and walk their children to the school's main entrance or drive through the circular driveway located on S.W. 80th Avenue.
- **Afternoon:** Parents may park and walk to pick up their children at either the main entrance or green court (location is dependent on your child's grade. More information about your child's specific pick up location will be available at the meet and greet) or drive through the circular driveway located on S.W. 80th Avenue.

For parents wishing to park, parking is located at Coral Reef Park or along the south side of 152nd street. In order to ensure the safety of your children, please do not cross through the teacher parking lot. Do not park on bus lanes, on the sidewalk, or where "No Parking" signs are posted; police will ticket.

School Security: For the safety of our children, CRE is a closed campus. Visitors to campus must have their ID checked by the Raptor security system before gaining entry to campus. All visitors to campus must wear the visitor sticker provided by security upon having their ID successfully checked.

Paying for Lunch: Lunch is provided daily. MDCPS has a [free and reduced-price meal program](#) for qualifying students. For families paying for lunch, the easiest way to do so is to create an account with [Pay Pams](#) which allows your child to pay by providing his or her student ID in the cafeteria. Pay Pam accounts function like SunPass, with your credit card being charged once the balance hits a low threshold. **Breakfast is provided free daily starting at 7:45 a.m. for all students, regardless of income.**

Parent Volunteer Registration: After registering and logging into one of the MDCPS portals, including the student or parent portals, follow these steps to register as a volunteer:

- Click the **Apps/Services/Sites** tab at the top then click on **Be a School Volunteer**
- Fill out your personal information and click **Submit**

- Choose your school(s) and the activity(ies) for which you wish to volunteer and click **Submit**. A background check will be completed at this time. A message will appear at the bottom showing your status. It may take a few days to complete your background check
- Once cleared, visit your school and show your photo identification for final approval.

Note: Volunteers will need to submit to a new background check every year; therefore, you will need to re-register each year to serve as a volunteer on campus. To re-register, log into the parent portal and update the information in your application including school(s) and activity(ies). Click **Submit**.

Get in Touch and Stay in Touch

Join the PTA: You can become a member on [our website](#) or by filling out a membership form that can be obtained from the main office. Member dues help pay for the following:

- After School Clubs
- Classroom Supplies and Technology Upgrades
- Fun Family Programs
- School Beautification
- Skeegie Science Academy
- Student Services Programs

PTA membership does not obligate you to volunteer or attend meetings but does allow you to support the school and vote at general meetings. PTA memberships are good for one year. You must become a member each school year.

CRE PTA Weekly Email: Stay in the know by reading the weekly CRE PTA email sent out each Friday. To subscribe, [create an account on our website](#). Manage your subscriptions by clicking “My Account” and then “My Event Subscriptions.”

CRE Facebook Page: The PTA maintains a [closed Facebook page](#) that is accessible only to PTA members. This allows the PTA to post information relevant to parents in a secure manner.

Other Social Media: The PTA maintains a public Instagram account ([@coralreef_pta](#)) and Twitter account ([@coralreef_pta](#)).

School Newsletter: *Treasures from the Reef*, CRE’s monthly newsletter, is an award-winning monthly publication distributed via social media, and is a great way to stay informed on all the latest school-wide projects and news.

Getting Involved

CRE has one of the most active PTAs in the county – and we have the awards to prove it! PTA provides a wide array of services, from classroom projects like Discovery Lab STEM projects and the International Day festival to free after school programs including chess club, coding club and run club. It also hosts several school-wide events that bring the community closer. This cannot happen without parent volunteers. In addition to joining the PTA, we ask that you take some time to consider being a more active participant at CRE. PTA’s broad range of involvement means there are opportunities available that will suit your talents and availability. Many of our volunteers work full- or part-time and we can help identify roles that will work well with your schedule as well as your interests. If interested in getting involved, please contact Pam Penn (pamela.cre.pta@gmail.com).

Learning More about CRE

Academic Tracks: CRE has three academic tracks: college prep (beginning in 1st grade), EFL: extended foreign language (beginning in kindergarten via a lottery; 1st grade and beyond via a language exam); and gifted (beginning in 1st grade via gifted testing).

Before/After School Care: Care is available, for a fee, before and after school. For more information, contact CRE at 305-235-1464.

School Clubs: After school clubs are offered through CRE or the After School Care program. Clubs include cheerleading, chorus, Lego, yearbook, robotics, samaritans365, math, science, Future Educators of America, safety patrol, WCRE News Team, Odyssey of the Mind, art, knitting and crocheting, and Youth Crime Watch.

PTA After School Programs: In addition to school clubs, the PTA sponsors after school programs which are offered free to students. Many of these programs are limited by grade and are subject to a lottery for entry due to limited spots. More information will be provided by the PTA once school begins.

Looking Ahead: 2019-2020 Events

We expect to have another wonderful year filled with exciting, community building events. More information will be provided about these events in the future. We hope to see you there!

Fall Festival	Science Night	Book Fair	Career Day	Fun Fair
Holocaust Survivor Visit	Talent Show	International Day	Reading on the Reef	

Contact Us

As new parents once, we recognize the challenges that face families when they come to a new school. There is a lot of information to synthesize and while we hope this handout helps to do that, we know you will likely have additional questions. We are here to help. Please feel free to contact any one of us with questions – no matter how big or small – about CRE. We look forward to hearing from you.

Pam Penn, President

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Parent of Harrison (2nd grade)

Beth Person, Vice-President of Programs

beth.cre.pta@gmail.com

Parent of Tyson (2nd grade)

Diane Quick, Vice-President of Legislation/Advocacy

dsquick@gmail.com

Parent of Niko (2nd grade) and Natalia (4th grade)

Sandra Rodriguez, Vice-President of Fundraising

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Parent of Sabrina (2nd grade)

Yesi Starinsky, Vice-President of Membership

yrdl22@gmail.com

Parent of Mila (1st grade) and Luna (2nd grade)

Lauren Fuller, Recording Secretary

laurenfuller.cre.pta@gmail.com

Parent of Kaden (1st grade)

Barbara Portugal, Corresponding Secretary

bmportugal@yahoo.com

Parent of Camila (2nd grade)

Lesley Kline, Treasurer

lesleytaylorline@gmail.com

Parent of Liv (2nd grade) and Cash (4th grade)

Ana McQuattie, Newsletter

ana@mcquattie.com

Parent of Sara (1st grade)

Sunsy Fernandez, Hospitality

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Parent of Sloane (pre-K) and Sunsy (2nd grade)

Sasha Berdeguer, Parliamentarian

sasha@sbblaw.net

Parent of Lorenzo (pre-K) and Vicente (4th grade)