



May 2017

Program of Excellence  
Mid Florida Community Services, Inc.

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## Transitioning to Kindergarten

Children go through many transitions throughout their lives, but one of the most important transitions is the one from a preschool program to kindergarten. "During this period behavior is shaped and attitudes are formed that will influence children throughout their education" (PTA and Head Start, 1999). Children's transitions are most strongly influenced by their home environment, the preschool program they attend, and the continuity between preschool and kindergarten (Riedinger, 1997).

The transition from preschool to kindergarten can be a stressful

time for both children and parents. However, if preschool teachers can facilitate collaboration between parents and kindergarten and familiarize children with the workings of kindergarten, it will be a smoother process. Parents need to try to find a developmentally appropriate class for their child by observing different classrooms and talking to teachers about educational philosophies. Preschool teachers, with their knowledge of different learning styles and the temperaments of their students, can help everyone with this important transition.



[http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/earlychildhood/article\\_view.aspx?](http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/earlychildhood/article_view.aspx?)

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### Important Dates to Remember

May 2- Parent Meeting @ 6pm  
May 4 & 25- Good Works Reader  
May 16- Transition to Kindergarten Meeting @ 2pm  
May 22- Field Trip  
May 25- End of Year Celebration  
May 26- Last Day of School, Dismissal @ 12:30pm



Cooking in Classroom 02

## From Your CDS

Ronjaneen Harris,  
Child Development Specialist

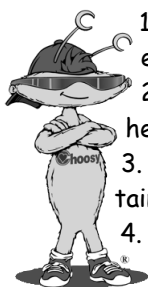
As this school year comes to an end, we would like to thank you for all your participation and dedication to your children and our program. You are very much appreciated.

Although research shows that many children often lose many skills they acquired prior to the summer months, this does not have to happen. There are many things that you can do with your children to maintain many of these skills. You can start by reading with your children.

There are a lot of great websites with a variety of activities, such as space, arcades, book clubs, club hubs, promotions, e-newsletters, parent files, fun reading, web books, comics, color, movies, fun blogs, playgrounds, and lots of games that make learning fun you can use with your children over the summer months. Some of the websites are the following: [pbskids.org/games.com/](http://pbskids.org/games.com/), [www.funbrain.com/](http://www.funbrain.com/), <http://sites.target.com/site/en/readysitread/home.jsp>, [http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/about\\_us/index.asp](http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/about_us/index.asp), and <http://www.maisyfunclub.coms>.

You can contact Bushnell Library at Bushnell Public Library; 402 N. Florida St. , Bushnell, FL 33513 ; Phone: 352.689.4567 ; Fax: 352.569.1791; Monday-Thursday 9:00am - 7:00pm; Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm., and Saturday 9:00am - 6:00pm Have a wonderful summer and make learning fun.

## Why Children Should Exercise



1. Kids who exercise are more likely to keep exercising as an adult.
2. Exercise helps kids achieve and maintain a healthy body weight.
3. Regular physical activity helps build and maintain strong, healthy muscles, bones and joints.
4. Exercise aids in the development of important interpersonal skills—this is especially true for participation in team sports.
5. Exercise improves the quantity and quality of sleep.
6. Research shows that exercise promotes improved school attendance and enhances academic performance.
7. Kids who exercise have greater self-esteem and better self-images.
8. Participating in regular physical activity prevents or delays the development of many chronic diseases.

Source: [https://www.acefitness.org/updateable/update\\_display.aspx?pageID=638](https://www.acefitness.org/updateable/update_display.aspx?pageID=638)

## Carlina Lindo, Bushnell FA

*April showers bring May flowers  
A mother is a person who seeing there are  
only four pieces of pie for five.*

**Hoping that you attend our Final Parent  
Meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 @6pm**

### OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER:

Storytime – Thursdays 5/4/17 & 5/25/17 @9:30am  
Cinco de Mayo – Friday May 5, 2017  
Head Start Recruits @ Walmart – Friday 5/12/17  
Mother's Day – Sunday, May 14, 2017  
Transition to Kindergarten – Tuesday, 5/16/17, @2pm  
End of Year Celebration – Thursday 5/25/17 @12:30pm  
First Day of Ramadan begins at sundown – Friday, 5/26/17  
Memorial Day Observed – Holiday – Monday, 5/29/17  
We continue taking applications for children who will be 3 or 4 years old by September 1, 2017

Things to remember: CLASSES BEGIN AT 8:00AM, DON'T BE LATE. Sign your child in & Out Daily, No Outside Food or Toys and Check Back Packs Daily. Update Shots and physical.

