



JANUARY 2022

HEAD START NEWS

Oak Ridge Head Start & Early 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: Jennifer Tinstman

From the desk of: Jennifer Tinstman, CDS jtinstman@mfcfs.us.com, 386-235-4480

Happy New Year 2022!! I hope you had a wonderful holiday break!! We are happy to see all of your smiling faces again at school. We wish you all an awesome 2022 and look forward to the exciting events to come throughout the rest of the school year.

Studies show that it is important for children's healthy development to have daily routines to follow so we all need to get back to their daily schedules and routine, so that the children continue to move forward in their learning. They have made so much progress since the school year began. Thank you in advance for continuing to make school attendance a priority.

As January begins, I wish all of you a Happy & Healthy year ahead! When thinking about New Year's resolutions, please make school participation and family involvement in our meetings and activities one of your priorities. Your school family and your child(ren) will be very happy for your involvement and support!



CONTACT US!

CDS: Jennifer Tinstman 386-235-4480

Family Advocate: Sheena Winfield- McDaniel 386-956-3859

Classroom Phone Number & Extensions

386-366-8242

HS Classroom 1 Ext. #101 Ms. Ivy and Ms. Briget

HS Classroom #2 Ext. # 102 Ms. Carolyn & Ms. Nia

EHS Classroom #3 Ext.# 103 Ms. Dawn & Ms. Zhane

EHS classroom #4 Ext. #104 Ms. Jody & Ms. Adriana



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Tuesday, January 4th 2022 classes resume
Wednesday Early release dates for January: Jan. 5th, Jan 12th, Jan.19th
& Jan. 26th
(January 12th is early dismissal for both Early Head Start + Head Start)
No School for Students on Monday, January 17th—MLK Holiday

HAPPY
NEW YEAR



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start

Let's Get
Connected!



@MFCSHHeadStart



FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

By: Sheena Winfield-McDaniel

Hello Parents and Families,

I hope you had a safe and healthy break. COVID Reminder: As we continue to practice COVID 19 protocols please remember that anyone entering our campus is expected to wear a mask. Parents are to wear a mask at drop off and pick up, and to maintain a distance of six feet. If you need a mask please ask the teacher or a staff member for one.

Attendance: Please remember that school begins at 8:00 AM. If your student will be absent please call the school. If you need to reach me, my phone number is 386-956-3859.

Emergency Contact and Pick Up: Please make sure your student's information is up to date as possible. If you need to update your contact information including your address please see myself or a staff member for a change of information form. Please make sure that your student's physical, immunization, and dental exams are current. If you are unsure about dates please contact me. Students will not be allowed in the building if documentation is expired.

Please remember our monthly parent meetings. January 20, 2022 on Zoom is the next parent meeting. We are still looking of a policy council member. If you would like to volunteer for this or any other position please contact me at 386-956-3859. We have to vote on a parent engagement activity for this school year. We also need a new Vice Chairperson for the parent committee as well as a policy council representative for the Early Head Start Program.

In addition, please remember to schedule your monthly meeting with your Family Advocate. I am only asking for 10 to 15 minutes of your time. It can be virtual, telephonic, or in person.

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 1

We hope you have enjoyed your holiday break with your family. We are returning back to school on January 4, 2022. Our investigation in our classroom was on signs. We talk about different signs that they would see from street signs, to their favorite restaurant. For the beginning of the year, our investigation is on the Making of Music. We will study sounds, instruments, and different styles of music. As a reminder continue to work with your child on using words to express their feelings, wants, and needs to help in their social development.

Thank You! Ms. Ivy & Ms. Briget

EARLY HEAD START

CLASSROOM 3

Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed a wonderful break and we are so happy to see you again! We will be starting off our New Year learning about opposites, arctic animals and winter weather. We have so many fun crafts and activities planned and cannot wait to share them with you. Please remember to update your child's extra clothing to adjust for the cooler weather if you have not already done so. Thank you! If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Ms. Zhane & Ms. Dawn

HEAD START

CLASSROOM 2

Welcome back! We are continuing our study about Signs. During this study we have learned different things about signs: what the characteristics of signs are, where signs are found, and how signs help. Join us in helping your child learn about signs by noticing them in stores, while driving, or anywhere signs are found. Also, share with us anything you and your child have discovered. We are continuing with the spelling and writing of our first names as well as recognizing our last names. We are also continuing with recognizing our numbers and the quantities that go with them. Please continue working on the writing of your child's names As always, if you need anything, please feel free to contact us.

Thank You! Ms. Carolyn & Ms. Nia

CLASSROOM 4

Welcome back to the classroom! We hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday. The first week of January we will be getting back into our routine. The rest of the month we will be learning about textures, colors, and shapes. We will be adding different items to our sensory bin for the children to explore, and doing art projects that encourages the children to use their senses. Many exciting times for the month of January.

Thank you, Ms. Jody & Ms. Adriana

PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Parent Meeting held December 16, 2021.



HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Homework will be sent out twice a month. Please enjoy doing these activities with your children. We would love to see photos or videos of the activities, which you can upload onto the teaching Strategies portal.

POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

December Policy Council met via Zoom on December 16, 2021. Quorum was established with 13 community reps present. Heidi Rand, requested a change to the agenda to place Denise Mercado, Inclusion Coordinator on the agenda to present a training on Inclusion. Denise explained the process of the Inclusion Team reviewing every screening conducted on children and then reviewed with families and referred when needed. The inclusion team educates parents on the entire referral process to empower them to advocate for their child. If a child is under 3 they are referred to our partner Early Steps. If the child is over 3 they are referred to our partner Fiddlers on the Hernando County side and Child Time in Volusia. These partners come directly onsite and work with the teachers and child in the Head Start classroom. The Inclusion team also goes directly into the classrooms to observe students and work with teachers to assist with strategies and material usage through modeling. Denise mentioned that a higher number of children on the autism spectrum are being seen and due to this the inclusion team is being proactive and going through an autism spectrum navigator training through UCF to provide the highest quality support. The November meeting minutes were approved. Amy Thomas, Deputy Director of Children's Services, introduced Michelle Hann the new Education Manager for Hernando/Sumter County. The Budget and Credit Card statements were approved. The Enrollment, Attendance and Snack reports were approved. Tanya Hall, Deputy Director of Program Services, presented the Recruitment Action Plan and was passed. Heidi Rand presented and discussed the Temporary COVID-19 Vaccination, Testing, and Face Covering Policy. She stressed that this is a temporary plan and subject to change and be put on hold based on any changes from the Office of Head Start. Following an open discussion the vote was 8 yes and 6 no. The majority passed the temporary policy. Seth Williams, Health Manager, stressed that all of our regular health prevention strategies and our procedures with students currently in place would not change if the temporary COVID-19 policy is to be implemented or put on hold. Heidi Rand presented the Criteria for Selection of Children for 2022-2023 program year and was passed. Staffing Reports were presented for information purposes.

All Service Area and Center Reports were presented and approved. Next Policy Council meeting is Thursday, January 27, 2022.

The Angry Dragon Written by Michael Gordon

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwEJUO-f1Ng>

CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION