Holidays can be a time when parents decide that doing things with their children will be a priority, they will use the time to get to know each other and enjoy each other's company. Children love doing things with parents. Try to arrange some individual time with each child if you can, as well as family time - this helps build good relationships and helps with building your children’s self-esteem. Just one different activity each day will help keep children interested and looking forward to it. Remember children do not need to be 'entertained' all the time. Just a change of place or a few suggestions can help them to be very creative on their own. Sometimes saying "I'm bored" is another way of saying "I want you to play with me", and sometimes the child has not even started to try to think of what to do by themselves. Happy Holidays to everyone & enjoy this time with your family!
Holidays can be a stressful time especially financially. Some things to remember…
1. Set a budget
2. Plan your shopping
3. Don’t buy it if you can’t afford it
4. Get creative with gift giving
5. Remember what the season is all about
This year when so many families are unable to get together due to Covid-19 try to find other ways to be together. FaceTime or zoom with your family members. Zoom is providing their free on Thanksgiving without a time limit. Now is good time to start a new tradition!

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 2

Classroom #2 Mrs. Lorraine and Mrs. Olga
Dear Parents/Guardians:
We are learning about signs. We are talking about the different signs we see on the road. The different shapes of the signs, and the colors. We are learning what the signs mean and how they keep us safe. We are comparing signs by shapes, size and colors. We would like to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving! Thank you for everything you do with your child.

CLASSROOM 3

Dear Parents/Guardian:
During the month of December in our Second Step program, we will be continuing to work on identifying our feelings and learn how our bodies feel on the inside when we have certain feelings. We will also be talking about safe ways to express ourselves when we have strong feelings. The Adventurers will be learning about clothes. Why we wear clothes? What different types of clothes there are? How do we take care of clothes? Those are some new topics that we will be learning. Please, continue to read to your children each night and talk about the books as you read them. We hope that you all have a great holiday!
Home Learning Activity

Search in Pairs - Invite your child and a sibling (a pair) to search for objects such as a brush and a comb (another pair). The children will start to understand that things and people sometimes need a partner to do a complete job. By playing this game several times, your child may begin to notice objects in the world that function in pairs. Awareness of partnerships helps him begin to understand that people and things are often interdependent.

What you do:
- Introduce a game to your child and one of his siblings by naming an object, such as a key. Then ask, what goes with a key? What does a key need in order to work?
- Prompt them with as many questions as necessary to help them determine the answer: Where do we put the key to turn it?
- Take them to the door when they answer door or lock. Invite them to use the key in the keyhole.
- Explain to the children that they are a pair, too, who will be working together.
- Invite them to help you think of a pair of objects, such as a toothbrush and toothpaste. Together, decide who will be responsible for finding each part of the pair.
- Tell the children, please bring it back here. Or, think of a way to show it to me.
- Talk about each object the children bring and how the objects need each other to function.
- Point out how the children worked together to find the objects that go together.

Family Engagement Activity

Let’s Celebrate - Prepare for a holiday or exciting event with your child by talking and reading about it in books and then enjoy the special time when it arrives. Your child’s advance knowledge of the holiday will heighten his enjoyment, and he will see that books are one good resource for information. Your child will learn that useful information can be gained through reading; learn about family and culture through celebrating holidays and special events. These special, recurring family rituals give children a way to mark the passage of time and the security of knowing that a familiar event will return.

What you do:
- Talk about an upcoming holiday or special event and encourage your child to participate by asking questions and helping with preparation (help with food or decorations).
- Explain that not everyone observes this holiday or participates in the event but that it means something special to your family.
- Use books to research the holiday with your child. Learn about how other cultures celebrate the same holidays that you do. For example, you and your child could read about Christmas in Sweden, or Diwali in India.
- Point out to your child how useful books can be for finding information. Use what you find to plan your own celebration.

Parent Meeting Minutes

Osteen Parent Meeting Minutes - November 18th, 2020
- Meeting called to order at 4:04pm on Zoom
- Quorum was not present (3 parents)
- FA spoke about the process to transfer from virtual to brick and mortar.
- Thanksgiving break is November 23rd. Children return November 30th.
- Winter Break Dec. 21-Jan 6th.
- Discussed ideas for parent activity. Next time be prepared to present more ideas and hopefully event can be voted on.
- Ms. Ada talked about what the children are working on in the classroom.
- CDS spoke with parents about the current plan to go to 5 days a week in January 2021.
- Ms. Annette present Module 1 of “What you Do Matters”
- Meeting adjourned: 4:32pm

Happy New Year

The November Policy Council met via Zoom. MFCS CFO Kris Bates provided fiscal and budget training to council members. Approval was given for October Minutes. Eleven prospective hires were presented to and approved by the Council. Enrollment and attendance reports were reviewed and approved. Center and service reports were approved. Also discussed was the need families have for food. We discussed the donations Dollar General provided for Thanksgiving.

Children's Book Suggestion

House, Sweet House by Judith Bauer Stamper
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wVT4wykTfZ8

Pablo’s Tree by Pat Mora and Illustrated by Cecily Lang
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-UxEGpLoF8