*Lluvias de abril traen flores en Mayo  
Una madre es una persona que viendo  
que había sólo cuatro piezas de pastel para cinco*

El mes de Mayo, 2017, el mes del Asma, las alergias y algunas actividades tomaran lugar:  
Esperando verlo en la ultima reunión de padres, el Martes, 2 de Mayo del 2017 a las 6pm

### Otras fechas de recordar:

Tiempo de cuentos – Storytime – Jueves 5/4/17 y 5/25/17 a las 9:30am  
Cinco de Mayo – Viernes 5 de Mayo del 2017  
Head Start estará reclutando en Walmart – Viernes 12 de Mayo del 2017  
Día de las Madres – Domingo 14 de Mayo del 2017  
Transición a Kindergarten – Martes 5/16/17 a las 2pm  
Celebración de fin de año– Jueves 25 de Mayo del 2017  
Primer día de Ramadan (Tradición Musulmana) comienza al atardecer – Viernes, 5/29/17  
Día conmemorativo observado – Lunes, 29 de Mayo del 2017.

## Classroom News

Dear Parents:

Can you believe we are now in the last month of the school year? For us as teachers it has been a journey filled with much laughter and joy. Being able to see the children progress in their growth and learning has been a gift we will treasure forever.

For those children who will be returning next year to Head Start, they will transition from classroom 02 into classroom 01. Discuss changes that will occur and help your child become excited and look forward to the next school year.

Our final field trip is scheduled for May 22. We will be visiting the local Sheriff Dept. to see the Helicopter and then lunch at Kenny Dixon Sports Complex. Parents are always invited to join us. Contact your child's teacher for more information.

Our end of the year celebration will be May 25. We will have a "Fun in the Sun" day.

Please send a change of clothing and a towel in a plastic bag on that day as we will be getting wet. More information will be coming prior to the event..

Thank you for all your support this school year.

Mrs. Tammy / Mrs. Michelle  
Ms. Heloise / Ms. Carlie

## Policy Council update for May 2017

The April Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. It was a face to face meeting at the Holiday Inn Express in Leesburg, Florida. Eleven policy council members (9 parents and 2 community partner members) were present. Fourteen persons were approved for hire.

The following reports were approved/accepted: February 2017 Budget, January - February 2017 Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center.

The MFCS Annual Audit was reviewed by Program Director, Heidi Rand. There were no findings. Policy council members were encouraged to review the document and advised that additional copies could be made available upon request.

A review of the Community Wide Strategic Planning and Needs Assessment was led by Carol Coffie, Assistant Director of Early Learning Programs. The review included the process for data collection and a summary of the 828 survey responses. The top five needs identified by parents include Child Care, Transportation, Employment, Dental Care and Housing.

Policy Council members approved the following revisions to the By Laws:

*EHS will have representation on Policy Council*

*Centers with more than 5 classrooms can have an additional representative on Policy Council*

*Policy council to meet at least 10 times per year*

Policy council members were asked about their training needs. Any future training interests or needs should be sent to Heidi Rand.

Heidi Rand provided the following update about the Early Head Start (EHS) Expansion:

*Classrooms at the Jo Sheppard site and the Hernando Head Start site are being renovated and are expected to be completed by mid-June*

*Additional EHS Classrooms will be renovated and opened later in the program year*

*EHS training for managers has been scheduled for early May*

*Training for teachers, family service and health service members is being coordinated for early June.*

*Attempts are being made to coordinate a CDA credential training for anyone interested in being an Early Head Start teacher*

*All classrooms at Pathways Port Orange location will become Head Start/ Early Head Start classrooms as of 2017-18 program year.*

The following announcements were made:

*Applications for Early Head Start and Head Start for 2017-18 program year are being accepted*

*Week of May 1<sup>st</sup> is Teacher Appreciation Week*

*Note of thanks was given to Juan Echezebal, Rocio Renteria and Adelani Adekunle for being a part of interview teams for Early Head Start/Head Start positions*

The next Policy Council meeting date will be announced.

## Home Activity

**Bug Watching:** Explore the great outdoors and warm weather by looking for insects. Use a plastic bottle to catch some to observe and later release. Encourage children to use words to describe the insects. Magnifying glasses can be purchased at your local dollar store and increase the enjoyment of this activity.



Exploring and Learning in Classroom 01

## 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.





Check out our  
Product and Safety News



**1** Sabra Hummus  
Possible listeria contamination

**2** Calbee Harvest Black Pepper Snap Pea Crisps  
Possible misbranding and undeclared allergens

**3** Wayne Farms Ready-To-Eat Chicken Breast Products  
Potentially undercooked

[www.safekids.org/](http://www.safekids.org/)



Juan L. - May 5; Rose'Aunna- May 15; Jalen L. - May 20  
Cara P. - May 29

## Parent Engagement

May is HERE!!!

