# What's New at Chi Chi's?

## August 2021







Top Left: Fist bumps are back this year with Academy Director Josh Meurer greeting 7th grader Korbin off the bus; Top Right: Harmanii shows off her 5th grade classroom; Middle: Sam Rockwell drops off donations from Raymond James Cares Month for the General Store over the summer; Bottom Left: Kym Snyder presents a Sponsor a Classroom check to Foundation CED James Poulter and CFO Mallory Hubbard; Bottom Right: Florida Penguin Productions works on the 5th grade classroom

### Welcome Back Academy Students!

On August 11th, the Chi Chi Academy and Foundation team members welcomed back our students! Following Pinellas County Schools, all will be attending in person for this school year.

During the summer, the Foundation team takes the opportunity to evaluate, revamp and grow programs for the upcoming school year, thanks to some amazing supporters. Academy Executive Committee Member Sam Rockwell organized donations in honor of Raymond James Cares Month from the entire Northern Tampa Bay Region Advisors. This group brought in over \$1,000 worth of toys, books, games, giftcards and donations for the Academy General Store. The Florida Penguin Productions team spent a day on campus painting the 5th grade room and many others donated supplies or sponsored classrooms. Part of the donations were spent on new picnic tables and umbrellas by the middle school classes, allowing more guiet space for small breakout groups. Thanks to these sponsors, all of our teachers are able to purchase new items for their classrooms this year!

> Thank you to our Classroom Sponsors: Bizco Technologies Carson & Terra Cradick Linda Damsky The Dixon Family Florida Penguin Productions The Krostue Family Leslie Kent & Mike Rosenthal Southern Steer Project 52

Thank you to the countless donors who brought supplies to dropoff boxes at our Pro Shops and Bank OZK Clearwater or sent in donations! Our team is grateful!

#### **Upcoming Events**

Chi Chi Charity Classic November 14th - 15th Chi Chi Golf Club



Mission: to educate students in a public-private partnership and improve their academic performance, self-esteem and character using the golf course as a living classroom.

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#### www.chichi.org



Top: Summer Camp's Red Group takes a moment to smile on the putting green; Bottom Left: Charlotte, Jordan and Kenzie during camp; Bottom Right: PGA Junior League members Ryan, Mikey, Owen and Philip

#### First Tee - Clearwater Summer **Programs Host Close to 200 Youth!**

This summer proved to be a very busy one with 178 children attending our 7-week First Tee Summer Camp at the Driving Range! Between 20 and 30 attended each week, focusing on life skills and learning each area of golf: putting, chipping, pitching and full swing.

Also this summer, 16 of our more advanced golfers participated in PGA Jr. League. This group practiced at the Driving Range on Thursdays, then spent Friday evenings playing in 9-hole competitions at 5 different golf courses around Pinellas County!

#### **Thank You Clearwater for Youth!**

Huge shoutout to one of our most loyal supporters Clearwater for Youth (CFY)! Our friends at CFY give to the First Tee - Clearwater program each year to help with our endless equipment needs. This year, the grant focused on equipment at the Driving Range to assist with our afternoon and summer classes, as well as our junior league. Thank you to the CFY Board of Directors and Team for being such a great asset to youth sports in our community!



Clearwater For Youth Board Members Brian Aungst Sr. and Fred Miller presented a check to Foundation's Mallory Hubbard and James Poulter

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Academy Executive Committee

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Did You Know...?

Florida voters passed the Florida Constitutional Amendment increasing Florida's minimum wage from \$8.65 to \$15.00 per hour by year 2026.

The first implementation of this law, starts in September with an increase to a \$10.00 per hour minimum wage. This legislation will impact the Foundation and its businesses as well as all other labor heavy industries in our state. Service costs are expected to rise across the state. We look forward to working together to effectively manage this change.

Jessica M. Majeski Northwestern Mutual Julie Mastry Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas

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