



MAY 2021

# HEAD START NEWS

Spring Hill Head Start Newsletter



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## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

*By: Ronjaneen Harris*

As this school year comes to an end, we would like to thank you for all your participation and dedication to your children and our program. You are very much appreciated. Although research shows that many children often lose many skills they acquired prior to the summer months, this does not have to happen. There are many things that you can do with your children to maintain many of these skills. You can start by reading with your children. There are a lot of great websites with a variety of activities, such as space, arcades, book clubs, club hubs, promotions, e-newsletters, parent files, fun reading, web books, comics, color, movies, fun blogs, playgrounds, and lots of games that make learning fun you can use with your children over the summer months. Some of the websites are the following: <https://pbskids.org/games/>, <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/aboutus/index.asp>, and You can contact Spring Hill Branch Library at: Spring Hill Public Library/Spring Hill 9220 Spring Hill Drive, Spring Hill, FL 34608 352-754-4043 Tuesday & Wednesday – 10:00 am to 6:00 pm; Thursday – 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm; Friday & Saturday – 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Sunday and Monday – CLOSED

**Have a wonderful summer and make learning fun.**



## CONTACT US!

CDS: Ronjaneen Harris 352-279-1599, Ext. 209

Family Advocates: (352) 556-4800

Lynda Kersey-Ext. 2105 | Brianna Yuhasz-Ext. 2201

Lynn Woerner-Ext. 2203 | Nitza Jerez-Ext. 2204

### **Classroom Phone Number & Extensions**

**(352) 556-4800**

Classroom 501 Shelley Mott and Olena McCumsey Ext. 2501

Classroom 502 Jennifer Orlandi and Stefanie Cegar Ext. 2502

Classroom 601 Theresa Nunez and Wanda Pagan Ext. 2601

Classroom 602 Norma Padro and Lucia Quiles Ext. 2602

Classroom 701 Sherry Harris and Mariani Suarez Ext. 2701

Classroom 702 Zulma Colon and Beth Ann Walczewski Ext. 2702

Classroom 901 Amy French and Janet Thomas Ext. 2901

Classroom 902 Shannon Farrell and Theresa Scott Ext. 2902



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Parent Meeting is May 11th at 1:00pm.

Parents with children transitioning to kindergarten will receive handouts on transition to kindergarten. Some of the topics are what is transition, and why it is important, what to expect of a kindergartener, how to prepare you and your child before the first day, and other information on transitioning to kindergarten. The last day of school for Head Start children is May 27th.

Early Release is May 27th at 1:00pm.



Head Start  
Mid Florida Community Services  
Early Head Start

Let's Get  
Connected!



## FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

*By: Lynda Kersey, Lynn Woerner, Nitza Jerez, and Brianna Yuhasz*

Thank you to every parent who attended the parent meeting on April 20th. We welcome our new Family Advocate for rooms 901, 902 and 302, Brianna Yuhasz. Brianna has recently graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology. We are excited to have her with us! We want to remind every parent whose child is returning next year to please come see your Family Advocate to complete paperwork updating some forms. We hope to see you in our next and last parent meeting of the year on May 11th.



### CLASSROOM 502

Wow, the end of the school year is around the corner! We are in our last month of school. This year, although different, we have learned a lot. From the bottom of our hearts thank you for working with us in making things a little bit easier for your little ones. Please continue working with your child at home. It makes a big difference. This month, as we conclude our school year, we are celebrating Mother's Day, working on trees, the butterfly life cycle, and working on transitions for children that will be entering kindergarten. Let's enjoy the time left and have fun!! ~Ms. Jennifer and Ms. Stefanie

## A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

### CLASSROOM 501

This month, we are working on our final study which is sand. The students have generated a learning web of things they want to find out about sand. They mentioned the beach, the ocean, and sea creatures; so, we will focus on those for the duration of the school year. In Second Step, we will continue to practice our problem-solving skills. Miss Olena and I wish to thank all of you for your support throughout this unusually challenging school year. The children have been wonderful and we will miss them terribly. We wish all the best to our children who will be going to kindergarten next year and we hope to see the roll-over children in the new school year. Have an awesome Summer! With Love, ~Miss Shelley and Miss Olena

### CLASSROOM 601

Happy May! We are almost done with the school year. We will be wrapping up the end of the year with gardening and transitioning into kindergarten. In Second Step, we will be talking about learning in kindergarten and riding the bus. We will also be having our ZOOM end of the year performance on Tuesday, May 25, and the children have been working hard to show off! Please continue to read with your child and bring in books to share in the classroom. Please get with Ms. Theresa or Ms. Wanda if you have any questions. Thanks! ~Mrs. Theresa and Mrs. Wanda

### CLASSROOM 602

We are closing our school year with the "Recycle Study". The children will observe, gather data, explore their community, and propose solutions to problems. We are also following our Second Step Curriculum. The children will be learning "Think of solutions," to come up with lots of safe ideas to solve the problem. Our children are working very hard on different projects. To celebrate "Mother's Day", we will be having our Zoom Celebration on May 25th. In time, we will be sending more details. Ms. Lucia and I want to give a big "thank you". From the bottom of our heart, thank you all, for your support and appreciation during this school year.

