



January 2017

Program of Excellence
Mid Florida Community Services, Inc.

Volume 1—Number-5

Making Your Home a Place for Readers

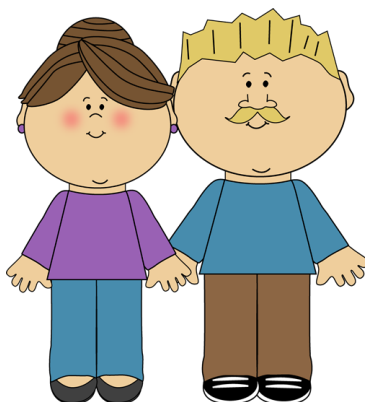
Several tips to help parents of young children promote literacy at home.

- Choose a quiet time for reading to your child, as in before a nap, bed-time, or after dinner.
- Choose a special place for family reading, like a comfortable chair or pillows piled on the floor.
- Let child select the book for you to read aloud.
- Hold the book so that she or he can see the pictures. If possible, also let her or him turn the pages.
- Take time to look at and talk about the pictures. Don't just read the story: talk about it. Let your child point out letters, shapes, colors, and animals.
- Understand that reading begins at home. Children read their environments, so make your home a print rich environment.
- Read ! Don't expect reading to be important to your children if they see that it's not important to you.
- Invite your child to read to you. If he or she is a pre- reader, he'll often interpret his own story using illustrations and his imagination.
- Make lists, lots of them. Make them for grocery shopping, books to buy and things to take on trips.
- Read aloud to your child every day.

***adapted from My First Week of School by Derrick Grant.

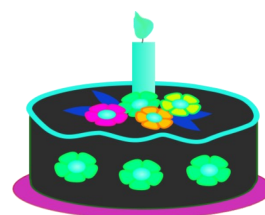
Important Dates to Remember

- ⇒ Jan. 10- Students Return
- ⇒ Jan. 12- Parent Meeting @ 6pm
- ⇒ Jan. 12- Dad's Day @ 9:30am
- ⇒ Jan. 16- No School- Holiday- Dr. MLK Birthday
- ⇒ Jan. 23-27: All Pro Dad's Week
- ⇒ Feb. 3- Picture Day



Happy Birthday

Ms. Heloise- Jan. 18
Javon B. -Jan. 30



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From Your CDS

By Ronjaneen Harris,
Child Development Specialist

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and is having a happy New Year. Please make sure you dress your child for the cold weather in warm clothes and closed-in shoes. Also, make sure you bring your child an extra pair of warm clothes to place in their cubbies.

This month, we look forward to seeing you at the parent meeting, the male involvement activity, and other classroom activities. Also, the teachers will begin to schedule home visits. If you have any questions about any of these activities, please ask your child's teacher.

Each month, your child's teacher sends home two home activities for you to do with your child. Please understand that the interaction between you and your child is very important. When your child sees that you enjoy spending time with them and that learning is important, they will be enthusiastic about learning and also believe that learning is important. Your child is learning so much from doing the home activities.

When your child plays with puzzles, beads, lace cards, and math manipulatives, they learn eye-hand coordination; number concepts like more and less, longer and shorter; how to create and reproduce patterns; concepts of color, shape and location; how to use number words; first, second...; how to notice differences and to form categories; left and right progression (a reading skill); one to one correspondence; and patterning skills. So, continue working with your children on the home activity and returning the signed forms to the teacher.

Please go on the Galileo Parent Center to view your child's progress. If you need any assistance with the Galileo Parent Center, please ask your child's teacher or give me a call at 352-754-2464, 256.



Carlina Lindo, Bushnell FA



Hoping everyone had a wonderful break and is looking forward to having a Prosperous and a Happy New Year 2017. What's your resolution for 2017? These are some common resolutions for Bushnell Head Start: Go back to school, enhance your knowledge and improve your skills, reduce stress, save money and don't forget to add to your list, volunteering. This month, these activities will take place:

Tuesday, January 10, 2017 –Classes Resume

Thursday, January 12, 2017 – Parent Meeting @6pm

NO SCHOOL - Monday, January 16, 2017 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday

Things to remember: CLASSES BEGIN AT 8:00AM, DON'T BE LATE. Sign your child in/ Out Daily, No Outside Food/Toys, and Check Backpacks Daily. Shots and physicals must be updated for the New Year. If you change your phone or address notify your FA immediately.

Defensora de Familias - Carlina Lindo

La esperanza de oír que todos tuvieron un descanso maravilloso y esperando con entusiasmo de un Próspero y Feliz Año Nuevo 2017. ¿Cuál es su resolución del 2017? Estas son algunas resoluciones comunes de Bushnell Head Start: Volver a la escuela, mejorar su conocimiento y mejorar sus habilidades, reducir el estrés, ahorrar dinero y no te olvides de añadir a tu lista, servir de voluntario. Durante el mes de Enero del 2017, algunas de las actividades se llevarán a cabo:

Martes, 10 de Enero – Las clases resumen

Jueves, 12 de Enero - Reunión de Padres a las 6pm

NO HAY CLASES - Lunes, 16 de Enero – Se celebra el cumpleaños del Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Acuerdense: LAS CLASES EMPIEZAN A LAS

8:00AM, NO LLEGUES TARDE. Firme su niño diario, no se permite comidas ó juguetes de afuera y revise las mochilas (back packs) diariamente. Las vacunas y físico de su niño tiene que estar al día para el año nuevo. Notifique a su trabajadora de familia si cambia su número de teléfono o si tiene una nueva dirección.

