



January Newsletter Head Start Blended @ Blue Lake Elementary School

Welcome back for the second half of the school year! Hope everyone enjoyed their break.

For the month of January, we will begin with the theme “Animals Everywhere.” We will talk about the animals we know and love and how to care for them. The children will learn the difference between sea animals and land animals. In math, the children will be sorting, comparing, estimating, and learning what is alike and different. The letters we will focus on this month are F, A and Z. Help your child find and share letters he/she knows when reading together and then practice the sounds.

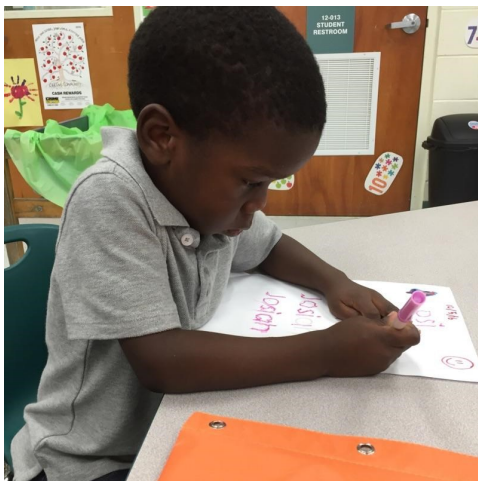
In Second Step, the children will be learning fair ways to play and how to manage waiting.

If you are going to be late or if your child is going to be absent, you can contact the teachers by calling 386-248-5883.

Ms. Marilyn and Ms. Anita

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **January 4th** Classes resume
- Parent Meeting **January 10th** at **8:00am**
- Holiday **January 16th** No School
- Parent Activity **January 18th** at **11:15am**



Hi Parents,

Nelly Pagan, Family Advocate:

I hope that everybody had a wonderful holiday. I want to thank all of the parents that participated in the Field Trip to Santa's Christmas Farm. We all had a great time!

As a reminder, please save the day for the parents meetings, we have valuable information to share with you.

If you need my assistance with anything PLEASE don't hesitate to call me at (386) 774-1520 or email me: npagan@mfcs.us.com.

See you soon!

Cordially,

Nelly Ann Pagan, Family Advocate

(352) 277-1619

Bilingual

Policy Council

Policy Council update for December 2016

The December Policy Council meeting was held on Tuesday, December 13th at 10:00 am via video conference. Fourteen policy council members (12 parents and 2 community partner members) were present.

The following persons were approved for hire:

Dawnelle Noles, Program Substitute – Volusia (east side)

Yeymary Gordian, Center Aide – Coleman Center, Volusia

The following reports were approved: Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center. Three parent activity requests were approved.

The Galileo Outcomes Analysis Report and six new educational procedures were reviewed.

The next Policy Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 10 am. It will be a face to face meeting in Leesburg.



Talking is Teaching



Hey Mom and Dad! Guess what? Raising smart kids is easy! According to an article in the Huffington Post, one of the biggest things you can do to help your preschooler learn is to TALK to them!!!

The research began fifteen years ago, and today there is proof that talking to very young children can make a BIG difference in their social, emotional and cognitive development. Children who have “talkative parents” -- meaning parents who explain things, who ask questions, who respond to the child, are likely to be smarter. “Early talk” plays a major role in a child’s language development; language development is the key to literacy and **literacy is the single-most predictor of long term academic and professional success.**

So TALK, TALK, and TALK to your small child about everything. Talk while you do the dishes, watch TV, and shop for groceries. ***“We’re washing these dishes in warm soapy water so they will be clean. We want them clean so we won’t get germs. What do you think would happen if we didn’t wash our dishes? What if we didn’t use soap?”*** Anyone can do it. To raise a smarter child, just carry on a conversation! Not only will your child feel special, you will be creating the language-rich environment essential for your child’s future success.

For more information, please talk to your child’s teacher and visit the Galileo web site for home activities that promote language. It has been a pleasure serving you my friends, and I wish you all the happiness and peace that comes from raising awesome children to succeed.

