



Holly Hill Head Start

March 2018 Newsletter

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 will be lots of exciting events coming in March.

We are excited to see 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 a bright and beautiful group of children.

We appreciate all of your efforts in making your child's Head Start experience a fun one. Parent and family participation and communication make our job so much easier.

This month we will continue to fill the children's school days with a combination of fun activities, educational games and events. School pictures will be taken this month.

We want to thank parents for helping the teachers to get their 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.

**Don't forget Daylight Savings Time starts on Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 2am.
Set those clocks ahead one hour.**

IMPORTANT DATES

March 8 @ 2:15 - Parent Meeting

March 9th - Student Holiday (No school)

March 12 - 16 - Spring Break

March 23rd - Spring Pictures @ 8:15





TEACHER REPORT

Classroom 1

We will embrace March as we celebrate one of the most famous story writer of all times, "Dr. Suess." We will read many of his amazing books that are filled with lots of learning opportunities for our children. We will enjoy exploring farm and country such as animals, where food comes from, farm and country jobs as well as the differences between the country and the city. We will begin the, In the City, in the Country theme by discussing all of the things the children know about the country versus the city. The purpose of this theme is to introduce children to the differences between city and country living, discuss the origins of food and learn more about agriculture jobs. Through this lesson we hope to provide our children with an understanding of the differences between city and country living. We will embark on new vocabulary words "urban" and "rural". We must not forget in the month of March we will be searching for that pot of Gold as we travel the colors in the rainbow. We will continue to work hard as we continue to learn our letters and sounds, simple addition, new words to add to our vocabulary beginning and ending sounds, and rhyming words Thank you for allowing us into your homes it was a pleasure visiting each and every one of you.



Jayon 3/11

Mrs. Stephanie & Mrs. Laura

Classroom 2 "Trolls"



Hi, we are happy, Spring its almost there! This month we working on reinforce Fair ways to Play (take turn, trade, share and play together). Children work on copying his/her name for sample. In Math we work on count in sequence and match with the concrete object. They learn new letter sound M m, F f, R r, and reinforcing letters sound learned. We working on retelling the stories with prompt, and answer questions (what, why, who, where) about the story. This month the child learns about Spinach, they plant a spinach seeds to see how this vegetable grows, also they taste spinach salads. Children enjoyed the activity. Shelldon from the Daytona Tortugas came to interact and read to the children, children enjoyed the activity.

In the month of March the Theme is "In the City, In the Country". We will be learning about difference between country and city life.

We want to say "THANK" to all parent for being here in our parent meeting, you make the difference!

Happy birthdays to Yoselin Arizaga and Fernanda Velazco.

Thanks,

Ms. Ada & Ms. Stephanie





TEACHER REPORT



Classroom 3

Wow! How quickly the year is marching by. Thanks to all of our parents who came for the last parent meeting. We learned some interesting information to keep healthy and some oils to use for the cure of common colds and head aches. We appreciate the effort you made to be in attendance and learn more about what is going on in your child's school. We hope to see all of you to our next meeting 3/8/18. Our class will be performing so please come and show your support. This month we will continue to work on letter and number recognition, some construction Zone, City /Country as well as Second Step- Joining in with play and Saying the Problem. We would like to welcome Da'Monnie a new student to our class. Thanks again for all you do to help make this school year the best year for your child's learning experience here with us.

Mrs. Gaynell & Ms. Deborah

Classroom 4

As we move into the month of March are 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 need 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 our G, B, and 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 joining to play, Inviting to Play and Saying the problem. We hope that you all have a wonderful spring break and please continue review basic concepts (alphabet, numbers, shapes and colors) with your child.

Happy Birthday to Dallas McKenzie



Ms. Keyanna & Mrs. Katherine





FROM FA's DESK



It's that time of year where everyone hits the scale and is totally unhappy with themselves. What steps can we take to avoid the danger-zone?

Strategies for Success

Portions and Servings - What's the difference?

A **portion** is the amount of food that you choose to eat.

A **serving** is a measure amount of food on your plate

How do we avoid portion size pitfalls to manage your weight? Many can agree restaurants serve more food. Therefore **take control** of the amount of food that ends up on our plate by splitting an entrée with your family/friend or quickly split your meal and ask to wrap it to go.

Contributions to Healthy Weight

The factors include environment, family history, genetics, behavior and habits. To maintain a healthy weight, your energy IN and OUT don't have to balance exactly every day. It's the balance over time that helps you maintain a healthy weight.

Be more active, limit the time you spend inactive, play more with your child/ren or simply take a walk.

You probably ask yourselves why we are telling you this vital information; because...we care for you; also you and your kids ROCK!!

Have a healthy year

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Family Advocate: Ms. Ruth & Ms. Isabel
Phone Number: (386) 238-8455 / (386) 238-8815

Classroom 1, 2, 3 and 5

Phones: (386) 238-5333

Classroom 4

Phone: (386) 238-8670

**Holly Head Start
Parent's Meeting Minutes
Feb. 9th, 2018**

Parents were notified of coming important dates: Feb. 21st 2018 Wednesday; Sheldon reading to the children.

Notes: Topics about safety of children in the parking lot for drop offs and pick up. No speeding or on cell phones.

Classroom 2 performed – Rock and Roll Body Parts

Federal Review for site next week.

Must have update Physicals, Immunizations, and Dental records.

Recruit parents for Spring Fling event.

Pot luck to gather more parents together.

Next meeting will be held on March 8th, 2018

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM

Presents parents: 19

Parent Committee: 2

Minutes taken by: Secretary Terrica Fennell

Policy Council Update – February 2018

The February Policy Council Meeting was held on Thursday, Feb. 22nd at Mid Florida Head Start/Early Head Start Administrative Offices in Hernando and Volusia Counties via video conference. Fourteen policy council members were present. Twelve staff members were present.

The attendance rate of several classrooms fell below 85% last month. The primary reason for absences was illness.

The following reports were approved: *Budget, Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Areas and Centers.* Parent Activity requests for EVEC and Jo Sheppard were approved. New hires for the following positions were approved: One substitute teacher - Hernando ; Three substitute teachers - Volusia; One Early Head Start Teacher at Malloy - Volusia; One Early Head Start Teacher at Oakridge-Volusia. The submission of an Early Head Start grant application in the amount of \$154,612 was approved.

Denise Thompson, Disabilities Services Coordinator, made a presentation about Disabilities Services provided by the Head Start/Early Head Start program. She explained how the program helps children prepare for school by conducting developmental screenings (if consented by parents), providing referrals for additional evaluations and individualization.

The program is set to expand soon with the opening of one more Early Head Start classroom at the Malloy center and one more at the Hernando center. The program's recent proposal to provide child care services at Hope Place, a transitional housing community in Volusia, has been accepted and negotiations to initiate the services are in process. The program will open classrooms at this location in the near future.

The annual audit for the agency has been completed. The audit resulted in no findings. The federal review visit was conducted during the week of Feb. 12th. We are awaiting information as to the outcome of the visit.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 22nd at 10am and will be conducted via video conference. Members will meet in the conference room at the administrative office in their county.