Classroom News

We went on our first field trip. The children performed holiday songs during the ladies luncheon at Continental Country Club in Wildwood. The Ladies Club is one of the sponsors during the holiday season that provides our families with toys and clothing. Please speak with Ms. Lindo about signing a card to show your appreciation for their donations.

January brings us further into the school year. The VPK children will be having their second VPK assessment done during this month. If you are the parent of a VPK child, you will be receiving your child's scores when the assessment is completed. Please compare your child's score with their first assessment score. This will allow you to see what areas your child needs to strengthen.

As teachers, we want to continue to encourage you to become involved with your child's education. This can be done through volunteering, participating in school activities, and working with them on their home activities.

Working as a team can only assure your child's continued success in school.

Mrs. Tammy/Mrs. Michelle
Ms. Heloise

Home Activity

Learning about Technology

Explore and help your child learn to use the technology devices you have at home or at the local library:

- Turn computer off/on
- How to operate a CD player, Ipad, Digital Camera, etc.
- Identify parts of a computer (keyboard, monitor, mouse, on/off button)

Parent to Parent

Parents,
If you have anything you would like to share with other parents and families, please see your family advocate so they can assist you with getting information in the newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you.

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.

Thank You to Our Holiday Sponsors

The following community agencies and community people donated gifts to our center during the month of December.

- ♦ Continental Country Club, Wildwood
- ♦ Promise Hospital, Oxford
- ♦ United Way of Lake and Sumter Counties
- ♦ Sumter County Sheriff's Dept.
- ♦ Nichole Stephens– Past Head Start Parent



2017 Happy New Year!



*Check out our
Product and Safety News*



1

7-Eleven Fresh to Go

Cookies Undeclared Peanuts

2

CVS Spiced Herbal

Tea

Potential Salmonella Poisoning

3

Peach Slices and

Mixed Fruit Potential Glass

[http://www.safekids.org/
product-
re-
calls#sthash.6JbMbUKu.dpuf](http://www.safekids.org/product-recalls#sthash.6JbMbUKu.dpuf)

As we start a New Year, we want to focus on setting new habits, and stick with them.

Like; Reading on a daily basis. The more books you read to your child

the more they will understand how important reading really is.

It will also help develop their vocabulary.

Also, work with them on number activities.

Count clothes as you work on laundry, count signs as you drive or even the trees you drive by.

What ever you can find!

This will help them prepare them for a lifelong of math. Make school activates fun. ☺

I know we will have an awesome 2017!

BE THE DIFFERENCE!

School Readiness/Parent Advocate

Luis Leon

Head Start Family Engagement Coordinator

835 School St. Brooksville, FL

352-754-2464

Parent Meeting Minutes

Bushnell Head Start Parent Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, December 6, 2016, at 6:00pm. Welcome and introductions by Ms. Audrey Moyer chairperson. Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa are celebrated in December.

Skills demonstration by teachers and students: "We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

Ms. Moyer explained the need for parents to contact the center when their child is going to be absent or late. Perfect attendance presented by Ms. Lindo.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved by parents.

Policy Council Representative Ms. Benoit gave an update. Parents voted Ms. Audrey Moyer to be Policy Council Rep. Alternate.

Physical, immunizations, dental exams / treatment need to be updated immediately.

Mrs. Herring gave classroom update and reminded parents to bring their child to school every day.

Parent Handouts: Who's Really Watching your child?, For Kids' Sake/Think Toy Safety, National Stress-Free Family Holiday Month, Poem Against Drunk Driving, Dates and Deadline for 2017 health insurance.

Dates of events/activities and other announcements: Parent Training "It's a Health Thing" is Thursday, 12/8/16 @ Hernando Head Start, Transportation will be provided. Van will leave at 8am from Bushnell Center and returning 1pm. Story Time on Friday 12/9/16 @9:30am by Melissa Merritt w/McGruff, Field Trip to Continental Country Club on Tuesday 12/13/16; Gift Distribution will be announced. Story time was changed from 12/15/16 to 12/8/16 @9:30am due to Volunteer has been ill. Winter Break begins 12/22/16 thru 1/9/17. Classes resume on 1/10/17. Parent activity is scheduled for 2/21/17 from 6-8pm. Activity is for adults only. Spring Fling activity is schedule for Thursday 4/13/17, 12:30pm-2pm.

Meeting Adjourned. The Bushnell Staff thanked parents for attending Parent Meeting. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Next parent meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 12, 2017 @6pm. Refreshments served.

"Don't worry about failures, worry about the chances you miss when you don't even try" by Jack Canfield