



October Newsletter Head Start Blended @ Blue Lake Elementary

Isn't Florida just beautiful! Fall is already here and it still feels like summer. Keep an eye on the weather because it could change very quickly and you may need your sweaters. Then get out and enjoy the cooler air.

We will begin the month of October with a nutrition lesson about fruits and vegetables, with a focus on strawberries. The children will learn the difference between the fruit and vegetables, the different places they grow, and even try a few. The next theme is "My Senses." The children will discover their environment through the use of their senses. We will be observing how the weather is changing and how the plants are changing. The children will discuss what senses they use when eating, playing, and reading. In math, we are making patterns and graphs, counting numbers, and putting items in order. The letters that we will focus on this month are T, O, and X. Help your child find and share letters he/she knows when reading together.

In Second Step, we will be learning about the different types of feelings we have and how to recognize them in ourselves and in our friends.



Please contact the teachers by calling 386-248-5883, if you are going to be late or if your child is going to be absent. If you are throwing out any magazines or old cell phones, consider donating them to the class. We could use them in art and other center areas. Also please make sure your child has a change of clothes in their backpack or in their cubbie.

Ms. Marilyn & Ms. Anita

**PERFECT
ATTENDANCE**

For the month of September

Aiden M
Mekhi R
Ryan S
Dylan S



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Parent meeting will be on **October 10th at 8:00am.**
- Parent Activity will be on **October 27th at 1:30pm**

News from Julyette Santiago, Your Family Advocate

Finally October. I love this time of the year where many family and school activities are approaching. I hope everyone is well with their families after Hurricane Irma. **(Information for help is below.)**

Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner. Here I send you information where you can find help for toys and clothing for the winter at low cost to help you save money.

Finalmente Octubre , Amo este tiempo del año donde se aproximan tantas actividades escolares y familiares. Espero que se encuentren bien despues del Huracan Irma. **(Informacion para ayuda ver abajo.)**

Accion de Gracias y Navidades estan a la vuelta de la esquina , aqui les envio informacion donde pueden buscar juguetes y ropa de invierno a bajo costo para ayudarle a ahorrar dinero.

1. Toys for Tots: www.VolusiaCountyToysforTots.com
REGISTRATION WILL OPEN OCTOBER 1, 2017
2. Salvation Army: www.salvationarmyflorida.org/volusia
3. Goodwill Stores: www.goodwill.org
4. Once Upon Child: onceuponachilddaytonabeach.com
5. FEMA : <https://www.disasterassistance.gov>
6. More information about food assistance is available at www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/.
7. Here is this other program for kids with Special Needs.
Nathaniel's Hope!: <https://www.nathanielshope.org/>



Important Announcements:

- 1) Parent Meeting: October 12, 2017 at 8:00 am

Reminders:

1. Attends school daily and arrives on time ready for each day learning experience.
 2. Please pick up your children on time by 3:00 pm.
 3. Very important to attends Parent Meeting
- Please attend Family Engagement Activities. These are for the benefit of your children and family.

Julyette Santiago

Family Advocate

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Blue Lake Elementary

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Welcome to Volusia Head Start

From the Desk of Pam Call, CDS

Fall is here and we are already off to a wonderful beginning of preschool here at our center. A warm welcome to you all and I hope that the school year is off to a great start for you and your family! We have had a wonderful start to our school year and it seems as though everyone has made a smooth transition. If your child is still having a difficult time separating, please be sure to make an appointment with your child's teacher and myself so we can help to ease the transition some. By working together, we can make this a wonderful beginning to your child's education. Your children are all a delight and they will teach us many things. They will help us remember how to play, live in the moment, and to make new discoveries. Let's be models of the behavior we want them to have; cooperate, share, take turns, laugh, play and "use our words".

Remember we encourage volunteering and welcome all of you to join our teachers and children in the classrooms. Your children enjoy seeing you in the classroom and so do we...

Be sure to attend the next parent meeting at your center, you can check with your teacher or family advocate if you are not sure when it is. Our open house will be this month also, please come so you can receive your Galileo log-in information.

Please do your best to bring your child to school every day we understand that things happen, so if your child can't come please be sure to call your child's teacher to let them know they will not be here or that they will be late.





Policy Council

UPDATE of September 2017 Meeting

The **September Policy Council meeting** was held on Thursday, September 28th at 10:00am at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg. Eight 2016-17 policy council members were present. Two community members were present. The Mid Florida Community Services Board of Directors liaison was also present. Numerous members of the Mid Florida Head Start/Early Head Start Administrative Team were present. Several newly elected 2017-18 Policy Council representatives attended. The new representatives could not vote during this meeting because they have not received the Policy Council training yet.

The following reports were *discussed*: Budget, Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Areas and Centers.

The following items were *reviewed*:

- **Family Engagement Plan** - Several parenting curriculums have been reviewed. One will be selected for our program.
- **PIR (Program Information Report)** - Highlights of 2016 -17 Head Start services included a high percentage of well credentialed staff, positive health outcomes, and an increased focus on capturing male involvement.
- Policy council members were asked about their training needs. Any future training interests or needs should be sent to Family Advocates.
- **Awards were presented** to parents who completed 1 year of service and 3 years of service on the Head Start Policy Council. Kim Ferwin (Spring Hill Center), Adelani Adekunle (Horizon Elem.), James Norton in absentia (Center), Juan Echezebal (Holly Hill Elem.). Community members Chuck Moreau and Jackie Davis also received service awards. A plaque was given to Trevene Christian-(Westside Elem.) for committed service as Head Start Policy Council Chairman. Each recipient gave a short speech highlighting how Policy Council has benefitted them and encouraging new representatives to expect good things from their involvement with Policy Council.

The following **announcements** were made:

- The recent update to Performance Standards allows parents to serve on Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council for a total 5 years in lifetime. The old term limit was 3 years in lifetime.
- Kim Ferwin (Spring Hill Center) was acknowledged for having Perfect Attendance at Policy Council Meetings during 2016-2017 program year.
- The program specialist from the Head Start Region IV Office will be visiting our program in November.

The **next Policy Council meeting** is scheduled for Thursday, November 16th. The meeting will be conducted via video conference. Participants will meet at the conference room in their county.