As we wind down this school year, we think of many great moments.

Seeing your child succeed in school is our greatest memory!

This summer, take your kids to the park! Have family races! Go swimming! Simply, have active FUN!

Always remember "Choosy"! Help your children eat more fruits and vegetables!

And of course: It's Mother's Day! Let's celebrate!

Luis Leon, Family Engagement Coordinator

## Parent Meeting Minutes

Mid Florida Community Services, Inc. Bushnell Head Start Parent Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 @ 6pm. Welcome and introduction by Audrey Moyer- Chairperson. The following handouts given to parents: Head Start Website and Facebook page, SC Baby Shower, Spring Fling Flyer.

I am Moving I am Learning (IMIL) skills demonstrations were done by teachers and children. Minutes were read and approved by parents. No Policy Council Updates.

Six children received Perfect Attendance certificates for the month of March, 2017. Attendance for the month of March 2017 was Class #1-91%; Class #2-83%. Ms. Lindo showed video about Importance of Attendance.

Mrs. Herring informed the parents that Transition to Kindergarten meeting on 5/16/17 @ 2pm. Education Updates: Final VPK Assessment will be done in May. Field Trip scheduled for 4/13/17 Class 1 and 2 (3 yr. olds) will be going to Kenny Dixon Park. 7 VPK students from Class 01 will visit Bushnell Elementary School.

Ms. Lindo announced that children returning to Head Start for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year will need to complete/update information.

BUSHNELL CENTER ACTIVITIES, UPCOMING EVENTS, CELEBRATIONS AND COMMUNITY UPDATES for APRIL & MAY 2017. Head Start is now taking applications for children ages 3 or 4 by September 1, 2017 - Contact #352-793-3737.

Spring Fling: 4/13/17 from 12pm- 2pm; Head Start closed Friday 4/14/17; Recruitment @ Walmart Friday 4/21/17 from 9am - 1pm; Earth Day: Saturday 4/22/17; Dr. Madison from the Health Department visits on Monday 4/24/17; Male/Parent involvement: Wednesday 4/26/17.

Quote for the evening was: Every child is a different kind of flower and all together, make this world a Beautiful Garden. Happy Mother's Day!, "Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever" Unknown"

Bushnell Staff thanked everyone for attending. Next Parent Meeting: May 2, 2017. Food and Refreshments served.



# National Teacher Appreciation Week is May 7-13, 2017

May 9 is National Teacher Appreciation Day  
Here are a few things that are being said about teachers:

- "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."--Henry Brooks Adams
- "Teachers, I believe, are the most responsible and important members of society because their professional efforts affect the fate of the earth."--Helen Caldicott, author and peace activist
- "The dream begins, most of the time, with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you on to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called truth."--Dan Rather
- "Teachers teach because they care. Teaching young people is what they do best. It requires long hours, patience, and care."--Horace Mann
- "Compassionate teachers fill a void left by working parents who aren't able to devote enough attention to their children. Teachers don't just teach; they can be vital personalities who help young people to mature, to understand the world and to understand themselves. A good education consists of much more than useful facts and marketable skills."--Charles Platt
- "The future of the world is in my classroom today, a future with the potential for good or bad... Several future presidents are learning from me today; so are the great writers of the next decades, and so are all the so-called ordinary people who will make the decisions in a democracy. I must never forget these same young people could be the thieves and murderers of the future. Only a teacher? Thank God I have a calling to the greatest profession of all! I must be vigilant every day, lest I lose one fragile opportunity to improve tomorrow."--Ivan Welton Fitzwater
- "There's no word in the language I revere more than 'teacher.' My heart sings when a kid refers to me as his teacher, and it always has. I've honored myself and the entire family of man by becoming a teacher."--Pat Conroy, Prince of Tides
- "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."--William Arthur Ward
- "The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery."--Mark Van Doren
- "If you plan for a year, plant a seed. If for ten years, plant a tree. If for a hundred years, teach the people. When you sow a seed once, you will reap a single harvest. When you teach the people, you will reap a hundred harvests."--Kuan Chung
- "There is an old saying that the course of civilization is a race between catastrophe and education. In a democracy such as ours, we must make sure that education wins the race."--John F. Kennedy
- "Better than a thousand days of diligent study is one day with a great teacher."--Japanese proverb
- "The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards."--Anatole France
- "Information is the currency of democracy."--Ralph Nader
- "Above all things I hope the education of the common people will be attended to; convinced that on their good sense we may rely with most security for the preservation of a due degree of liberty."--Thomas Jefferson