



HEAD START NEWS

Port Orange Head Start & Early Head Start Newsletter



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FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: Pamela Fernet

It is hard to believe that this is our last newsletter. Our preschool year is winding down and many of our preschoolers will be off to kindergarten in the fall. Remember, going to school is a natural progression for children and most will be very ready to go. To help your child look forward to a new school, be sure to talk positively about attending kindergarten. Talk often about making new friends, learning new things, growing up, and becoming a "big boy or girl." Plan to attend your school's orientation with your child, visit your public library and read, read, read to your child over the summer months. Head Start "transition bags" contain some terrific ideas for learning new things and having big fun.

We thank you for entrusting your child to us this year. We have enjoyed working with all of the children in our care and have seen growth, development and skill acquisition in all of the boys and girls. We have also witnessed how the children have grown in the way they deal with frustration and the care and concern they express for one another.

Thank you for being your child's first and most important teacher and working with us on behalf of your child. We thank you for your support throughout the year. We feel a close partnership with our parents and send you our best wishes.

Hoorah for preschoolers!!! We appreciate your support. Have a wonderful and safe summer!



CONTACT US!

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Family Advocate: Yvette Altman/Phone #: (C)
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Family Advocate: Cassandra Givens/ EXT: 111
Classroom Extensions: (386)788-1088
Classrooms: 1: 101; 2: 102; 3: 103 & 5: 105



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 11,18,25th - Early Release (HS)
May 11th - Early Release (EHS)
May To be determined - Parent Meeting
May 30th - Memorial Day - No School



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start

Let's Get
Connected!



April showers, Bring May flowers! In the Month of May we will cover different types of Spring flowers as well as the Spring insects (Love bug, butterflies, etc.) We will also Celebrate our Mother's this Month. While reviewing our colors that relate to Springtime! Emphasizing it into the classroom to make our very own special artwork

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

HS CLASSROOM #1

For the month of May classroom 1 is learning about insects. Whenever we go outside, there is always a lot of interest in insects. Children find them, watch them, follow them, and try to capture them. In their play at school, the children have shared their curiosity about the different types of insects they see, how insects move, where and when we see insects, and the kinds of jobs that involve insects. We think a study of insects will be a great opportunity for children to explore their interests.

Ms. Arelis & Ms. Ashley

HS CLASSROOM #2

We have finished our gardening theme, it was a success. We planted peanuts and was able to see them grow and take them home to replant. We also put our center garden together with the help of our parents Alisha Rowland and Charles Reddy, they rebuilt our flower beds, built us a bench, and provided materials and labor. We are so greatly appreciative for all that they have done, our garden looks great. If you come by make a point to go and look at it, we are very proud. We planted peas, peppers, lettuce, squash, zucchini, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, sunflowers, and strawberries.

We are now moving on to our next theme which is Exercising, we made our Dramatic Play area a gym, it is so cool. Even though it sounds like we have a lot going on we are still writing, letter recognition, counting, adding, graphing, number associations, patterns, rhyming words, compound words, syllables, and doing experiments. It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of the year, I am so proud of Classroom 2.

Ms. Lynn



A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

By: *Cassandra Givens & Yvette Altman*

HS CLASSROOM #3

April showers, Bring May flowers! In the Month of May we will cover different types of Spring flowers as well as the Spring insects (Love bug, butterflies, etc.) We will also Celebrate our Mother's this Month. While reviewing our colors that relate to Springtime! Emphasizing it into the classroom to make our very own special artwork

Ms. Di' Shenda

HS CLASSROOM #5

The first two weeks of this month Classroom #5 will examine what makes things grow. We will experiment, explore and discuss the things humans need to live. Things like :water, food, shelter, clothing, warmth, love and education. We will also explore and experiment with ways we take care of our bodies, like exercise, nutrition and bathing. The last two weeks of the month we will examine how plants and trees grow. We will discuss what makes or helps keep them healthy. We will discuss some reasons why the plants in the window did or did not grow. Or, why the beans we watched last month only grew so high/long, or died completely.

We will enjoy dancing, art creations and counting throughout the day and bring home our creations on Friday to discuss with our families.

Ms. Juanita & Ms. Jessica

Children's E-Books Suggestions. (Provide title, author, and E-Book link for parents to access from home.)

My Busy Green Garden/ By: Terry Pierce

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dnGNGz2vG70>

The Thing About Spring/ By: Daniel Kirk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkc78nhsDoQ>



PARENT MEETING MINUTES

We do not have any parent meeting minutes due to minimum attendance.

POLICY COUNCIL UPDATES

April Policy Council met via Zoom on April 28, 2022. Quorum was established with 13 present.

Annette Becklan, Head Start Mental Health Consultant, presented and trained the members with a thorough presentation on Social and Emotional Mental Health.

The March meeting minutes were approved. The Budget and Credit Card statements were approved. The Enrollment, Attendance and Snack reports were approved.

Jennifer Fowler presented request for Parent Activity Funds that were approved.

Heidi Rand presented on ACF-PI-HS-22-02 on Head Start Funding Increase. This was presented for information purposes only and voting not required. Heidi stated that the focus for the pay increase will go the Teachers and Teacher Assistants. Management is working on the budget to eliminate center positions to help divide the funds.

Staffing Reports were presented for information purposes. All Service Area and Center Reports were presented and approved.

Seth Williams shared the update on writing the No Kids Hungry Grant. He shared that the grant was submitted before April 15th and waiting to hear if the program receives the funding. Until funding is received we do not at this time have funds to provide backpack meals at this time. If approved the program will run for 25 weeks.

Seth explained that the Sunshine Health grant was not approved.

Next Policy Council meeting is Thursday, May 26, 2022.

HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

The weather is getting nice, why not plant a little garden with your child, it will teach them responsibility and they will love being able to take care of it. The children here enjoyed making our garden and I know they will especially enjoy having a garden at home with their family. This will also teach them how to take care of living things, our environment, and learning about all the different foods we can grow. It is also good to work on color recognition, counting, shapes, and sorting.

