




# Holly Hill Head Start

## March Newsletter 2017




From the Desk of Jennifer Tinstman, CDS



Can't believe March is already upon us! It seems like the months are flying by much too quickly. February was a flash and surely summer will be here in the blink of an eye. There were lots of exciting events that occurred in February and will be more to come in March. The Valentine's Day dance was a lot of fun. Thank you so much to the teachers and family advocates and all of you who participated in making it a success!



We are delighted with the progress of the children at this point in the school year. All are doing well with their preschool skills and our staff feels so fortunate to have such delightful, bright and beautiful children. Teachers have had a recent review of morning health check procedures for the children; thank you for your patience as they complete this important process with your child upon arrival each morning.



We also appreciate all of your efforts on our behalf. Parent and family participation and communication makes our job so much easier. March presents another fun filled and busy month in the center. We will continue to fill the children's school days with a combination of fun activities, educational games and many other events. We want to thank parents for helping the teachers to get the home visits completed. We hope that all of you can enjoy a restful and relaxing Spring Break this month and can share some quality family time together.





# Reminders



- **Dr. Seuss Birthday** - March 2nd
- **No School**, March 10, 2017 –In Service Teachers
- **Daylight Saving Time Begins** – March 12, 2017
- **St. Patrick's Day** -March 17, 2017
- **No class, Spring Break** March 13 to 17, 2017
- **Class resume** on March 20, 2017
- **Parent meeting** –March 21, 2017 at 2:15
- **Parent Engagement** - March 22, 2017 at 12:30 – Activity ➔ **"Planting"**
- **Transition to Kindergarten meeting** - March 23, 2017 at 2:00 to
- 3:00 p.m.

## From FA's Desk:

- The children who are going to attend Summer VPK, we need that the parents get the Voucher from ELC as soon as possible.
- Registration for the new school year 2017-18 will begin soon, please contact your Family Advocate for more information.

Ms. Tiwanda (386) 238-8455 and Ms. Betsy (386) 238-8815

**Have a fun and safe Spring Break!!!!**

Betsabe Glenn  
Family Advocate  
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# Teacher Report



## Classroom 1



Well February was a short month and it has just blown on by as we march into the Month of March searching for that pot of Gold.

We will embrace March as we celebrate one of the most famous story writers of all times, “Dr. Seuss.” We will read many of his amazing books that are filled with lots of learning opportunities for our children. We also have themes of the month that we will be teaching throughout the month of March and they are “Shades of Blue and Green,” “Watch My Garden Grow,” and “spring is here! Along, with continues review of letters learned, shapes, colors and numbers. Don’t forget to wear “Green” on March 17<sup>th</sup> for St. Patrick’s Day.

Don’t forget to reinforce the Second Step Curriculum. We send home weekly activities for you to review with your child.

Please make sure you mark your calendar with the important dates so that you can be a part of your child learning experiences.

Thank you for allowing us into your homes it was a pleasure visiting each and every one of you.

As always, any questions and/or concerns feel free to call or stop by. Our door is always open.  
Mrs. Stephanie/ Mrs. Laura





# Teacher Report



## Classroom 2

We work on retelling a story, sequence events, what happened first, middle and the end of the story. Introduce new letters Mm, Bb, and Rr In the month of March we will be learning about on the Theme, ***“In the City/In the Country”*** “oral language and vocabulary, develops an understanding of naming words., we will We are working on reinforce letters sounds, working on counting in sequence, recognizing numbers, shapes, and colors. The child working on write his/her name from sample. For a nutritional activity we’re learning about Cantaloupe. Second Step work in calm down and saying the problem and thinking about solutions.

We want to say ***“Thanks”*** our parents for Valentine presents.

**Please don’t forget to check your child’s mail box every day.**

Ms. Ada / Ms. Wimberly

## Classroom 3

For the month of March we will continue working on our In the City, In the Country theme and will begin our theme on Let's Move. Children will be able to identify what we see in the city and what we see in the country. In literacy, we will be focusing on the letters and sounds for Qq, Vv, and Jj. We will also be working on writing skills. In math, we will be learning how to combine and separate groups of objects and will compare how many are in each group. Please continue to practice number recognition with your child. We would like to wish a Happy Birthday to Dallas!

