



Coleman Head Start

December 2016 Issue 4

From the Desk of Dr. Marcy Guddemi, Child Development Specialist

Dear Parents,

I am very happy to be working at Head Start! I worked for Head Start many years ago as a classroom teacher and Education Director. I truly believe that Head Start is an outstanding program, and children and families grow from their participation. So don't be LATE and don't be a NO SHOW. Help your child get to school every day on time and ready to learn.

As I have been observing in the classrooms, I have noticed the types of play that children are engaging in. You more than likely have heard that children learn through play. They learn different things with different types of play. For example, they learn about math with the building blocks: two squares are equal to one long block. Children learn science when they play with or use in art projects different objects from nature: feathers, pine cones, shells, seeds and nuts, leaves, etc. However, the most important play of all is pretend play. In pretend play children learn and practice language, they learn about self-control and turn-taking, and they learn about different roles and the rules that govern that role. For example, the receptionist makes the appointments and the nurses and doctors give the shots. Another important benefit of pretend play is how it helps the child cope with stress. Have you ever seen a child spank a baby doll or give the baby a shot? Help your child pretend play by taking a role yourself. Encourage your child to pretend.

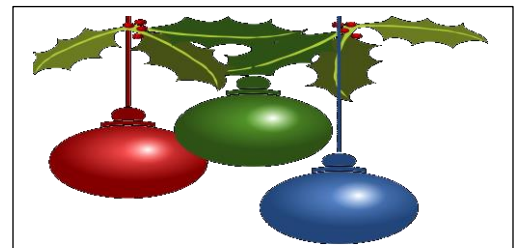
For more about play, please talk to your child's teachers or your center CDS.

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Dates to Remember:

- **Tuesday, December 13, 2016: Parent Meeting @2:15pm.**
- **No School: Wednesday, December 21st, 2016-Wednesday, January 4, 2017**



Classroom 1:

We cannot believe that we are already in December. This school year is going by way to fast. Once again we want to thank all of you for playing a huge role in your child's education. We want your child to be ready for Kindergarten but without your help we can't achieve our goals.

During the month of December, we will be working on The Colors of Fall, Communicate with the World and Winter Carnival. We will continue working in "Alive and Not Alive Things." The children will be reading books about fall, and communicate with the world and what is a winter carnival. The children will be making colleges, and drawing pictures in the art area. We will also learn all about the apple and how it grows in the science area. We will also introduce basic fractions using apples in the math area. We will continue working on counting and recognizing numerals and doing basic math. We will continue recognizing and managing strong feelings by using Second Step curriculum. We will also be doing a nutrition activity "Dilly Spinach Dip," and the children will be able to explore new smells, taste, and textures. Please remember this month the weather will begin to change and become cooler, so make sure your child is dressed accordingly.

Once again thank you for all your help and support.

Sincerely Mrs. Diana Diaz/ Mrs. Mary Heilborn

Dear Parents,

Wow, it's hard to believe that it is December already and half the year is behind us! We have had a great time exploring different types of weather as we made suns, rain pictures and played in our own snow. The kids love being the classroom meterologist who gets to tell everyone the weather forecast for the day (so cute!).

During December we will be learning all about holidays and how our families celebrate them around the world. We will also be working on class presents and discuss how we give to others to show we care. For Second Step, our social emotional program, we will be talking about strong feelings such as anger and how we appropriately express how we are feeling to others. We will also be working on learning the letters in our name as we sing about letters and put our name puzzles together. We hope everyone has a safe and fun winter break.!



Ms. Susan & Ms. Maria

Room 3

We had a great month! In our classroom, our children already learned the routine. They love to come every Monday to pick their “jobs,” which are their classroom responsibilities. They even take care of the classroom management schedule and notice when their friends need help. We were impressed with how well they managed to go on the walking pumpkin field trip and we would like to thank all the parents that took their time to walk with us. They are learning about the weather change now and how animals seek shelter in the bad weather. We already talking about the holidays and the joy the seasonal festivities bring.

Ms. Olga



Classroom 4:

Dear parents:

December is a short and very special month. We will be learning different ways to celebrate the holidays and family traditions. We will use this holiday to practice counting, letter and number recognition. We are always growing and developing appropriate social behavior through our curriculum “Second Step” and classroom activities. We ask that you continue to reinforce this at home.

Finally, while you are out this busy season, let your children show you what they know. Ask questions about colors, shapes, counting and challenge their thinking skills with questions about what’s around them. They love to share ideas! Enjoy every little time with your child and be safe during this time off.





Family Advocate Corner!

