



HEAD START NEWS

WVEC Newsletter



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FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: Marline Medero Lopez

"Ready or Not Kindergarten, Here We Come!"

We believe that a quality transition to Kindergarten will bring lifelong benefits to a child. However, while many of us focus on the basics of letter and number recognition or reading skills, kindergarten readiness encompasses more than a few isolated skills. We need to look at the whole child and all the skills and strengths each child has developed. That's what makes them unique.

Here are some tips to help you prepare your child for Kindergarten:

- Help him to develop independence at home. Encourage your child to dress himself, take his coat on and off and hang it up, use the bathroom without assistance and wash his hands without constant reminders, and put on his own shoes. Provide serving spoons so your child can serve himself at the table and clear his own dishes. These skills will take him from the coatroom to the lunchroom and beyond.
- Focus on self-help skills. Your child should know how to wipe her face after lunch without prompting and blow her nose without assistance. But be sure she is also comfortable asking an adult for help when necessary.
- Teach responsibility. Start transferring small responsibilities over to your child, if you haven't already. After a family trip to the pool, you might put your child in charge of emptying the backpack, refilling the water bottles, or hanging up his wet swimsuit. Even when it may be easier for you to complete these tasks, let him accept the responsibility.
- Develop and follow routines. Set up morning routines that will transfer into a school setting. Getting up around the same time every day, getting dressed, and having an early breakfast together is a great way to transition to school.
- Read aloud to your child. Get your child a library card, take her to the library to check out books, and be sure to read to your child every day. Read a variety of books, read the captions under pictures in the newspaper, even share the comics. Just read!
- Engage her in meaningful literacy activities. Encourage your child to help you with thank you cards, shopping lists, or notes. They may start with scribbles or pictures, move into scattered letters, and finally some recognizable words as they enter school. Appreciate their attempts and watch their skills develop with practice.
- Acknowledge his feelings. Avoid talking about school too much, or wait until the end of summer is near. Your child may express being nervous, not wanting to go or, alternately, feeling very excited to start school. Whatever they feel, take time to appreciate where they are.

Rather than worry about whether your child is ready to read and write, think about his or her skills as a whole. What can they do well that will help them succeed? The quiet child who has reading abilities will find her way to the social butterfly that needs help writing his name. The silly, wiggly child will find a spot as the classroom helper. Rest assured, they will all navigate kindergarten together.

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/kindergarten-here-we-come>

CONTACT US!

CDS: Marline Medero (386)956-3636

Family Advocate: Advocate Joseline Couto
(386)956-3622

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Head Start Early Release days: May 11, May 18, May 25

Art Show: 5/25/22 @ 4:30 PM

Parent Meeting: 5/11/22 @ 2:30 PM

Student Holiday: May 30, 2022

End of the Year Celebration: To be announced



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start

Let's Get
Connected!



FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

By: Joseline Couto

We have worked arduous together this wonderful year. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you. During this school year we learned, had fun and we grew up together. To all of our families at WVEC Head Start we give you our gratitude for your support and efforts.

Our respects and admiration go with all of you!

WVEC Head Start is now accepting New Application for the 2022-2023 school year. Please spread the word about our new application for the new upcoming school year.

Thank you.

Hemos trabajado juntos en este tiempo escolar. 2021-22. Ha sido un placer trabajar con todos ustedes. Durante este tiempo aprendimos, nos divertimos, crecimos y mejoramos juntos. A todas nuestras familias Les agradecemos su apoyo y sus esfuerzos.

WVEC Head Start esta aceptando solicitudes para el 2022-2023. Por favor dejes saber a otros que el proceso de solicitudes ya comenzo. Nuestros respetos y admiracion van con todos ustedes!!

Gracias

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 1

MRS. LORRI & MRS. JESSICA

Dear Families,

It's hard to believe the school year is almost over. We have enjoyed learning and growing with your child this past year. Our study for the month of May will be Getting Ready for Kindergarten. We will be talking and learning about how Kindergarten is like and different than preschool, how we feel about going to Kindergarten and how to make and keep friends.

We have several fun art activities planned during the month. Books we will be reading include Miss Kindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten, The Upside-Down Boy, and Get Set, Swim!

Our Second Step themes, which go along with our study, are Learning in Kindergarten, Riding the Bus in Kindergarten, and Making New Friends in Kindergarten.

As always please see us with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for sharing your child with us this year!!

CLASSROOM 2

MRS. SASHA & MRS. KATHERINE

We are just around the corner to finish our school year. Happy to see how our children have grown, learned and enjoyed.

We will end our school year with a lesson on pets. We will explore different animals that can be pets as well as those that cannot. As well as how we can take care of them.

In the Second Step, we'll talk about that as inviting to play. We will also see the videos of Safer Smarter Kids., where children will learn how to recognize their trusted people if someone stranger tries to approach.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact us. We are very grateful for the trust you have given us and for being able to work as a team with your families so that our children have a successful year.



PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Welcome:

Brandy Chivers-

Welcome parents and teachers on this wonderful April 5th.

Policy Council Report:

Theresa Blair-

Cafeteria dinning should be doing well/ We discussed enrollment and attendance in the classroom. They are still talking about room closures due to teacher shortages. They talked about a possible parent board for upcoming events and such outside one of the classrooms.

New Events:

- * Spring Fling April 14th 9:30am to 10:30am
- * Kindergarten Transition Meeting @ 5:00pm
- * No School April 25th

Classroom Report:

Lorri Tipper-

Lorri spoke for both classroom 1 and 2. Both classes are still on the Reduce, Reuse Recycle Study. Next week is the last week of this study. Thank you to all the parents who have donated the recycling items the children have been sorting and creating all kinds of arts and crafts. Classroom 1s next study will be Moving into Kindergarten.

Classroom 2 may do pets or Exercise study next. They want to ask their students first. The storyteller came out this week and the students had fun listening to their wonderful story's.

Arts on The Grow started again this week and artist will come out 3 different times during the month of April. We started Safer Smarter Kids this week. The first lesson all students did the safety stop sign that will be used during the entire study. The Dentist will coming out on Friday April 15th for all that have signed up. The 3rd round of VPK Assessments is here students will be working on the computer as well as with the teacher. We in Classroom 1 are also getting ready for Kindergarten so we will continue practicing our routines, and rules. In Second Step we are working on, "If you have a problem, speak the problem. Breath and find a solution. Tomorrow April 14th the eggs are ready. Classroom 2 will have egg cartons with numbers 1-6 written on them students will enjoy finding number 1-6 and Classroom 1 will find eggs numbered 1-12. Kindergarten transitional meeting will be held April 21st in Deltona. Please come out to see us. Students will show all the parents something special. You do not want to miss it.

Marline Medero CDS-

Thank you, parents, for all your help and support. We have had such a wonderful number of helpers come forward and volunteer their time to our students thank again.

April 21st again is the Transitional Meeting and I just want to say please attend if you can the students are working really hard.

Theme Spring Fling Activities:

Parents and staff discussed the order of how the day will go. Where parents are to help out and what still needs to be done. Staff will be providing the parents with a little breakfast goodie to start their morning off right. Egg hunts will be divided into 2 groups. One hunt per class during their regular scheduled outside play times to give parents time to hide eggs and setup the for the day. Their will be face painting, bowling, a ring toss and bean bag game as well as a picture with the spring bunny. All pictures should be done before the face painting to allow flow to each game.

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

Create animals with cardboard plates.
Materials: glue, scissors (with adult help), construction paper, goggle eyes



CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

What Pet Should I Get by Dr. Seuss
<https://youtu.be/psCzO1TlJIU>