With Love, ~Ms. Norma & Ms. Lucia



## A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

### CLASSROOM 701

Welcome to May. We are fast approaching the end of the school year. We will be saying goodbye to our children. They will be off to kindergarten next year. We wish them all the best as they start a new adventure in elementary school. We will be starting our last study on insects. We will find out the characteristics of insects. Where do insects live, how do they live, and what insects are in our community. We hope everyone have a safe and happy summer.

~Ms. Sherry and Ms. Mariani



### CLASSROOM 702

Greeting! Classroom 702 welcomes our new teacher assistant, Ms. Beth Walczewski. She comes with a lot of early childhood experience. This month, the children are discovering about water and its benefits. They are learning that water is all over the earth; it is in rivers, lakes, and oceans. They learn that when the sun heats the water in the rivers, lakes, and oceans; the water turns into clouds. Furthermore, the children understand the importance of drinking water as part of our life. During Second Step, we are discussing transitioning to kindergarten and meeting new teachers and friends. We want to take this moment to thank everyone for your participation in the program, and we wish you a healthy and safe summer. ~Ms. Zulma & Ms. Beth

### CLASSROOM 901

Hello from classroom 901! We can't believe that this is our last month of school. Where did the year go? This month, we will be finishing up the Gardening Study and starting the Getting Ready for Kindergarten Study in Creative Curriculum. We will be discussing how kindergarten and preschool are the same and how they are different, how our four and five-year-old feel about going to kindergarten, and how to make and keep friends. In Second Step, we will be talking about learning in kindergarten, riding the bus, and making new friends. We continue working on letter and number recognition and letter sounds. Please continue working on your child's learning skills at home and over the summer. ~Mrs. Amy and Mrs. Janet.

### CLASSROOM 902

I can't believe we are already at the end of the school year. Time sure does fly when you're having fun. This month, we will be working on the Getting Ready for Kindergarten Study. We will be discussing the differences between preschool and kindergarten, our feelings towards going to kindergarten, and how to make and keep friends. We will also be doing several reviews of what we have learned this year. We have really enjoyed having your children in our class this year. Thank you for sharing them with us! Have a great summer!

~Miss Shannon and Miss Theresa



## PARENT MEETING MINUTES

### Opening:

Minutes of a parent meeting of the Mid Florida Community Services, Head Start program, Spring Hill Center, duly called and held on 04/20/2021 at Zoom meetings platform, commencing at 1:00 PM

### Present were:

Nitza Jerez, Family Advocate, Lynn Woerner, Family Advocate, Lynda Kersey, Family Advocate, Brianna Yuhasz, Family Advocate, Shelly Mott, Teacher 501, Sarah Zayas (Policy Council), Total parents- 16

### Points talked about in the meeting and updates:

Mrs. Jerez share the agenda digitally and welcome the parents. Mrs. Shelly Mott spoke about what is going on in her classroom and each of the other classrooms in the Head Start Program. 501-San Study/Butterfly life cycle. 502-Trees Study-Making bird feeders 601-Garden Curriculum/Transition to Kindergarten 602-Gardening/Second step lessons 701-Gardening/Transition to Kindergarten/letters and sounds/Address & Phone 702-water and its benefits/rivers, lakes, ocean/who clouds forms 901-Gardening\$ 902-Insect/Zoo phonics/Transition to Kindergarten. Policy Council

### Updates:

Mrs. Zayas had problems with the internet, but between her and Mrs. Jerez spoke about minutes approval and positions opened for hiring. Parent Curriculum- Developing and Visualizing Goals and prompt to think about goals (handouts) Mrs. Jerez share what is a goal and the importance of developing them for the family well-being and how to use the prompt. Rollover package-Mrs. Jerez reminded parents of children who are returning to stop by office to complete rollover paperwork. Reminders for closing/early release days were mentioned and included with the agenda. Perfect Attendance certificates were presented.

## HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Tips for parents on kindergarten transition:

- Practice kindergarten skills. ...
- Set clear bedtime and morning routines. ...
- Start phasing out nap time. ...
- Ask how your child is feeling. ...
- Practice asking for help. ...
- Read together. ...
- Introduce new friends. ...
- Remind your child of strengths.

You can find these tips in detail at <https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/choosing-starting-school/moving-up/how-to-get-ready-for-kindergarten>



## POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

The April Policy Council met via Zoom today. The March Minutes were approved. Five proposed staff were approved for hire. The Attendance/Enrollment and Snack reports were Approved. Several policies and procedures were reviewed and accepted. The Bushnell and Holly Hill Parent Activities were approved as were all Center and Service Reports.



## CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

Get set! Swim! By Jeannine Atkins.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BY-eqj9Ww\\_k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BY-eqj9Ww_k)