



**Want to praise your  
child's teacher?**

You can contact us via our  
website [https://  
www.midfloridaheadstart.co  
m/](https://www.midfloridaheadstart.com/) or by calling us: 1-888-277-  
0010

Director of Early Learning  
Services, Tanya Hall  
(THall@MFCs.US.com) the  
Deputy Director of Children's  
Services, Glynne Pascal  
(GPascal@MFCs.US.com)  
Please also feel free to reach  
out to us should you have  
concerns about your child  
(ren)'s program.

**From Your Site Supervisor, Ronjaneen Harris**

Parents, family members, and friends, thanks for all your involve-  
ment in the program. Last month was Black History Month and I  
constantly was reminded of a quote I heard so much as a child. It is  
"A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste". This quote made me think  
about the minds of our children we serve daily. This is the time of  
their lives that their brain absorbs information like a sponge. First,  
we must understand that child development refers to the changes  
that occur as a child grows and develops in relation to being physi-  
cally healthy, mentally alert, emotionally sound, socially competent  
and ready to learn. According to research, the first five years of a  
child's life are fundamentally important. They are the foundation  
that shapes children's future health, happiness, growth, development  
and learning achievement at school, in the family and community,  
and in life in general. So, it is vital that we provide our children these  
early experiences. These experiences will then provide the base for  
their brain's organizational development and functioning through-  
out life. Research proves this has a direct impact on how children de-  
velop learning skills as well as social and emotional abilities. So, read  
with your child daily. Talk with him/her daily. Do the educational  
home activities with your child. Ask your child's teacher for sugges-  
tions. Call me, Ronjaneen Harris, for suggestions. Whatever you de-  
cide, make sure you give your child the gift of learning that keeps on  
giving. Visit your local library and ask their reference clerk what re-  
sources are available for your child. Also, make sure you check out  
the preschool reading programs they offer.



Head Start  
Mid Florida Community Services  
Early Head Start

MID FLORIDA  
COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.



## Phone Numbers

**Site Supervisor,** Ronjaneen Harris 352-556-4800, Ext. 2209

### **Family Advocates:**

Lynda Kersey (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2105

Brianna Yuhasz (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2201

Nitza Jerez (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2204

### **Classroom Phone Number & Extensions (352) 556-4800**

Classroom 502 Shelley Benson and Olena McCumsey (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2502

Classroom 601 Glorimer Martinez and Delianne DeLaCruz (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2601

Classroom 602 Norma Padro and Lucia Quiles (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2602

Classroom 701 Sherry Harris and Theresa Scott (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2701

Classroom 702 Ryan Fuller and Salyna Robinson (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2702

Classroom 901 Amy French and Janet Thomas (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2901

Classroom 902 Theresa Nunez and Wanda Pagan (352) 556-4800, Ext. 2902

## Message from your Family

We had our parent connect meeting this month and we thank those parents who attended and got involved in their child's school. We thank those who attended the Derby Car show for Early Head Start. We enjoyed seeing the little ones with their projects! Thank you for your support! The next activity we have is our Parent/Male Engagement Activity on April 12<sup>th</sup>. This will take place at Snow Anderson Park from 2:00-3:00 PM. Also on April 21<sup>st</sup> we having our Parent Activity at Strike City from 11:00 -1:00 PM Please get involved!

## Classroom News

**Classroom 502.** Welcome Spring-time! This month, we will be working on our Garden Study. After we learn about seeds and plants and how they grow, we will be planting our class garden. We will plant tomatoes and beans and we will ask the children what else they would like to have growing in our garden. We will learn that plants are living things and what they need to stay alive and grow. We will learn what kinds of food grow in a garden and why flowers and plants are important to the environment. In Second Step, we will learn about playing fairly with others. The children will learn more about sharing, taking turns, and trading toys. These are also solutions to common conflicts in the classroom. So, the children will be learning how to be problem-solvers. Thank you.

~Miss Shelley and Miss Olena

## Classroom News

**Classroom 601.** Welcome March! I completed the mandatory second home visits and we was so grateful to meet our parents in their homes. Last month, we had so much fun in our class and now it's March. This month, we will be talking about music and instruments. We're going to have a lot fun. In Second Step, we will work in fair ways to play and other strong feelings. We will continue working on our calming down techniques. Also, we will continue working on name writing, letters and their sounds, counting and number recognition, and taking turns. Thank you.

~Mrs. G and Miss Deli

## Classroom News

**Classroom 602.** March brings us wonderful projects. We like the change of weather. All this is related to the arrival of spring. Our unit of study this month is Garden: Exploring the topic: What do we know about plants? What do we want to find out? We will continue with our Second Step curriculum, learning to be better students, including how to focus your attention, listen carefully, and ask for help. We are learning about Dr. Seuss. Dr. Seuss' books are not only loved by children around the world, they help introduce the fundamentals of reading. With the simple repetition of words and the rhyming words of Dr. Seuss, a child can begin to hear, learn and read easily. With love.

