

## Why Children Play

As an ongoing effort to be sensitive to the needs, concerns, and expectations of parents, I would like to provide you with in-depth information regarding curriculum and programming.

Many of you see a preschool program that is vastly different than the one you may have attended as a child. Many of you see a preschool where it seems all we do all day is play. Read on, and discover there is a lot more to a day at preschool than meets the eye!

Curriculum is carefully developed from the latest research and policy in education; from the top educators, researchers and administrators nationwide. Our program follows many of the same curriculum standards and guidelines advocated by leading child care organizations and educational programs.

What follows is a discussion of current theory and research and then a brief (certainly not complete) outline of daily preschool activities and how they meet academic

objectives.

Unlike older children, preschool age children are unable to learn through abstract or passive methods. Young children learn best by direct hands-on experience. The need to actively explore and manipulate materials and toys; discovering answers, properties, relationships, skills and concepts for themselves. Classroom experience needs to be concretely relevant to a child's personal knowledge and maturation level. Often this is referred to as age appropriate or developmentally appropriate curriculum, an approach that meets educational goals based on research on how young children learn best. Some researchers and policy makers tell us,

" Play is the work of childhood". It is a child's very personal way of interacting with their world and learning to master the possibilities in it. The curriculum is much more than meets the eye; it's the very serious endeavor of starting a life-long path of learning, and having a little fun along the way! It looks like play but it meets an academic goal:

**Block building** - Mathematical goals (spatial concepts, problem solving, balance and

weights, cooperation)

**Stringing beads** - Mathematical goals (correspondence counting, patterns, sequencing); Literacy goals (visual motor coordination, left to right concepts)

**Finger plays and rhymes** - Literacy goals (auditory discrimination, phonetic skills, auditory memory, concept comprehension, visual motor coordination, vocabulary development)

**Concentration game** - Literacy goals (visual discrimination, symbolic decoding, visual memory, concept development; Mathematical goals (matching and classification)

**Drawing and painting** - Literacy goals

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From Your CDS	2
Classroom News	2-3
Meet your Staff	3
Home Activity	4
IMIL	4
Policy Council Report	5
Parent Engagement	5
Book of the Month	6
Nutrition Activity	7
Social & Emotional	8

## Important Dates to Remember

November 3rd

November 10

November 23rd/24th

Fall Festival

Veterans Day

Center Closed

# From Your CDS

From the Desk of Chantal A. Duncan, M.Ed.

## Child Development Specialist

Hello Families,

As the season change and the year wraps up, I am very thankful for many things. I am thankful that you have entrusted us with taking care of your children. I am thankful for families. I am thankful that I get the opportunity to work with you all.

As always teachers are working so hard to get your child ready for kindergarten. Remember since you are your child's primary teacher, we are asking you to take part in your child's education and ask questions, volunteer **in your child's classroom, complete and return your child's educational home activities which are sent home twice a month, attend monthly parent meetings, activities, support the teachers, and bring your child to school daily.** Please remember to dress your child in closed toe shoes and **bring a set of changing clothes since the weather is now cooler and if we have to go out in the event of an emergency.**

I am always available to chat if you should have questions or concerns. I **can be reach at 352-754-2464, extension 245.** Thank you for trusting us to share your children and provide them with love.

## Bulletin Board Contest

**And the winners are ;**



## Mark your November Calendars

November 3rd	Fall Festival
November 10th	Veterans Day
November 23rd/24th	Center Closed
November 27th	School back In session

## A Few Friendly Reminders!!!

**Hours of operation: 8:30 AM ~ 2:30 PM. Don't forget to empty your child's backpack nightly for important information!**

## Classroom News

### Room 806

During the month of November we will continue working with rhymes, colors, numbers shapes and letter recognition. We will focus on creating visual and auditory patterns. We will be discussing Seasons and Weather condition. Additionally we will discuss how to dress appropriately for various weather conditions. Our class will get to dress the weather bear for the different seasons with the appropriate clothes. Our different Science's projects for each season will include: making a paper plate sun, a snowman, ice painting, a rainbow with water hose, painting with a straw, "rain in a bag" and others.

On our Second Step curriculum, we discuss feelings, same or different accidents, Caring and Helping.

All parents are welcome to our classroom to work with your child.

Thank you for your support.

