

HOLLY HILL HEAD START NEWSLETTER



From the desk of Jennifer Tinstman, CDS
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November 2017

Happy November and Happy Thanksgiving to all of our children and families! Thank you for your participation in center meetings and events. You are all doing a great job having your children prepared for school each day and we appreciate your efforts in arriving on time and picking up promptly as the school day ends. We look forward to the cooler days now and are grateful for the time we get to spend with all of you.

I want to share just a few thoughts on 'play' and its importance for your child's development. It is generally through play that a preschool child learns about the world around them. It is very important that we give children time for a variety of play including dramatic play and make-believe, as well as allowing them creative building, counting and problem solving opportunities. Children are learning so much while they play even though it may not appear to be a structured academic setting that we have learned to associate with the learning process.

Because young children enjoy play, it becomes a very natural way for them to learn about themselves and about the world in which they live. Since, children learn through play, they must be given enough time to do so. When you see your child actively involved in play at school, you can be assured that they are doing a lot of important learning while enjoying the learning process.

We look forward to sharing another fun month with your children and encourage you to continue to participate in center activities and events if you can, including the home activities sent home by your child's teacher. This shows your child that school is very important and that you value it. Please remember to ask your child each day about what they have been learning as they play and work together with their friends at school.

Important Dates

- November 5th - **Turn back the clocks this weekend!**
- November 10th Closed - Veteran's Day
- November 22nd Teacher/Student Holiday
- November 23rd & 24th - Thanksgiving Holiday



Classroom 1



Is it really November already? Wow!! In the month of November we will embark on new themes such as “Seasons All Around” “Fall is Fun,” “A is for Apple,” “So Many Trees,” “The Colors of Fall,” and “Giving Thanks.” We will be learning about the season of fall. We will discuss the changes we can expect to see during this season. You can help reinforce lessons taught by asking the following questions. What season is this? What is the weather like today? What can we do on a rainy day if we can’t go outside? What kind of clothing should we wear today? What is happening to the trees? What color are the leaves on the trees? Which leaf is the biggest? Which leaf is the smallest? What do you think the animals will do during the changing of the weather? Here’s a finger play to help with counting. **Friendly Reminder:** **Make sure your child has a complete change of clothing and also you may want to put clothing that accommodates the weather. Don’t forget to check your child’s mailbox regularly! I put important upcoming events information, newsletters, and your child’s class work and projects in there almost daily.**

Mrs. Stephanie/Mrs. Laura

Little Leaves- Submitted by Christi (sung to Ten Little Indians)

1 little 2 little, 3 little leaves,
4 little, 5 little, 6 little leaves,
7 little, 8 little, 9 little leaves,
blow them all away. WHOOF!

Classroom 2



In the month of October we talked about the USDA Nutrition. The children did a nutritional activity making Strawberry Smoothies. The children worked on My Five Senses, the students learned to identify how many senses we have. We learned about Community Helpers and how they help. We continue working on colors, numbers, shapes, and letters sound S, P, T, O, X, and others letters. In Math we worked on predicting what comes next when the patterns are extended (shapes and colors), also recognize same or different. On Second Step, we worked on identifying different feelings, (sad/happy, angry). This month we will be working on *Seasons All Around*, Giving Thanks. We want to say Thanks to all parents that participate in the parent activities and open house. Don’t forget to check your child’s mail box and bring extra clothes for your child.

Thanks,
Ms. Ada / Ms. Stephanie

Classroom 3



Wow the year is flying by fast!! We are coming to the end of the year and the weather is changing. This month we will focus on **Seasons Change**, **Seasons All Around**, **Giving Thanks** and **All Year Long**. We will also focus on what feelings we feel in our bodies for Second Step. We would like to remind you to check your child's mail box daily for any important information we may need to send home. Please bring a change of clothing appropriate for the weather. Thanks to all of our parents who came out for the parent meeting and the Parent activity. We hope to see all of you to the next event. We will keep you up to date on the times and Dates for those activities. Thanks for being a part of your child's learning experience and making this year special for our children.

Mrs. Gaynell & Ms. Deborah

Classroom 4



We would like to thank all parents who came out to our Family Engagement Activity and Open House in October. In the month of November our themes will be moving the mail, and fall is fun and A is for apple. We will learn about our community helper the Mail Carrier, what happens at the Post Office and how mail is delivered. We also discuss the season fall and how this season affects our environment. We will also introduce to the students to the vegetable squash and how it grows. The students will also learn about Thanksgiving and the importance of being thankful. We will read a variety of books about Pilgrims and Indians. We would like to invite all parents out to our next family engagement activity and the parent meeting. Please continue to work with your child on alphabet recognition, letter sounds and identifying numbers. We would like to wish Ashly Vasquez a Happy Birthday!!!

Ms. Keyanna/Mrs. Katherine



From FA's Desk

About American Diabetes Association - ADA

The mission of the American Diabetes Association is to “prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes”

To achieve this mission the association:

- Publishes scientific findings from research into diabetes
- Provides information and other services to people with diabetes
- Is actively involved in advocating for scientific research and for the rights of people with diabetes

The American Diabetes Association run a range of schemes and provides resources to public and health professionals. Every year, 1000's of people participate in association events and fund raising activities designed to increase awareness and to raise funds for the association.

The American Diabetes Association also run a program for volunteers, a whistleblower program and they have coalitions and collaborations with other organizations.





Important Numbers

Family Advocate: Ruth

Phone Number: (386) 238-8455 / (386) 238-8815

Classroom 1, 2, 3 and 5

Phones: (386) 238-5333

Classroom 4

Phone: (386) 238-8670

CDS: Jennifer Tinstman

Phone Number: (386) 235-4480





Policy Council Report

A mandatory **Policy Council training** was held on Thursday, October 26th 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. 15th.

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 16th. The December meeting will be held on December 14th. 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.

The program specialist from the Head Start Region IV Office will be visiting our program in November 14th – 17th.