~Mrs. Norma & Mrs. Lucia

**Classroom 701.** We are still on the ball study. We will find out if all balls bounce, who use balls, and do all balls roll. We will be going on spring break March 13-17. When we come back, we will be starting the Garden Study. We will find out what we know about gardening, and what we want to know about planting a garden. We will be starting our own garden on the side of our classroom. We will continue to work on our letters and letter sounds, writing our first and last name, counting and writing our numbers, rhyming words and compound words. Enjoy your spring break and stay safe as always. ~Ms. Sherry & Ms. Theresa

**Classroom 702.** First and foremost, I would like to thank you all for your continued cooperation and support. We have been very active in room 702 as we have been in our exercise unit. We have been having fun doing various exercises and movements, including dancing. We have also been learning about how exercise is good for the body and how we have to drink lots of water and eat fruits and vegetables. After our exercise study, we will be starting our garden study where we will be planting in our class garden. We are also continuing to learn our letters, numbers, shapes, and colors and we are also practicing name writing. We have also been cutting with scissors and doing a lot of painting. After we come back from spring break, there will be no more nap time as we are a VPK classroom and we will be trying to get the children ready for Kindergarten! Time is going by quickly. Please remember to replenish any extra clothes to keep in the classroom. It is a pleasure working with your children every day! ~Mr. Ryan, Ms. Salyna, and Ms. Yanelis

**Classroom 901.** Happy March from classroom 901! We have started our Buildings Study in Creative Curriculum. During this study, we will talk about what the buildings in our neighborhood and other places look like, who builds buildings and what tools they use, what they are made of and what happens inside of them. In Second Step, we will be talking about fair ways to play, having fun with friends, inviting others to play, and joining in with play. We continue to work on name recognition and writing, letter and number recognition, sounds, counting, colors, shapes, and scissor skills. Please continue to work on these learning skills at home to reinforce what we are learning at school. Thank you. ~Ms. Amy & Ms. Janet

**Classroom 902.** Happy March! This month our learning theme is buildings. We have started working with creating AB and ABC patterns. Please work with your child at home and point them out with your child when you see them! We also have been practicing rhyming in the classroom. In Second Step, we are still working on using our words, but now speaking up and thinking of solutions to solve problems with peers. Please make sure to check dates in the classroom of days off and activities going on in the classroom. We are encouraging all children to bring in favorite books to the classroom to share. Please make sure to turn in home activities before the end of each month. Please talk to your teachers if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks! ~Ms. Theresa & Ms. Wanda

## Parent Meeting Minutes

Parent Connect Minutes 2/15/2023

Staff Attending: Nitza Jerez-Family Advocate, Brianna Yuhasz-Family Advocate, Lynda Kersey-Family Advocate, Ronjaneen Harris-Site Supervisor, Zoribel Nevarez-Site Supervisor, Lindsay Colon-Inclusion Specialist, Sherry-Teacher 701

Welcome-Everyone introduced themselves  
Lindsay Colon introduced self to parents, and discussed what an Inclusion Specialist does.  
Lindsay gave families work card and paperwork with resources

Ms. Sherry, teacher 701, discussed "what is going on in the classroom" for Head Start  
Discussed Parent/Male Engagement Activity "T-Ball" at Anderson Snow Park. Flyers given for March 30<sup>th</sup> from 2PM-3PM (new flyer will be provided to update event date change to April 12<sup>th</sup>) All are welcome!

Discussion in regards to new 2023-2024 school year application. EHS to HS children and 3<sup>rd</sup> year children applications are being completed.  
Discussed rollovers and VPK certificates  
Parents were informed of days there is no school and early dismissal

Parents informed of Last day of school for HS children

Policy Council Updates

Perfect Attendance Certificates given to families

Families played game and won prizes

Questions and Concerns – None

## Quote Corner:

"Play is the highest form of research." – Albert Einstein

# Policy Council Notes

**Meeting Date February 23rd, 2023**

February Policy Council met via Zoom on February 23, 2023. Quorum was established with (10) policy council representatives present.

January 2023 Policy Council minutes were approved.

Budget and Credit Card reports reviewed by Tanya Hall. All approved.

Enrollment and attendance report reviewed by Jennifer Fowler. All approved.

Meal & Snack reports for December 2022 reviewed by Seth Williams. All approved.

New Policy and Procedures reviewed by Seth Williams. All Approved.

Program Instructions and Information Memorandum from the Office of Head Start. Informational purposes only.

Staffing Reports & service area reports. Information purposes only.

Parent Activity Funds Requested for Spring Hill, approved.

Leadership team highlights reviewed.

Other business and announcements discussed, simply for informational purposes.

Next Policy Council meeting is Thursday, March 23, 2022.

## **Important Dates**

**March 6**—In-Service—No School; **March 10**— In-Service— No School; **March 12**— Daylight Saving Time Begins; **March 13-17** - Spring break; **March 20**— Classes Resume; **March 29**— Early Release at 1pm