



MARCH

# HEAD START NEWS

Westside Head Start Newsletter



## CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE

- FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS
- CONTACT INFORMATION
- MARK YOUR CALENDARS
- FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER
- A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS
- HOME LEARNING & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
- PARENT MEETING MINUTES
- POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES



## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: Rhonda Lochiatto

Shakespeare warns us of the Ides of March, but in all honesty, I'm more worried as to "weather" or not March will come in like a lion or a lamb? Shall we go fly a kite? But, really, there is so much to look forward to during the month of March starting with Daylight Savings Time! Don't forget to bump your clocks ahead 1 hour on March 14! On March 17th I will be looking to see who is wearing green to celebrate good ole' St. Patrick.

Parents, please remember that it is MFCS policy that face coverings be worn at student drop off and pick up for the health and safety of all. Also, don't forget that our drop off cut off time is 9 am. Please be on time to drop off and to pick up your children, as well. Make sure that anyone you send to pick up is on the approved pick up list or they will not be able to leave with your child.

We are quickly approaching Spring Break which is March 22 thru the 26th this month. Once we return we will be on the downward slope to ending this crazy year. We are so appreciative of your patience, cooperation, and flexibility during these unprecedented times and, as you are, also hoping things can return to a more normal state sooner rather than later. As always if you have any concerns, questions, or need any type of accommodations please contact us.



## CONTACT US!

CDS: Rhonda Lochiatto 386-681-7662

Family Advocate: Yvette Altman 386-675-8781

Classroom Phone Extensions

1: 386-788-1088 Ext. 208



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 3rd - Early Release

March 3rd – Parent Activity @ 1:30 p. m.

March 19th – Teacher Duty Day No School

March 22nd – 26th – Spring Break



Head Start  
Mid Florida Community Services  
Early Head Start

Let's Get  
Connected!



@MFCSHeadStart



## FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

**By: Yvette Altman**

Welcome to March. As the months continue to fly by we would like you thank you for your continued participation within our Head Start Program. Just a reminder that our parent activity will be on March 3rd and we will be planting. We hope that you can join us for the activity. We also ask that you please remember to call by 8:00 am if your child is going to be late, and also remember not to just leave your child in the front office. We need to make sure that a Head Start Teacher comes and your child is properly signed in by the parent or whomever if bringing the child. Please also be mindful of mask wearing when dropping off and picking children up. It is MFCS policy that masks be worn during this time. Dental visits also need to be made before March 4th 2021. Thank you and have a great day.



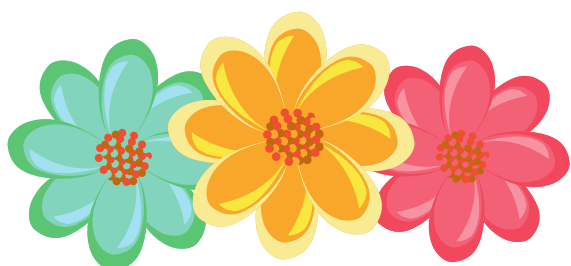
## A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

### CLASSROOM 1

Goodbye February! Welcome March!

Our children had such a great month of learning. We will continue reviewing letters, numbers and shapes of the week. We will continue our study of "Building". Our Block interest area will be set up as a construction site. Some of the fun learning activities our children will be doing include building with colorful paper shapes that will include lots of squares and rectangles and arches. They will build structures using wood scraps from the lumber store that will be safe. They will be building houses, bridges, overpasses, roads, tunnels, sky scrapers and apartments. The children will also use a variety of building tools. We will discuss that building a house or other structure requires a number of people to complete the job. Children will draw plans and designs. We will have a discussion of the duties of a concrete layer, a plumber, electrician, carpenter and painter. Children will use golf tees to hammer, sand paper of different grades for sanding and participate in a screwing activity will include soap, and wood pieces. We will continue to sing songs and read stories about building and match paint samples for color recognition. Children will use real tape measures and rulers to measure the length of boards and the sizes of their houses.

The month of March is also Dr. Seuss's Birthday. Materials will be placed around the classroom so that our children can create fun activities about Dr. Seuss. We will also introduce our children to the many books that were written by Dr. Seuss.



## HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

### “Picture This”

With this activity the primary objectives will be engaging in conversations and using social rules of language with your child.

1. Your child will learn language when they are allowed to lead conversations about a topic that interest them.
2. Take 2-3 pictures that your child might find interesting.
3. Invite your child to choose a picture from the collection and talk about it with you.
4. Encourage your child to lead the conversation, facilitating the discussion by providing prompts and asking your child open-ending questions. Such as, “Can you tell me about...? I wonder why....”
5. Help your child put their thoughts into words by listening and restating the content of their message



## CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

## PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Parent meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

Minutes from February were read. Ms. Yvette greeted all of the parents. The topic for the parent meeting was “What We Do Matters Curriculum”

### Old Business:

- Please call staff if your child will be late or not coming to school.
- Gate closes at 8:30 a.m.
- Please make sure that all of your contact information is updated.
- Please send your child an extra set of clothing.

### New Business:

- Zoom Parent meetings are monthly @ 2:30 p.m.
- Parent Activity – March 3rd @ 1:30p.m.
- Please continue to wear masks during drop off and pick up to keep our children, parents and staff safe. We thank you for your cooperation.
- Please take your child to the dentist if you have not done so.

## POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

On Thursday, February 25, 2021, MFCS HS/EHS Policy Council met via Zoom. New elections were held for the Chair and Vice Chair positions; these were filled. The Policy Council approved the January PC Minutes. Six prospective staff were approved to proceed with hiring. The following reports were approved: budgets, attendance, enrollment, and snack reports. Lastly, the following Parent Activities were approved: Osteen, Westside, and Easter Seals.

If I Built A House- By: Sally Sutton

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YoBSBwp-2E>