Ms. María / Mrs. Jackie



**Brooksville Head Start Parent Newsletter**



### Room 812

We are continuing to learn about each other and grow in knowledge. We will continue to learn how to manage our feelings (same and different), accidents, caring and helping. In our nutrition activity we will learn about squash and in our curriculum we will be learning about "Seasons All Around". We will introduce the letters U, Y, and W.

**Ms. Kathie & Ms Shelby**

### Room 901

We are very happy to welcome a new friend to our classroom. We are working together to insure that rules are consistently followed, planning happens for center time, and we are communicating wants and needs to our friends and our teachers.

We are thankful for our blessings: our school, our friends, and our families.

**Jeananne Wright  
Yulonda Miller**

### Room 902

This month in room 902 we will be talking about different things that happen in fall; it's the season for apples and pumpkins, the changing of the leaves, and that the weather is changing. Please check folder's for dates of our **Male Involvement**. We will also talk about giving thanks and helping our community and families during the holidays. Please remember to give us any changes in phone numbers and address.

**Ms. Nicky and Ms. Jessyal**

### Room 903

November is a month that brings thoughts of gratitude. I have so much to be thankful for, especially being able to spend each day with children. This month will bring lots of exciting activities. We will be performing in front of parents, friends, and the community at the **Veteran's Day Program**. We will be having a **Parent meeting and Male Involvement activity on**

**November 8<sup>th</sup> with "Craft Time". And on the same day, we will celebrate Ayden's Birthday. We will also have our Fall Festival on November 3<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

During this month, we will continue developing our skills with writing. We will provide paper, pencils, crayons, and other tools necessary to explore our writing skills. Children are encouraged to scribble and to "write". They are given exposure to language in the environment through pictures, symbols, puzzles, and games. This will encourage and develop letter recognition and awareness.

One of the goals in our program is to expose the children to other cultures and different things that other families do. Our monthly theme for the month of November is Giving Thanks, colors, Seasons all around, and our Nutrition activity. We will learn and review manners in English and Spanish, "Thank you, gracias, Please, "por favor."

As always all families are welcome to come.

**Mrs. Norma and Mrs. Margorie.**

### Room 904

November brings with us the thoughts of turkeys and things to be thankful for. We are thankful for every child that we have a privilege of teaching every day. Be on the lookout for our big tur-

## **Child Development Specialist**

**Chantal Duncan, M.Ed.**

## **Floating Teacher**

**Audrey Hibbert  
Elsie Burnett**

## **HS Classroom Staff**

- 806 Maria Martinez / Jacqueline Clark
- 812 Rita Watson/Shelby De-ramus
- 901 Jeananne Wright / Yulanda Miller
- 902 Nicki Longsworth / Jessyal Acevedo
- 903 -Norma Pedro /Margorie Haimes

## **Medical Oral/Heath Coordinator**

**De'Lilliam  
Richardson Ext. 214**

## **Family Advocates**

**Martha Lawson Ext.  
210  
Lynda Kersey Ext. 209  
Elizabeth Velazquez Ext.  
249  
Celina Degollado Ext.  
213**

## **School Daily Time**

**HS—8AM-2:30PM  
EHS—8:30Am - 4:30PM  
Extended Care  
7:30AM to 5:30PM**

## Home Activity

### KIDS CAN HELP:

Each child can build their own turkey muffin.

### What you need:

- Pumpkin muffins
- Red apple
- Green apple
- Sliver of carrot
- Squeezable icing—eyes

From each apple, cut a slice from the side of the apple. Set flat and cut squared-off, tapered feathers. Cut a small beak from a thin slice of carrot. Make a slit in the end of a green grape and dab off excess moisture. Insert beak into grape. Poke small ends of feathers into muffin and set head on muffin,

## The Positive Side of Things

**ROUTINES:** Children will transition more smoothly with routines to help them to know what to expect. Regular bedtime schedules and morning routines are especially beneficial. If your child has extra difficulty transitioning, consider creating a simple chart to hang on the refrigerator with expectations.

**CHOICES:** When your child has the opportunity to choose, he/she may be more cooperative. For example, you might give the child the choice between brushing his/her teeth first, or getting dressed first, or a choice between two pieces of clothing (blue shirt or red shirt). By allowing your child to choose, you empower him/her to be a willing participant.

**EXPECTATIONS:** When working toward getting the routine down, remember to take time to hug or express love. We get so busy getting the day started, that we can easily overlook the most important things. Take a few minutes to reassure your child that he/she is valuable to you.

**RECOGNITION:** Catch your child doing "good" and tell them you noticed. We all enjoy being recognized for what we do well or right and by doing so for your children, you will help to build a healthy sense of self esteem. It can be a very small thing with a very large reward. For example: "Suzy, I noticed that you were ready to walk out the door before I was, great job getting ready for the day."



# I Am Moving, I Am Learning (IMIL)

Getting precoolers moving can be especially helpful on a rainy day when they cannot go outside to play. Additionally they allow students to work on their gross motor and fine motor skills. These games also often involve music and allow students to think creatively.

Read more: [Indoor Preschool Movement Games | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/list\\_6607282\\_indoor-preschool-movement-games.html#ixzz1Irts8E9H](http://www.ehow.com/list_6607282_indoor-preschool-movement-games.html#ixzz1Irts8E9H)

Provide scarves and a clear space for the students to move around. Play several different types of music, and allow the students to get up and dance or move to the music. As you do this, discuss with the children how the music makes them feel and how they can use their movements to reflect the music.

Have the children form a large circle. Choose one child to stand in the middle of the circle. Put on some music.

The child in the middle must perform an action to the music such as clapping, marching or toe-tapping. The rest of the group imitates the action. After about 30 seconds, the child in the middle points to a classmate and switches places with him. The game continues with the new person in the middle choosing an action. Make the game more interesting by introducing the children to a variety of dance moves throughout the year.

Put a twist on the traditional game of musical chairs. Place carpet squares around the room. Make sure there is one square for each child. Play music and ask the children to dance around the room. When the music stops, each child must find a carpet square to sit on. Remove one square and play the music again. As the carpet squares are removed, the children must begin sharing them. See how many children are able to sit down

when only a few squares are left. Use hula hoops if carpet squares are not available.



# FALL IS IN THE AIR



## From the Desk of The Family Advocates

*“How wonderful it would be if we could help our children and grandchildren to learn how to give thanks at an early age. Giving thanks opens the doors. It changes a child's personality. Thankful children want to give, they radiate happiness, and they draw people.”*

~Sir John Templeton~

**Daily attendance it is very important.**

*We greatly appreciate the parents who have children with Perfect Attendance.*

**Education:** Every month parents and guardians are provided with great information from Head Start that will inform you of your child's progress in Galileo. Teachers will provide a classroom overview.

**Upcoming events:**

**Parent Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Every Month (Excluding Holidays)

**Fall Festival** November 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Veteran's Day (Holiday)** November 10<sup>th</sup>

**Thursday, & Friday (Holiday) Center Closed** November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>

**School resumes on November 27, 2017**

**Family Advocates H.S.**

352-754-2464

**Family Advocates E.H.S.**

352-754-2464

**Mid Florida Community Services, Inc. Head Start**  
**School Readiness Goals**



**Approaches Towards Learning**

ATL 1. Show curiosity, creativity and an eagerness to learn and experience new things

**Language and Literacy Development**

LLD 1. Increase English language communication skills

**Social and Emotional Development**

SED 1. Express and manage feelings appropriately  
SED 2. Develop and maintain positive relationships

**Cognition and General Knowledge**

CGK 1. Demonstrate an increased knowledge of pre-academic skills  
CGK 2. Develop life skills and independence through everyday rou-

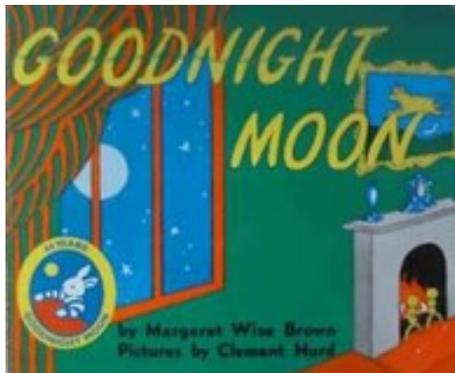


**Parent**  
**to**  
**Parent News**

**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

**Book of the Month**



**Goodnight Moon is an American children's picture book written by Margaret Wise Brown and illustrated by Clement Hurd. It was published on September 3, 1947, and is a highly acclaimed example of a bedtime story. It features a bunny saying "good night" to everything around: "Goodnight room. Goodnight moon. Goodnight cow jumping over the moon. Goodnight light, and the red balloon**

**Community Events**

**Canterbury Festival**

**Date:** November 4, 2017

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM EDT

**Website:** <http://standrewschurch.dioswf.org>

**Event Description:**

Canterbury Festival showcasing local artisans, vendors, and community services. This event will also have baked goods, vintage and costume jewelry, silent auction baskets, Christmas and holiday items and a church white elephant sale. Vendors--please contact the church for information.

**THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH YOUR CHILD**

\*Return your home activities to your child's teacher. You will receive two home activities each month.

\*Read a book together with your child daily.

\*Have your child retell a favorite story to you.

\*Draw or paint a fall picture with your child.





Check out our  
Product and Safety News

# Top Food Recalls Top 7 Recalls

**Sabret Hot Dog Products**  
Possible foreign matter contamination

**Woodstock Organic Matcha Vanilla Oats**  
Possible Listeria contamination

**Silver Star Chipotle Queso Dip**  
Undeclared allergens

<http://www.safekids.org/product-recalls#sthash.6JbMbUKu.dpuf>

**"Step-It" Activity Wristbands**

McDonald's: 33 million

**Chest and Dressers**

IKEA: 27 million

**Storage Furniture**

Lane Home Furniture: 12 million

**Coffee Makers**

Keurig: 7.2 million

**Macaroni & Cheese**

Kraft: 6.5 million

**Notebook Power Cords**

HP: 6 million

<http://www.safekids.org/product-recalls#sthash.6JbMbUKu.dpuf>



## WE ARE THANKFUL FOR OUR STAFF!



### In the Kitchen with your Child

#### Tortilla Pizzas

What you need:

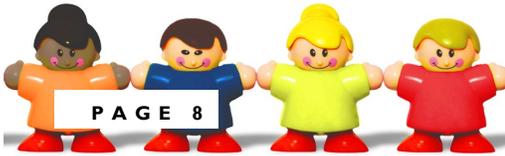
- Small corn tortillas
- Salsa
- Shredded cheddar cheese

Mound a little salsa and cheese on each tortilla. Cook on foil-lined tray in toaster oven until cheese has melted and is brown at the edges.

Kids can help: Assemble the "pizzas," cover the tray with foil

Extras: A layer of refried beans under the salsa, cilantro for garnish, a dollop of





## ***Policy Council Update***

A mandatory **Policy Council training** was held on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg. The **October Policy Council meeting** started at noon on this date immediately after the mandatory training. Eighteen 2017-18 policy council members were present. Two of the eighteen members in attendance were alternate policy council members. Voting during this meeting was limited to official policy council representatives and alternates from sites that were not represented at the meeting.

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

Policy Council officers for 2017-18 were elected. The new officers are Chairperson - Jonathan Martinez (*Volusia*); Vice-Chairperson- Sheila Ramos (*Volusia*); Secretary - Pat Nohr (*Volusia*); Policy Council Liaison- Jacob Raby (*Hernando*).

Candidates for the following vacancies have been approved for hire: Early Head Start Teacher at Oak Ridge Site (*Volusia*); Teacher Assistants at Coleman (*Volusia*), Port Orange-2 (*Volusia*), Blue Lake Elementary (*Volusia*); Child Development Specialist (*Hernando*); Education Manager (*Hernando*, *Sumter* and *Volusia* counties).

Heidi Rand, Director of Early Learning Programs, advised the Policy Council of a recent Information Memorandum from the Office of Head Start that provided guidance for opportunities for programs to respond to the needs of recent hurricane victims. She also reminded the Policy Council of the Parent Activity Fund amount of \$5 per child and discussed the details of the permitted use of the funds.

Budget training will be conducted during the November Policy Council meeting by the Chief Financial Officer of Mid Florida Community Services, Kris Bates.

The School Readiness Committee will meet on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>.

Due to the holidays, the November and December Policy Council meetings will be earlier than the regularly scheduled meeting date. The November meeting will be held on November 16<sup>th</sup>. The December meeting will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Each of these meetings will be conducted via video conference. Participants will meet at the conference room of the administrative office closest to their county.

### **From the Disability Services Specialist**

**Ms. Rita Watson is our Disability Services Specialist for the Hernando area.**

**Letters will be mailed out regarding speech/**



## **Hey Parents! It's Fall! Simple Reminders!**

Your Little Ones have adjusted well to their new teachers, friends, and routine during the months. You have done a terrific job of reassuring your children that you will return to reunite with them as soon as class is over. The children appear to feel secure and free to explore their new classroom, make new friends and develop new skills. Thank-you so much for all your help and support. You are the best!

**Encourage your child to wash his/her hands before and after school, especially**

**STAFF CELEBRATING HEAD START AWARENESS MONTH AND "SPIRIT WEEK"**

