



# May Newsletter

## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR SITE SUPERVISOR: MARLINE MEDERO

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, wash his hands without constant reminders, and put on his shoes. Provide spoons so your child can serve himself at the table and clear his 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. Let him accept the responsibility even when it may be easier for you to complete these tasks.

**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, and 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.

## Mark your Calendar

April 14, 2023– Parent Meeting

April 17, 2023– Picture Day

April 20, 2023– Transition to Kindergarten Meeting

- Easter Egg Hunt

- Family Engagement Activity



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Head Start

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Early Head Start

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## Family Advocate's Corner

### FROM THE DESK OF YOUR FAMILY ADVOCATE

Mrs. Margarita Montes

Dear parents,

We are continuing taking applications for the new school year (2022-2023). For our Head Start program child must be 3 years of age by September 1. Please call us for an appointment, and we will let you know what documentation you need to bring. If your child is a rollover and his/her physical, immunization & / or dentist expired. I will be here all summer. Please bring it to me as soon as you get it. Be reminder that our parking lot is still in a school setting and that children and family are crossing the road. therefore, please be mindful of your speed when coming into the parking lot. Also, remember that the school is a smoke free area.

Thank you for participating at our Parent Activity. We had a great time!

Queridos Padres,

Ya estamos tomando aplicaciones para el próximo año escolar (2022-2023) Para nuestro programa de Head Start el niño (a) tiene que tener 3 años de edad antes del 1 de Septiembre. Por favor llámeme para hacer una cita y le dejaré saber la documentación que tiene que traer.

Recuerde que nuestro estacionamiento todavía se encuentra en una zona escolar y que los niños y la familia están cruzando la calle. por lo tanto, tenga en cuenta su velocidad al ingresar al estacionamiento. Además, recuerde que la escuela es un área libre de humo. Gracias por participar en nuestra actividad de Padres. La pasamos de maravilla!

Thank you/ Gracias,

### Parent Meeting Minutes

*Welcome – Family Advocate & Center Staff*

#### *New Business*

Picture Day – Margarita informed parents to bring a change of clothes if needed.

Kindergarten transition – Margarita informed parents that on April 20<sup>th</sup>, a kindergarten teacher would talk to parents about the transition. Also, the

children will perform a song for the parents  
Teacher appreciation week May 8 to 12 – More information will be sent home

Spring Fling – If we don't have volunteers, we are not going to be able to have it

May Parent Meeting – Celebration We will celebrate on May 19 @ 4:00 pm

#### *Service Area Reports:*

SS – Not Present

Teachers - Not present. Family Advocate read the newsletter article to inform parents about what was going on in the classroom.

Family Advocate – She thanked all parents for always being available and helpful. She informed she would be out of the office from May 10 to the 16.



## EHS Teacher's Corner

### Classroom 1:

Ms. Magali & Anabel

Hello parents in the month of May we will begin our study of containers. In this the children will be able to compare sizes, colors, and textures. We encourage parents to bring in items from home, so that in this way the children can use while beginning our study. Parents, please dress your children accordingly to the weather. Thank you

Hola padres en el mes de mayo comenzaremos nuestro estudio de contenedores. En este los niños podrán comparar tamaños, colores y texturas. Animamos a los padres a que traigan artículos de casa, para que de esta manera los niños puedan utilizarlos mientras comienzan nuestro estudio. Padres, por favor vistan a sus hijos de acuerdo al clima. Gracias



### Classroom 2:

Mrs. Adela & Mrs. Maribel

During the month of May in classroom #2 we will be learning about CLOTHING the different sizes, colors, shapes, textures and for the different occasions that they are used like going to the beach, school, or a party, etc. We will also talk about the uniform clothes that are used in different professions such as Police, Doctor, cook, Fireman, etc. We will also continue learning together by reading books, playing clothes, dressing and undressing the dolls. We continue to implement good hygiene and safety practices for the well-being of all of our children.

Durante el mes de Mayo en el aula #2 estaremos aprendiendo sobre la ROPA los diferentes tamanos, colores, formas, texturas y para las diferentes ocaciones que se usan como ir a la playa, la escuela, o una fiesta, etc. tambien hablaremos de las ropas de uniformes que se usan en diferentes profesiones como Policia, Doctor, cocinero, Bombero, etc. Tambien seguiremos aprendiendo juntos leyendo libros, de ropa jugando vistiend y desvistiendo las muneas. Continuamos implementando buenas practicas de hijiene y seguridad para el bienestar de todos nuestros ninios.