Ms. Sheila / Ms. Brooks



# Teacher Report



## Classroom 4

As we move into the month of March our themes will be Spring is Here, Shades of Blue and Green, and Watch My Garden Grow. The students will be learning about the season Spring and what the weather feels like in Spring time. We will also be learning about the plant life cycle, and what plants to grow. They will learn to recognize different gardening tools and implements. They will learn the importance of water, sunlight, and soil for plant growth. We will be doing a variety of crafts to represent the season fall and St. Patrick's Day. Our focus letters for the month are G, B, P. We are also working words with the same sound, rhyming words, and compound words. We will continue to work on our second step lesson Fair Ways to Play which is teaching the students how to join in or invite others to play. Please continue reviewing basic concepts (alphabet, numbers, shapes and colors) with your child,

Ms. Keyanna / Ms. Katherine

## Classroom 5

Wow! The year is going by fast and spring is here. We would be working on Spring Activities, Shades of Blue & Green and Watch My Garden Grow. In Second Step we are working on how to Speak Assertively. We will also be reviewing previous lessons to reintroduce things the children may have forgotten after Spring Break. Spring Break will begin on 3/13/17 -3/17/17. We would like to wish you a safe and fun Spring Break. We look forward to seeing you back on 3/20/17. The children will also be bringing seeds home to plant in their gardens. You are also welcome to come in and see some of the things we are growing in our garden. Thanks to Irie's grandmother for helping Mrs. Kathy with the garden. A special thanks to all of our parents who came for the Valentines Dance and our parent meeting. We appreciate your support and assistance in making this day special for our children. Special greetings goes out to Ayden who will be celebrating his birthday on 3/4. Our next parent meeting will be on 3/21/17 and the next Kindergarten Super Stars meeting will be on 3/28/17. We look forward to seeing you then. Thank again for your support and being involved in your child's education.

Mrs. Gaynell & Ms. Deborah

# February Policy Council Update

The February Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, February 23rd at 10:00 am. It was a video conference meeting. Policy Council members from Volusia County met at the Volusia Administration Conference Room in Deland. Policy Council members from Hernando and Sumter counties met at the Hernando Head Start Conference Room in Brooksville. Thirteen policy council members (11 parents and 2 community partner members) were present.

The following person was approved for hire:  
*Kari Thornsbury, Dietary Aide (Hernando County)*

The following reports were approved/accepted: December 2016 Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center. Heidi Rand- Director, expressed concern regarding the amount of classrooms (more than 25%) with attendance rates below 85%. Parents are encouraged to be mindful of the attendance policy and remind other parents as well.

An overview of the *High Scope Curriculum, Houghton Mifflin Curriculum and Galileo Assessment/Curriculum* was provided by Heidi Rand. A detailed review of the Second Step Curriculum will be presented next month.

Our Quality Assurance Manager - Jeff Heyne, led a training on Head Start program eligibility. He explained the four eligibility categories, provided examples of funds that are considered to be income and described the consequences a staff member would face if it is determined that the staff member did not accurately process income information in an effort to ensure that the family is determined to be eligible.

Policy Council members were advised that our program has been asked to submit a grant proposal for Volusia/Flagler United Way. The grant proposals will request funding to support kindergarten readiness and promote healthy lifestyles in Volusia County.

The next Policy Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am. It will be a video conference meeting.





Holly Hill Head Start  
Parent Meeting Minutes  
February 16, 2017

- Parent Meeting started at: 2:15pm
- Parents were greeted by: Ms. Tiwanda and Ms. Betsie
- The Pledge of Allegiance was leaded by: Mr. Michael
- Minutes for the parent meeting taken by: Betsabe Glenn
- Parents were notified of upcoming Important Dates:
- No school on February 20<sup>th</sup> President's Day
- Early release on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00pm
- No school on March 10<sup>th</sup> - Teacher Duty
- No school on March 12<sup>th</sup> -March 17<sup>th</sup> - Spring Break
- Classes resume on Monday March 20<sup>th</sup>
- Next Parent meeting will be held on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:15pm
- Transition meeting will be held on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00-3:00pm
- Also, the last transition meeting will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00-3:00pm

**Notes:**

-CDS: The CDS thanked those who participated in the Valentine's Day dance. Also, Ms. Jennifer spoke about the vegetable garden; each classroom will be getting one. Ms. Jennifer also spoke about Eddie the Eagle, gun safety video. Ms. Jennifer also spoke about the playground being remodeled during spring break.

-FA: Summer VPK Voucher

-Ms. Keyana spoke for all classrooms:

Classroom 1, 4 and 5 have been learning about great people such a Rosa Parks, Former President Barrack Obama, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as well other famous inventors and public figures. The children are also learning the letter V for valentine, L for Love, H for happy and K for kind. The themes for the month are "Clothes for my Body" "Hat on my Head" and "All Shapes and Sizes" She also reviewed the second step curriculum and encouraged parents to complete home activities.

Classroom 2 and 3: The theme for the month is "Animals everywhere". The children are learning about the animal kingdom, and differentiating between farm animals and wild animals. The children will be learning new letters sounds. The teachers are using second step and reinforcing concepts like taking turns, trading and playing together. Also, the children will be working on "building a construction zone." Lastly, the children will continue counting and matching objects to the correct numbers.

-The children from classroom 2 and 3 ended the meeting with the song "Sign and move."  
Meeting adjourned at: 2:40pm Present: 9 Parent Committee: 0 Staff: 9  
Minutes taken by: Betsabe Glenn