



# HEAD START NEWS

Oak Ridge Early Head Start & Head Start Newsletter



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## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR CDS

**By: Jennifer Tinstman**

Happy MAY!!

It is hard to believe that this is our final official newsletter for the '21-22 school year. Our time together is winding down and many of our children will be off to kindergarten in the upcoming new school year. Remember that going to school is a natural progression for children and most will be very excited to go. To help your child look forward to going 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." Try to attend your school's orientation with your child. Visit your public library and read, read, read to your child over the summer months.

We are also very excited and looking forward to working again with the children and families who will be returning to school with us next year, as their children continue on their preschool journey with their friends. Our Early Head Start children will still be with us during the summer months and we have lots planned for them.

We thank you for entrusting your child to us this year. We have enjoyed working with all of the children in our care and seeing so much growth and development in each one of them.

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.

Have a wonderful and safe summer!



## CONTACT US!

CDS Name: Jennifer Tinstman  
CDS Phone Number(s): 386-235-4480  
Family Advocate Name(s): Sheena Mc Daniel  
FA Phone Number(s): 386 956 3859  
Center Phone Number : 386-366-8242  
HS Classrm 1...Ext 101 Ms. Ivy & Ms. Briget  
HS Classrm 2...Ext 102 Ms. Carolyn & Ms. Nia  
EHS Classrm 3 Ext 103 Ms. Dawn & Ms. Zhane  
EHS classrm 4 Ext 104 Ms. Jody & Ms. Adriana



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Early release dates for May:  
May 11th + **June 3rd** (for HS and EHS),  
May 18th, May 25th  
No School for Students: Monday, May  
30th---Memorial Day  
**Last day of school** for Students is Friday,  
**June 3rd** and is an early release at 1pm



Head Start  
Mid Florida Community Services  
Early Head Start

Let's Get  
Connected!



Hello Parents and Families,

Please make sure you make an appointment and update your child's file for next year. In order for your student to start school on time, this file and all its documents need to be completed.

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 remember our monthly parent meetings. This is the time to plan events, obtain speakers, and have your voices heard. Our next Monthly Parent Meeting is May 19, 2022 at 2:15 pm on Zoom and in person.

If you have not scheduled your monthly meeting with the Family Advocate, please do so. It is imperative that we work together.

## A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

### HEAD START

#### Classroom 1-HS

We are wrapping up the year as we closed out our study on gardening. We watch grass seeds sprout up to become tall green grass. We also watch our Kidney bean grow into plants. The children put five kidney beans in a sandwich bag with a wet paper towel; and place them in the window. We watch the root, stem and leaves grow and then place them in a pot to let them grow.

We are now studying Insect and what make them an insect. We just watch the process of how caterpillars become a butterfly. We now have five little butterfly in our room. Please continue to speak with your child about the exciting things that are happening in our classroom.

Thank You! Ms. Ivy & Ms. Briget

#### Classroom 2-HS

We are finishing up our gardening study and beginning a new study on Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. We will explore the topic with the children and will build on the children's natural interest in trash. Our investigations will lead us to learn, "What do people throw away? How does trash affect our community? How can we reuse junk? How can we create less trash?" As the school year is coming to an end, we can now step back and see how our children have blossomed. They have loved learning, have developed great social and educational skills, and continue to be excited and curious about new experiences. They are ready for the next stage of growth. We have enjoyed watching the children grow, learn and develop in to very special people! We wish everyone a safe, happy and fun filled summer. Make every day count!

Thank You! Ms. Carolyn & Ms. Nia

#### Classroom 3-EHS

April showers bring May flowers. Happy May, we can't believe how quickly the year is moving along. This month in classroom 3, we will be exploring brushes. We will be beginning our study on brushes. We will be learning about the different types of brushes, how people use brushes as well as how people use brushes. We look forward to sharing our fun activities with you.

Ms. Zhane & Ms. Dawn

## PARENT MEETING MINUTES

The Parent Meeting for April was held on 4/28/2022 at 3pm. There were 8 families that participating. The next meeting will take place on May 26, 2022.



## CHILDREN'S BOOK SUGGESTION

The Very Hungry Caterpillar written by Eric Carle

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY&t=225s>

## 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

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.