



JANUARY 2022

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 2022 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!

CDS: Jeamary Garcia (352) 279-2420

Family Advocate: Annette Gregory

(407) 324-3865 | Cell: 386-956-3677

Classroom Phone Number

(407) 324-3865



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Early Release- HS- January 5, January 12,

January 19, January 26, 2022

EHS- January 12, 2022

January 4, 2022 (Tuesday) Classes Resume

Holidays - January 17, 2022 – Martin Luther King



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start

Let's Get
Connected!



@MFCSHHeadStart



FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

By: Annette Gregory

Look for updates from your Family Advocate in the next newsletter.



A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 2

Classroom #2

We are welcoming the new month with excitement. We will continue our study on Clothes, and we will begin a new study on Signs. Environment print is the print of everyday life. It's the name given to the print that appears in signs, labels, and logos. We will take advantage of all this print by using it in ways to talk about letters, words, and print. Signs or environment prints will provide lots of opportunities for our children to interact with letters, sounds, and words.

Thank you very much

Mrs. Adela/Mrs. Chanie

Mrs. Mara/ Mrs. Linnette



PARENT MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2021
Mid Florida Community Services,
Incorporated
Osteen Head Start

Meeting was called to order at 12:06 pm. We established quorum was not present with 3 parents in attendance via zoom. Minutes from November were reviewed. FA discussed with parents' present regarding the parent activity.

The parents did not offer any Ideas or input regarding the parent activity. Christmas break will be from December 17th-January 3rd. No school on January 17th. Parent handbook was reviewed with parents. Teachers were not

able to be present due to class time. Fa reminded parents to be sure children always have a spare set of clothing. CDS, Ms. Jeamary reinforced the children having spare clothing.

CDS thanked parents for understanding of school closings and changing of teachers in the classroom in the beginning portion of the school year. No Announcements from parents or staff. Meeting adjourned at 12:23pm



HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Let's Play Follow the Leader

Primary Objectives:

Follows limits and expectations

Demonstrates traveling skills

Why It's Important: Demonstrating a task to your child and then asking him/her to immediately practice that task reinforces your home routines and expectations.

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.

CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

[Runaway Signs by Joan Holub and Alison Farrell - YouTube](#)