



March Newsletter Head Start Blended @ Blue Lake Elementary School

Spring is just around the corner. For the month of March, we will begin with the theme "In the City; In the Country". We will compare the differences of what the city is like and what the country is like. We will look at pictures, read books, and construct buildings with boxes. In math, the children will be creating groups and separating them to learn basic addition and subtraction. They will be examining equal groups and learning about whole and parts. The children will also be learning about coins.

The letters we will focus on this month are C, Q, and V. We will use such words as build/construct, tools, machine, and size. Help your child find and share letters he/she knows when reading together and then practice the sounds.

In Second Step, the topics will be all about play. The children will be learning how to invite others to play and how to join with a friend or in a group.

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. Barbara

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Parent Meeting **March 8th** at **8:00am**
- Student holiday/Teacher work day **March 9th**
- Spring Break **March 12 –16**

**PERFECT
ATTENDANCE**

for the month of March

Taliyah Knight
Ryan Rapp
Mekhi Redding





From the Desk of Pamela Fernet, CDS

Can't believe March is already upon us. It seems like the months are flying by much too quickly. February was a flash and I am sure summer will be here in the blink of an eye. We had lots of exciting events that occurred in February and have much more to come in March.

We are delighted with the progress of all our children at this point of the school year. All have totally excelled in all their preschool activities. Our staff feels so fortunate to have such delightful, bright and beautiful children.

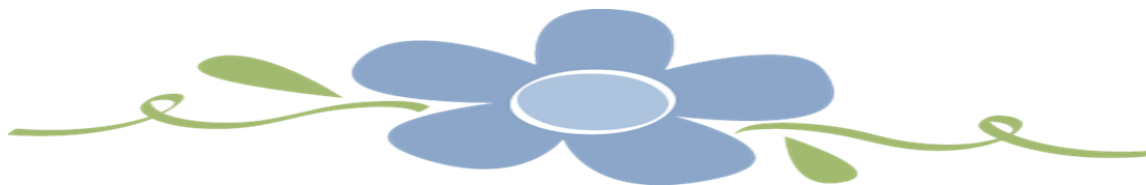
We also appreciate all of our parents' efforts in our behalf. Your participation and communication makes our job so much easier. Thank you for taking the time to allow the Teachers to come into your homes for the home visits. It's great to see the children in their natural environments. It helps the teachers learn so much about them.

March presents another fun filled and busy month in our center. We will continue to fill the student's days with a combination of fun activities, educational games and many other events.

**Don't forget Daylight Savings Time starts on March 11, 2018.
Set those clocks ahead one hour.**

Our Transition into Kindergarten will begin this month. Please see you child's teacher to ask what they will be doing and what you can do at home to help your child with this transition.

Come in to Volunteer in Your Child's Classroom!!



Policy Council Update – February 2018

The February Policy Council Meeting was held on Thursday, Feb. 22nd at Mid Florida Head Start/Early Head Start Administrative Offices in Hernando and Volusia Counties via video conference. Fourteen policy council members were present. Twelve staff members were present.

The attendance rate of several classrooms fell below 85% last month. The primary reason for absences was illness.

The following reports were approved: *Budget, Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Areas and Centers.* Parent Activity requests for EVEC and Jo Sheppard were approved. New hires for the following positions were approved: One substitute teacher - Hernando ; Three substitute teachers - Volusia; One Early Head Start Teacher at Malloy - Volusia; One Early Head Start Teacher at Oakridge-Volusia. The submission of an Early Head Start grant application in the amount of \$154,612 was approved.

Denise Thompson, Disabilities Services Coordinator, made a presentation about Disabilities Services provided by the Head Start/Early Head Start program. She explained how the program helps children prepare for school by conducting developmental screenings (if consented by parents), providing referrals for additional evaluations and individualization.

The program is set to expand soon with the opening of one more Early Head Start classroom at the Malloy center and one more at the Hernando center. The program's recent proposal to provide child care services at Hope Place, a transitional housing community in Volusia, has been accepted and negotiations to initiate the services are in process. The program will open classrooms at this location in the near future.

The annual audit for the agency has been completed. The audit resulted in no findings. The federal review visit was conducted during the week of Feb. 12th. We are awaiting information as to the outcome of the visit.

