



HEAD START NEWS

Hope Place Head Start & Early Head Start Newsletter



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FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

By: Arnessia King

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

As we begin the month of May, I am in awe at how quickly the year flew. As it begins to wind down for Head Start, our teachers plan their final lessons. We take a moment to reflect on the safety of our children. I know all of our families have busy schedules, so a change in daily routines, lack of sleep, stress, fatigue, cell phone use, and simple distractions are some things many people experience and can be contributing factors as to why children have been left unknowingly in vehicles. At the beginning of the year, you received/signed information regarding the potential for distracted adults to fail to drop off a child at a facility/home and instead leave them in the vehicle upon arrival. I just want to remind you that it only takes a car 10 minutes to heat up to 20 degrees and become deadly. Even with a window cracked, the temperature inside a car can cause heatstroke. The body temperature of a child increases 3 to 5 times faster than an adult's body. I want to encourage you to create reminders by putting something in the back seat that you will need at work, school or home such as a briefcase, purse, cell phone or your left shoe. Remember our children are our future.



CONTACT US!

CDS: Arnessia King 386-281-3314 Ext 120

Family Advocate: Bernadette Flake
386-281-3314 Ext. 110 & Jaime Iraci,
386-281-3314 Ext. 111



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Mark Your Calendars: Head Start Early
Release days: 5/11/22, 5/18/22, 5/25/22
Early Head Start Early Release days:
5/11/22, Dental Visit 5/17/22 and
Memorial Day Holiday 5/30/22



Head Start
Mid Florida Community Services
Early Head Start

Let's Get
Connected!



@MFCSHHeadStart



FAMILY ADVOCATE CORNER

By: Bernadette Flake & Jaime Iraci

Please keep Immunization and Physical updated!

We are enrolling for August...enroll today.

There will be a dental visit scheduled for May 17, 2022.

Covid-19 is still around us! If you experience any symptoms, please keep your child at home.

Please contact us if you any questions.

Bernadette Flake 386-281-3314 Ext.110 & Jaime Iraci, 386-281-3314 Ext. 111 Family Advocates

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 10-6

We would like to THANK YOU all for coming out to Family Engagement for Earth Day. We hope that you had a chance to plant your items. This year is coming to an end and we want to thank you for entrusting us with your children, we will continue to do our part in helping your child grow to reach their full potential. Our study for May will be, "Paper," then in June move into a study on, "Rocks," followed by, "Seats," and "Balls." Please fill free to join us in some of our studies and investigations. We are looking forward to some Summer Fun!

Kasane and Ericka

CLASSROOM 10-7

Out with the Bag Study in with the Seat Study!

To end our Bag Study, we are throwing a celebration to review everything we have learned. Woohoo!!! From pretending to be mail carriers to filling up grocery bags with food. We Will Review It All!

Although we are sad to end our Bag Study, we are super excited to begin our Seat Study! Be on the lookout in your child's folder for a "Letter to the Families" about our upcoming study and what to expect. We will continue to focus on Gross motor, Fine motor, Cognitive, Social and Emotional, Math, Language, Science, and Social Studies related objectives to maximize learning. Don't forget to sign up for a library card at your local city library and READ READ, READ!
Akilah & Wendy



A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

CLASSROOM 11-1

This month, children will continue working with the Pets Study and Safer Smarter Kids. Also, we will continue reviewing the expectations, Second Step's skills and routines of the classroom as well as their names, numbers, letters, and colors. Children will be preparing their performance for the End of the Year Activity on May 20th! Remember, we are here for you and your kids anytime!

Until Next Time,
Glorilena & Margarita

CLASSROOM 11-4

"The Tune Squad"

We are "tuning" into the "May Showers" and planting flowers in front of the classroom. We invite our families out to join us. "The Tune Squad" are working on the "Light Study". We are exploring different sources of light we use during the day and night. The Tune Squad will be learning about shapes and how they are used around the classroom. Here are some poems we are reciting "Twinkle Little Star" and "We Willie Winkie". Tune Squad are really enjoying them.

April & Monica

CLASSROOM 11-10

It's May! Can you believe that? We feel like someone put on speed dial. do not blink, or you will miss something. We have had a very busy exciting and fun year.

The trees are budding, the flowers are blooming and so are our children. The seeds have been planted, their confidence have grown and their minds are blossoming with knowledge acquired during this school year.

We have had such a great time with your children this year.

On a personal note, we would like to say that we have treasured the time that we have spent with you and with your children. We are going to miss the hugs, laughter. and the joy to our day.

Until we meet again, we wish you and your family a very fun, and safe summer.

Cynthia & Terry

PARENT MEETING MINUTES

Parents: Vanesha Culver, Trelody Paulk, Alexsis Innerst

Teachers: Akilah Gamble, Wendy Raspberry

Staff: (FA's) Bernadette Flake, Jamie Iraci

FA did the welcoming of Parents and invited all to refreshments.

Icebreaker:

Included discussions by parent and staff before calling the parent meeting to order.

What's your favorite sandwich and why?

If you had to delete all apps from your smartphone, which 3 would you keep?

Policy Council Minutes:

There were no policy council minutes to report this meeting session.

Parent Curriculum Discussion: The parent curriculums discussed: "What you do matters": Topic: Social -emotional Development. The discussion focused on how important it is for young children to have a secure attachment with primary caregivers, as this serves as a model for how to develop future relationships with others. The discussion also included Self-concept and awareness and how babies begin to develop a sense of themselves as a separate person around the age of 1 ½. Children then gradually develop the understanding that they have feelings and emotions that are separate and sometimes different from others. 3rd discussion included Self-control: As children learn to identify their emotions they begin to realize that they can control their emotions and behavior. This ability is sometimes called self-regulation. The ability to regulate emotions, and behavior affects relationships, self-esteem, and school success.

What's going on in my classroom: Teaching Teams included Wendy, Akilah and Ericka. Ericka spoke on the concept of Family Involvement in the classrooms and how the family in being incorporated into activities with their children. Wendy stated the students are working on vision boards and bags in the classrooms which also includes family involvement.

Staff also spoke on the reminder of transitioning students to kindergarten and their ceremony.

Attendance: FA's spoke on attendance and how important it is for children to be in class and FA's also spoke on classroom closures and how they are here to advocate and work with the parents should they need documentation of classroom closures to provide to their employers.

Upcoming Dates for closure and closures- 4/25 Teacher/student holiday, 5/30 Memorial Day Holiday.

Questions or concerns—All Staff & Parents open forum for discussion. Discussion included car seat expectations and resources to obtain car seats. Also discussed the caution signs that were provided for the parking lot from HUM staff for others to slow down when entering the parking lot. Also, discussion on where staff is expected to park in the back. Discussion also included that the parents are still parking in the no parking zone in the back and become irate with staff when ask in a polite manner to park where they are supposed too. Discussion will take place on how to rectify the situation.

The meeting adjourned with questions and concerns. The next meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2022 at 4:00pm.

HOME LEARNING / FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Let's go on a bug hunt! Get the kids ready for an outdoor bug adventure this Spring with our free printable bug scavenger hunt. Kids love minibeasts so what could be better than grabbing a magnifying glass and our bug scavenger hunt and heading out to explore.

Toddlers and preschoolers and older children alike will love hunting under stones and looking through the grass to see what insects they can find!

A printable bug scavenger hunt for minibeast loving toddlers & preschoolers visit:

[Messylittlemonster.com](https://messylittlemonster.com)

CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

Making Friends, Ellen
Grimi-Trent,
<https://youtu.be/FV5f-THsfzI>



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.