Dear Parent,

As you all know by now, your child's attendance is very important. However, if your child is very sick it's better to keep him/her home. Please remember to call me and let me know because I have to document it.



to: Katia Medina Robles for winning the fall gift set and Ana Soto Ortiz winners of and a Disney book with a Disney Princess bag winner. Thank you to Thanked Geeta Chowbay for donating books for our leading library.

Thank you,
Your Family Advocate,
Migdalia Vega,
(386) 774-0423



Mid Florida Community Services, Incorporated

*Head Start
Coleman*

*Parent Meeting Minutes
11/08/2016 at 2:15pm*

1. Parent Committee Vice Chair:

- Ice Breaker Game: 4 Corners
- Did Pledge of Allegiance: Everyone
- October parent's meeting minutes: in November's Parent's Newsletter

2. New Business

- (1) Policy Council Report by representative: Katia Medina Robles

3. Important Dates:

- Head Start Parent Night at the Museum of Art in Deland Wednesday 11/09/16 from 5:00-6:00pm.
- No School: Friday 11/11/16 (Veterans Day Holiday) – Green Light Event
- No School: Wednesday 11/23/16 – Friday 11/25/16 (Thanksgiving Holiday)
- Parent Training: It's A Health Thing! What to Do When Your Child Gets Sick. Wednesday 11/16/14 from 9:30-12:30pm.
- Family Engagement Activity: Wednesday 11/30/16. Theme: "Fall is Fun" @ 10:00am. and classroom 4 @ 10:30am.
- Family Activity Saturday 12/03/15 from 8:00-4:45pm at the Dickinson Park, Orange City.
- Next Parent Meeting: Tuesday 12/13/16 @ 2:15pm.

4. Service Area Reports:

- (1) CDS (Karen Bourbonnais): Karen explained and encourages the parents to participate in the Parent Night at the Museum of Art in Deland. Parents' conference started already.
- (2) Teachers: Children are learning about weather, colors, counting, writing, letters, recognizing and writing their names.
- (3) Family Advocate (Migdalia Vega): Family Advocate (Migdalia Vega), Thanked Geeta for donating books for our leading library. She also stated that she will be on vacation the week of November 14th. She will return Tuesday November 22nd. 2016.

Migdalia also encouraged parents to vote and offer to help them out if they don't know where to go vote. Website: iwillvote.com/locate;
Voter Assistance Hotline: 1-844-464-4455.

5. *Guest Speakers: Devon Weave re: Health Care Prevention*
6. *Announcements / Questions / Comments – Detail information re: Parent Activity*
7. Migdalia (FA) raffled a fall gift set winner: Katia Medina Robles and a Disney book with a Disney Princess bag winner: Ana Soto Ortiz.
 - 21 parents attended
 - Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Policy Council update for November 2016

The November Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, November 17th at 10:00 am via video conference. Fifteen policy council members were present. A special welcome was extended to a new community policy council member, Carolyn Casler. Ms. Casler is employed by the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco/Hernando counties.

The following persons were approved for hire:

Jessyal Acevedo, Teacher's Assistant - Hernando Head Start
Megan Golembieski, Program Substitute -Hernando/Sumter counties
Jeamary Garcia, Teacher - Horizon Head Start -Volusia County
Brittany Jackson, Extended Day Teacher - EVEC - Volusia County
Juliette Santiago, Family Advocate - Chisholm Head Start – Volusia County

Budget report training was conducted by Kris Bates, Chief Financial Officer of Mid Florida Community Services, Inc.

The following reports were approved: Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center. Staff will be asked to decrease the number of pictures included in center reports and increase the size of any pictures that are included in these reports.

An Information Memorandum recently issued by the Office of Head Start was reviewed. The memorandum highlighted new requirements in the Head Start Performance Standards. As a result of the memorandum, programs are prohibited from expelling or suspending a child due to the child's behavior.

A presentation on the Galileo curriculum was provided Child Development Specialist, Karen Bourbonnais. The twelve learning domains were reviewed. Additionally, information related to

how the Galileo data can be easily accessed by parents and utilized by teachers and administrators to support the development of children in the program.

A series of changes to the Policy Council By laws were reviewed and approved during the meeting. The specific areas affected by these changes included:

Family and Community Partnership

Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment & Attendance - ERSEA

Health

Oral health

The following **announcements** were made:

Mid Florida Community Services, Inc. has purchased a new location at 233 Oakridge Street in Holly Hill, Florida. The goal is to open the location at the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. However, if we are awarded the Early Head Start grant, efforts will be made to open the new location in April 2017.

A large room at the Hernando Head Start building is currently being renovated to become a Training Room for use by Head Start staff and possibly community partners.