



NOVEMBER

# HEAD START NEWS

EVEC Head Start Newsletter



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## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: Octavia Jenkins



Language and literacy begin in infancy as babies are programmed from birth to communicate. While the development of language is instinctive, it does require attention, repetition and approval from loved ones to flourish. We surround the children in our classrooms with books, words, music, and the opportunity to hear people engage in conversation. The children are invited to think out loud during large and small group times, and of course, talk to other children and adults throughout the day. Learning to use and love the power of words at this age is the key to reading later in school, so we immerse our children in a language and print-rich environment to help them get started. What can parents do? Read to your child at home, sing, chant, listen to music, play word games! Describe what you are doing in detail using rich descriptive vocabulary to expose you children to a varied of words, such as, "I am folding the blue cotton shirt for your sister. It is soft and feels smooth." Delight in what your child has to say! For more ideas, talk to your child's teacher.



## CONTACT US!

**CDS:** Ms. Octavia Jenkins (386)-323-7114 x120

### Family Advocates:

Janet Ali- 386-323-7114 x110

Devon Shields- 386-323-7114 x111

**Classroom Phone Number (386)-323-7114**

### Extensions

Classroom 1: Mary Hickley & Shakitha Young- x101

Classroom 2: Breona Stewart & Mary Hull- x102

Classroom 4: Kimberly Fitzpatrick & Briget Davis- x104

Classroom 5: Gaynell Johnson & Yolanda Robinson- x105



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Spirit Week – October 26, 2020- October 29, 2020

Thanksgiving Break - November 23, 2020- November 27, 2020



Head Start  
Mid Florida Community Services  
Early Head Start



## FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

*By: Janet Ali & Devon Shields*

Happy Thanksgiving to all our dear families! The Holiday Season is fast approaching. You can almost smell the cookies and pies and all the goodies we love to eat around this time off the year. Take the opportunity to make happy memories with your children. Choose simple recipes and allow your child to assist with measuring and counting the ingredients. You can do the same with crafts and ornaments. Please remember to check your child's shots and physicals and have them updated. Continue to schedule dental appointments. We need your input and participation at Parent Meetings. Please keep us informed of any changes of Address, Phone #, and custody issues. If you have any questions or concerns call your Advocates Janet Ali @ 386-323-7114 or Devon Shields @386-323-7115

## A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

### CLASSROOM 1

Greetings from Mrs. Mary and Ms. Shakitha. We have begun our new study on "Trees". Why trees are important in the world, how they grow and other interesting things about them. The students are having a great time conducting investigations about trees outdoors using magnifying glasses and collecting parts from trees. In addition to listening to the book, "Chicka, Chicka, Boom, Boom!" where they are learning to recognize the alphabets. We're still continuing working on numbers, letters, shapes and names in print. Our regular Zoom lessons are conducted on Fridays which families are sent a link to join in the fun activities. As well as, virtual students who join in on daily Zoom lessons that are conducted on Monday through Thursday in the classroom. The students are also working on their social and language skills by learning how to use positive interactions. We're seeing some great developmental skills being used in the classroom and the students are excited when they accomplish a task or project on their own. We're looking forward to other great things to happen in the student's growth and development of learning!

### CLASSROOM 2

Greeting from Ms. Breona and Ms. Racheal. We have begun our new study on "Pets". What kind of animals can be pets, how they live, what they eat and how to take care of them. We have a great time exploring the different kind of pets. The students have been enjoying talking about what animals they would enjoy having as a pet and the ones they wouldn't. Our focus has been having students identifying letters and letter sounds. Fun activities that are geared towards focusing on those skills. We will be transforming a part of our classroom. Students will be able to gain social skills, interact, and enjoy the fun of the pet store. We are also working on our social and emotional skills, numbers and colors. Our zoom classes are every Friday at 12pm. The students have come a long way since the beginning of the school year. They are learning their friends, the schedule, teachers, and classroom.





## A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

### CLASSROOM 4

Greetings from Classroom 4!

We have just started our tree study and are looking forward to learning everything that we can about trees. In addition to that, we are continuing to recognize our letters and letter sounds, recognizing our numbers and being able to count to 20 (in fact, we even practiced counting to 100), and doing everything that we can so we will be ready for kindergarten. We are enjoying our hermit crab pets, they sure are fun to watch, to see them climbing their tree, digging a hole, and best of all, when they come out of their shells. Continue talking, reading, and interacting with your child! Don't hesitate to contact us if there is anything that we can do for you. Thank you for all that you do! - Ms. Kim and Ms. Briget

### CLASSROOM 5

Thanks to all of you who came out to support us for our Parent Meeting and Pumpkin Carving Activity. We appreciate all our Dads for taking time out to carve pumpkins with us. The children were excited to have you. This month we will continue working on trees and our next theme will be clothing. We will be comparing clothes from different countries and examining fabrics for colors, shapes, patterns, and textures. We will also be looking at labels to see where clothes are made. These activities will allow us to build skills in Language, Literacy, Math, Science, Socials Studies and Art. Thanks for working with us on wearing your mask and keeping a safe distance during pick up and drop off. We ask that you be patient with us as we try to get through this pandemic together. School will be closed on 11/03 (Teacher duty), 11/11/20 (Veterans' Holiday), and 11/23/20 - 11/27/20 (Thanksgiving Holiday). We wish you a safe and happy holiday as you spend time with your families.

Mrs. Gaynell & Ms. Yolanda



## HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

### Color Scavenger Hunt

Directions- Parents call out a color and have students find things in the house that color.

### Nature Walk

Directions- Students and parents will go for a walk around the neighborhood and talk about what they see.

### My Name

Directions- Parents will practice the letters in child's name.

## PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Presentation by Mary Hickley: What you do

Matters- Fine Motor Development

Easiest Play Dough Recipe

Request that Parents update pick-up list and Phone numbers

Pumpkin Craving with Dads- October 27, 2020 @ 1:00 p.m.

Head Start Awareness Week- October 26, 2020 – October 29, 2020

Next Parent Meeting- November 18, 2020

## POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

The start of a new Policy Council has begun on October 22, 2020. Policy Council met via Zoom to allow ease for communication and voting while practicing COVID 19 safety practices. All Board leadership positions were voted upon and filled. The September minutes were approved by the new Policy Council. Eight prospective hires were approved. OHS IM (ACF-IM-HS-20-05) was reviewed regarding the Focus Area One and Focus Area Two Audits, as well as CLASS will not be audited for the 2020-2021 year. Service area and center reports were approved.



## CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

The Silliest Dragon Author: Brian Rathbone

[https://www.amazon.com/Silliest-Dragon-Bedtime-Dragons-Children-ebook/dp/B010YG2CSM/ref=sr\\_1\\_21?dchild=1&keywords=free+kids+ebooks&qid=1603474873&s=digital-text&sr=1-21](https://www.amazon.com/Silliest-Dragon-Bedtime-Dragons-Children-ebook/dp/B010YG2CSM/ref=sr_1_21?dchild=1&keywords=free+kids+ebooks&qid=1603474873&s=digital-text&sr=1-21)