



Chisholm Head Start

October 2017 Newsletter

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Fall is upon us! (Although we cannot tell it from the temperature outside) and we are off to a wonderful beginning of our preschool year. Hello to you everyone! We have all been impacted by the storm and are happy to be back at school continuing to help your children transition into the routines again. The children have been busy making friends and having fun.

Your children are all a delight and as they are learning, we can all learn from them each day too. They will help us remember how to play, how to live in the present moment, and how to make new discoveries. As grown-ups, we can also be models of the behavior we want them to learn: cooperation, sharing, taking turns, laughing, playing and “using our words” to communicate our needs.

All of us at Head Start have been enjoying each day since the school year has begun and we hope you will think of your child’s days spent here in the classroom as a joy . . . this is a special time for you to spend watching your child grow and learn. Remember, parents are welcome to join teachers and children in the classroom and we encourage you to volunteer when possible. Your children will enjoy seeing you at school so be sure to participate in parent engagement activities, meetings and special events when you can.

We try to give lots of reminders and you can always check with your teacher or me if you are not sure when activities are scheduled. Open House will be happening this month on October 19th.. Please attend so that you can receive your Galileo login information which will allow you to view your child’s progress throughout the year.

Please do your very best to bring your child to school every day. We understand that things do happen, and if your child cannot attend, please be sure to call your child’s teacher to let them know they will not be coming or that they will be late on a particular day. Keep an eye on the calendar for all of the fun activities the teachers’ have planned for your child during the month of October!



OCTOBER's Important Dates:

10/16 No School

10/19 Open House

10/24 Parent Meeting

10/27 male

Involvement Ask your teacher about **parent engagement activities** this month.

From Classroom 1: Ms. Sharonda & Ms. Tria

Greetings Head Start family!

Classroom 1 has enjoyed the themes on Friends All around Me, Pedestrian Safety and What's Your Job. The children are learning that it is okay to feel happy, sad, excited, mad and even angry. The children are continuing to learn the classroom expectation; Eyes Watching, Ears Listening, Voice, Quiet and Body Safe. Our goals over the weeks have been, developing alphabet knowledge, number recognition, name recognition, using appropriate words or gestures to relate feelings, needs or opinions and following a simple one step direction. As we fall in into "FALL" season, we will explore its characteristics such as, smells; weather, time changing, leaves and fall colors. Mrs. Shauntria and I have Fallen in love with all of our children and we are blessed to be a part of their little world.

From Classroom 2: Ms. Lynn & Ms. Carmen

It has been a crazy start to the school year with Hurricane Irma making her self well known to us. But we are getting back on track and routine, the children did get a little off schedule with that week off. We have been learning about one another, our families, our community. We have been working on identifying shapes and colors, alphabet knowledge, Pedestrian Safety, our feelings and appropriate ways to express our feelings. Identifying our names, holding and using writing instruments.

Extended Day: Ms. Amber & Ms. Melanie

In extended day we want to thank each and everyone for allowing us to care for your child just a little bit longer. We at extended day follow the classroom lessons we eat family style and we learn to grow using words and encouragement. So keep the excitement in learning, read a book, sing some songs, writing, and doing arts and crafts.

Family Advocate, Ms. Petersen

Hello

I would like to say thank you to all the parents, guardians and relatives for allowing us here at Chisholm Head Start to be a part of your child's learning experience. I would also like to remind you all to bring in current Immunization records and physicals. Also, try not to forget about the Lead and hemoglobin test as well as the Dental exams. As a reminder if you were given a 30 day waiver please try and get those records up to date as soon as possible. Unfortunately, if your child has an expired physical or shot record he/she may not be eligible to stay in school. I would like to say Thank you again for all that you do! We appreciate each and everyone one of you.

Policy Council update for September 2017

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.





Classroom 2

A'Lana 10/3

Lawrence 10/8

Gianna 10/29

A Special Thank You to our Grandma, Ms. Pat:

The children begin bringing books home from the lending library that we have here at our school and it's Ms. Pat who is the one responsible for this. She went out and purchased these books so the children here can experience borrowing books and returning them and so that our families can read together at home. She sewed each bag that the books come home in. We ask that you please make sure that the books are being taken care of, not written in, torn, or mistreated. These books are for all the children and families to enjoy. The children will bring the book home on Friday and it needs to be returned on Monday. There is a container when you walk in the door to drop the books off in. Please return the books and the bags. Thank you for your help in making our lending library a success.