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

You can contact us via our website <https://www.midfloridaheadstart.com/> or by calling us: 1-888-277-0010

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





## HS Teacher's Corner

### Classroom 3:

Ms. Dora & Mrs. Gloria

During the month of May, many things are happening as the school year is coming to an end. We will be finishing our Garden study and moving into Kindergarten Study. We will also be reaching out to you for our last parent-teacher conference. In the month of April, VPK children took their last assessment and I must say that we are very proud to see the growth all the children have made. This month we will have the Arts on the Grow event at the art museum in Deland. Your child's art project will be displayed. We want to say that this year has been full of fun, learning, and laughter. We have built great relationships with you, and your child and overall great memories! May your child have a great Kindergarten/VPK year and safe summer.

Durante el mes de mayo están sucediendo muchas cosas a medida que el año escolar está llegando a su fin. Terminaremos nuestro estudio de jardín y pasaremos al estudio de jardín de infantes. También nos comunicaremos con usted para nuestra última conferencia de padres y maestros. En el mes de abril, los niños de VPK tomaron su última evaluación y debo decir que estamos muy orgullosos de ver el crecimiento que todos los niños han hecho. Este mes tendremos el evento Arts on the Grow en el museo de arte de Deland. Se mostrará el proyecto de arte de su hijo. Queremos decir que este año ha estado lleno de diversión, aprendizaje y risas. ¡Hemos construido excelentes relaciones con usted, su hijo y, sobre todo, grandes recuerdos! Que su hijo tenga un gran año de Kindergarten / VPK y un verano seguro.

### Classroom 4

Mrs. Michele & Mrs. Aracely

Our Spring days are busy as we continue our Exercise Study! The children are learning a Yoga pose for each letter of the alphabet. They had fun in our classroom "fitness center" as they ran on the treadmill and learned about various muscle groups while doing fitness circuits. We also discussed healthy foods and shopped for them in our "grocery store." Mrs. Aracely and I have been reflecting on how much each student has grown physically, socially, and developmentally. We wish them the best of luck as they continue on to Kindergarten and VPK in the Fall. Each day is spent learning, but also laughing, hugging, and making forever memories. Thank-you families for allowing us to teach and nurture them each day.

¡Nuestros días de primavera están ocupados mientras continuamos nuestro estudio de ejercicios! Los niños están aprendiendo una postura de yoga para cada letra del alfabeto. Se divertieron en nuestro "gimnasio" del aula mientras corrían en la cinta de correr y aprendieron sobre varios grupos musculares mientras hacían circuitos de acondicionamiento físico. También hablamos sobre alimentos saludables y los compramos en nuestra "tienda de comestibles". Aracely y yo hemos estado reflexionando sobre cuánto ha crecido cada estudiante física, social y de desarrollo. Les deseamos la mejor de las suertes mientras continúan hacia Kindergarten y VPK en el otoño. Cada día se pasa aprendiendo, pero también riendo, abrazándose y creando recuerdos para siempre. Gracias a las familias por permitirnos enseñarles y nutrirlos cada día.



## Family Engagement Activity

### Searching for Sounds Game 122 by Teaching Strategies

Find various objects around the house and describe the sound your child can make with each object. Your child becomes more familiar with his environment when he has the chance to hear and classify sounds.

#### **Why this is important**

A surprising variety of sounds can be made around the house. Exposure to these sounds help your child recognize, label, and describe them. Knowing and classifying everyday sounds are part of your child's growing awareness of the world. Since sounds occur and then are gone, they demand a different kind of thinking and memory than do objects that will remain in view.

#### **What you do**

- Walk around the room with your child, and stop near various objects as you wonder aloud, What kind of sound could this make? Encourage your child to experiment with the object to create sound.
- Describe any sound your child makes, such as with a pan and spoon: Listen to the loud clang, clang, clang!
- Show him how various objects can make different sounds. For example, drop a small, plastic toy into the sink: I hear a soft splash.
- Review the sounds with your child at the end of the game: Let's think about the sounds that we just made and decide which ones were loud and which ones were soft. First, we heard the sound the pan made. Was it loud or soft?

### **Children's E-Book Suggestion.**

[Grandpa's Garden - Read Aloud - YouTube](#)

[Harvesting Friends by Kathleen Contreras - YouTube](#)

[A Gift for Amma: Market Day in India by Meera Sriram - YouTube](#)



## Policy Council Notes

### **Meeting Date April 27th, 2023**

April Policy Council met via Zoom on April 27, 2023. Quorum was established with (12) policy council representatives present.

March 2023 Policy Council minutes were approved.

Leadership Team Highlights presented by Tanya Hall, Director of Early Learning Programs. Leadership Team highlighted Lee Ann Vega, Education Manager for Volusia County.

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

Enrollment and attendance report reviewed by Jennifer Fowler, ERSEA Manager. All approved.

Meal & Snack reports for February 2023 reviewed by Seth Williams, Health Services Manager. All approved.

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

Staff Reports, Change of Scope and service area updates briefed by Tanya Hall.

Parent Activity Funds Request reviewed by Jennifer Fowler. Spring Hill Center, already voted on. Informational purposes.

Next Policy Council meeting is Thursday, May 25, 2023.