



JANUARY 2021

HEAD START NEWS

Osteen Head Start Newsletter



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FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: Jeamary Garcia

It is amazing how quickly the New Year comes and goes. I hope you had a wonderful break! I hope you all take time to be with your families and enjoy some sort of normalcy during this unusual time. We are already beginning to plan for next year! We are happy to see all your smiling faces back school. We wish you all a Happy 2021 and look forward to all the exciting events to come throughout the school year. As studies show it is important for children to stick to a routine, see the helpful information below.

Toy Safety Shopping Tips: Buy the right toy for the right age child Ages 3 through 5 Avoid toys that are constructed with thin, brittle plastic that might easily break into small pieces or leave jagged edges. Look for household art materials, including crayons and paint sets, marked with the designation "ASTM D-4236." This means the product has been reviewed by a toxicologist and, if necessary, labeled with cautionary information. Teach older children to keep their toys away from their younger brothers and sisters. **READ THE LABEL....** Shopping for toys during the holidays can be exciting and fun, but it can also be frustrating. There can be thousands of toys to choose from in one store, and it's important to choose the right toy for the right age child. Toys that are meant for older children can be dangerous for younger children.



CONTACT US!

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Family Advocate:

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Classroom Phone Number

(407) 324-3865



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January 5th (Tuesday) – Classes Resume

January 18th (Monday) – Martin Luther King Holiday

January 25th (Monday) – In Service / Student Holiday



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start



FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

By: Annette Gregory

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The beginning of a new year is a great time to check your credit. One time per year each of the nationwide credit reporting companies — Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion — can provide you with a free copy of your credit report, at your request. You don't have to pull from all three, but, one may show something that the others do not. To order, visit annualcreditreport.com.

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 2

Classroom #2 Mrs. Lorraine and Mrs. Olga

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are learning and doing a study about Simple Machines this month. We will be investigating What do we know about simple machines? What do we want to find out? What is something heavy? How do you use this simple machine? Is this a simple machine? Take the time to enjoy your time with your child and talk about the change in weather. Also, please continue to work on identifying their letters in their name and numbers. Thank you for all that you do with your children. Happy New Year!

CLASSROOM 3

Classroom #3 Ms. Ada Iris and Mrs. Maria Eva

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! It is our hope that you and your family enjoyed the holidays! Welcome to The Adventurers in 2021. During the month of January, we will be continuing our Second Step program. We will begin our new topics of "Naming Feelings", "Managing Disappointment", "Managing Anger", and "Managing Waiting".

We will continue to learn the letters of the alphabet, compound words, and how to write our name. We will be working very hard on number recognition and early math. We just feel so positive about the New Year!



HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Home Learning Activity:

Letters in My Name – Teach your child the letters in his name by first saying them, then pointing them out in print, and finally tracing the shape of each letter with him. Your child will eventually remember the letters and begin to understand that letters make words. The letters of your child's name provide a good beginning for learning letters. Your child will become aware of letters as symbols and recognize the sound and sight of the letters in his name. Recognize the letters of his written name is part of early literacy.

What you do:

- Make a point of saying and spelling your child's name together: Joey, J-O-E-Y. Can you come here, please? He will begin to associate the letters with his name.
- Try getting his attention using only the letters once he becomes familiar with them. The next step will be helping him learn to recognize the letters.
- Point out one letter at a time until he can recognize all the letters of his name. Cereal boxes, magazines, signboards, toys, and labels provide good sources of big, colorful letters.
- Trace the letter with your finger when you see it and encourage your child to do the same.
- Use his knowledge of circles and lines when you're acquainting him with the letter: An O is a circle. An E is four straight lines. A J is curved at the bottom.
- Encourage him to remember any associations he makes, such as a J resembles a candy cane.

Family Engagement Activity

A Calendar of Special Memories – Help your child put pictures and words on a calendar to remind her of recent events. The calendar will act as a memory aid, helping your child extend her ability to remember. A calendar can include pictures and words that will help your child recall an event and tell about it. Putting written words under pictures stimulates her interest in print and literacy. Using words to express her memories can give your child the pleasure of sharing her memories and ideas. Memory is necessary for all learning.

What you do:

- Find or make a calendar with day spaces large enough to contain a small picture.
 - Record special events with your child by inviting her to paste or draw a picture of the event on the calendar.
 - Talk with her about the event as you mark it on the calendar: Here is a little picture of shoes like your new ones. Let's cut it out and stick it on your calendar. That will help you remember the day we bought them.
 - Look at the calendar with her a few hours later.
- Ask her to recall what the picture represents.
- Invite her to share these events with family members. Limit the number of events marked. Choose events to remember based on what your child considers significant.
 - Review all the pictures each time a new one is added to the calendar. Keep tape, glue, and magazines nearby so that your child can readily look for pictures as needed.



PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Osteen Parent Meeting - December 9th, 2020

Called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm

No quorum was established quorum/2 parents present

No minutes were approved from November

Representative from Policy Council was not present to report Ice breaker discussed plans for holidays between parents and staff A survey will be done for activities, changing of the time and day

Activities discussed were zoom activities and crafts for children Link will be sent for parents to survey about child's return to school if students should be returning during Covid-19

After holidays classes will resume to 5 days rather than 4

Teachers discussed what they were working on with children in classroom (signs with shapes and their meanings, and clothes and their sizes and what to wear in different times of the year

Family Advocate - Ms. Annette provided tips for credit repair and to receive your annual credit report for free with website information

Parent Involvement - question in regards to prepping children for kindergarten school year for 2021 No other announcements from parents or staff Adjourned at 4:30pm

HAPPY
new year

POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

The Policy Council met for the month of December via Zoom. The November minutes were approved. Two prospective staff were approved for hire. Budget/finance, enrollment, attendance and snack reports were reviewed and approved as well. Service and center reports were approved. Inclusion Policies (D-1 through D-8) were updated and approved. Policy Council members expressed thanks for the holiday Grab and Go meals.

CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

HUSH! A Thai Lullaby – By Minfong Ho,

Pictures by Holly Meade

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0IAidD8k1Ik>

Dinosaur Woods – By George McClements

[https://www.bing.com/videos/search?](https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=dinosaur+wood+story&view=detail&mid=471BAD4B9863D45C464C471BAD4B9863D45C464C&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Ddinosaur%2Bwood%2Bstory%26FORM%3DHDRSC4)

[q=dinosaur+wood+story&view=detail&mid=471BAD4B9863D45C464C471BAD4B9863D45C464C&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Ddinosaur%2Bwood%2Bstory%26FORM%3DHDRSC4](https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=dinosaur+wood+story&view=detail&mid=471BAD4B9863D45C464C471BAD4B9863D45C464C&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Ddinosaur%2Bwood%2Bstory%26FORM%3DHDRSC4)