



Holly Hill Head Start

October Newsletter

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Fall is upon us! (Although we cannot tell it from the temperature outside) and we are off to a wonderful beginning of our preschool year. Hello to you everyone! We have all been impacted by the storm and are happy to be back at school continuing to help your children transition into the routines again. The children have been busy making friends and having fun.

Your children are all a delight and as they are learning, we can all learn from them each day too. They will help us remember how to play, how to live in the present moment, and how to make new discoveries. As grown-ups, we can also be models of the behavior we want them to learn: cooperation, sharing, taking turns, laughing, playing and “using our words” to communicate our needs.

All of us at Head Start have been enjoying each day since the school year has begun and we hope you will think of your child’s days spent here in the classroom as a joy . . . this is a special time for you to spend watching your child grow and learn. Remember, parents are welcome to join teachers and children in the classroom and we encourage you to volunteer when possible. Your children will enjoy seeing you at school so be sure to participate in parent engagement activities, meetings and special events when you can.

We try to give lots of reminders and you can always check with your teacher or me if you are not sure when activities are scheduled. Open House will be happening this month on October 12th. Please attend so that you can receive your Galileo login information which will allow you to view your child’s progress throughout the year.

Please do your very best to bring your child to school every day. We understand that things do happen, and if your child cannot attend, please be sure to call your child’s teacher to let them know they will not be coming or that they will be late on a particular day. Keep an eye on the calendar for all of the fun activities the teachers’ have planned for your child during the month of October!



Fall is Here!



Teacher's Report

Classroom 1

We're on our way!

Thanks for helping give us a great start to our school year! We would like to thank you for allowing us in your homes, returning your child's home activities and bringing your children to school every day has been a great success. It shows how supportive you are to your child's education. It's because of parent's like you that makes the program great. We are so appreciative of you.

As we move into October, we have many exciting activities planned for our children. The October's theme is: My Family, My Community.

We will also focus on the letter Ff for fall, families and Cc for community and review the letter Rr and Ss. We will use the following titles: "Buzz" by Janet S. Wong. "On Our Street" by Yanitzia Canetti, "All Around Town" by Katherine James Cristal and "Full, Full, Full of LOVE" by Trish Cooke.

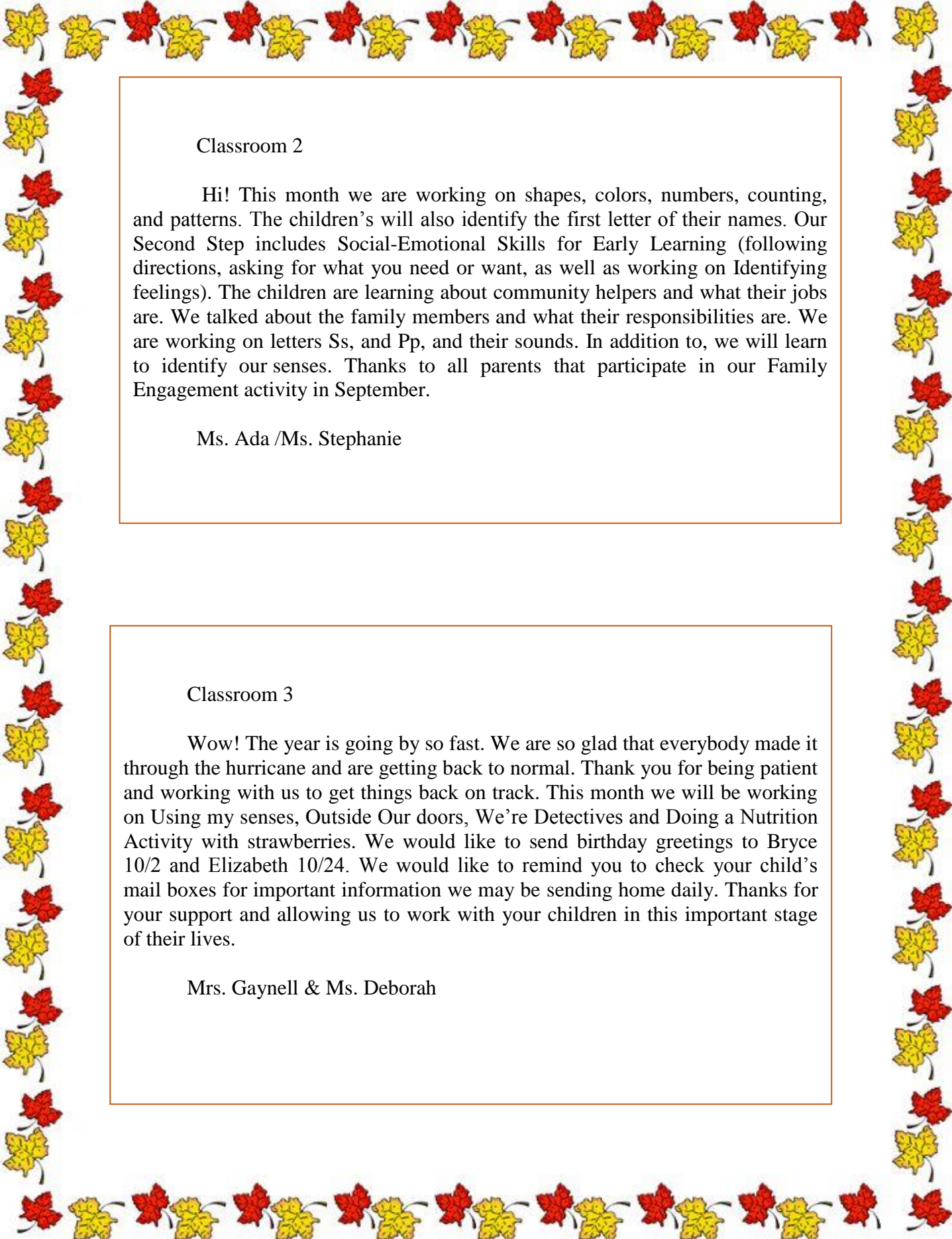
We will continue to review our letters, shapes, colors and numbers daily.

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.

Thank you,

Mrs. Stephanie/Mrs. Laura



Classroom 2

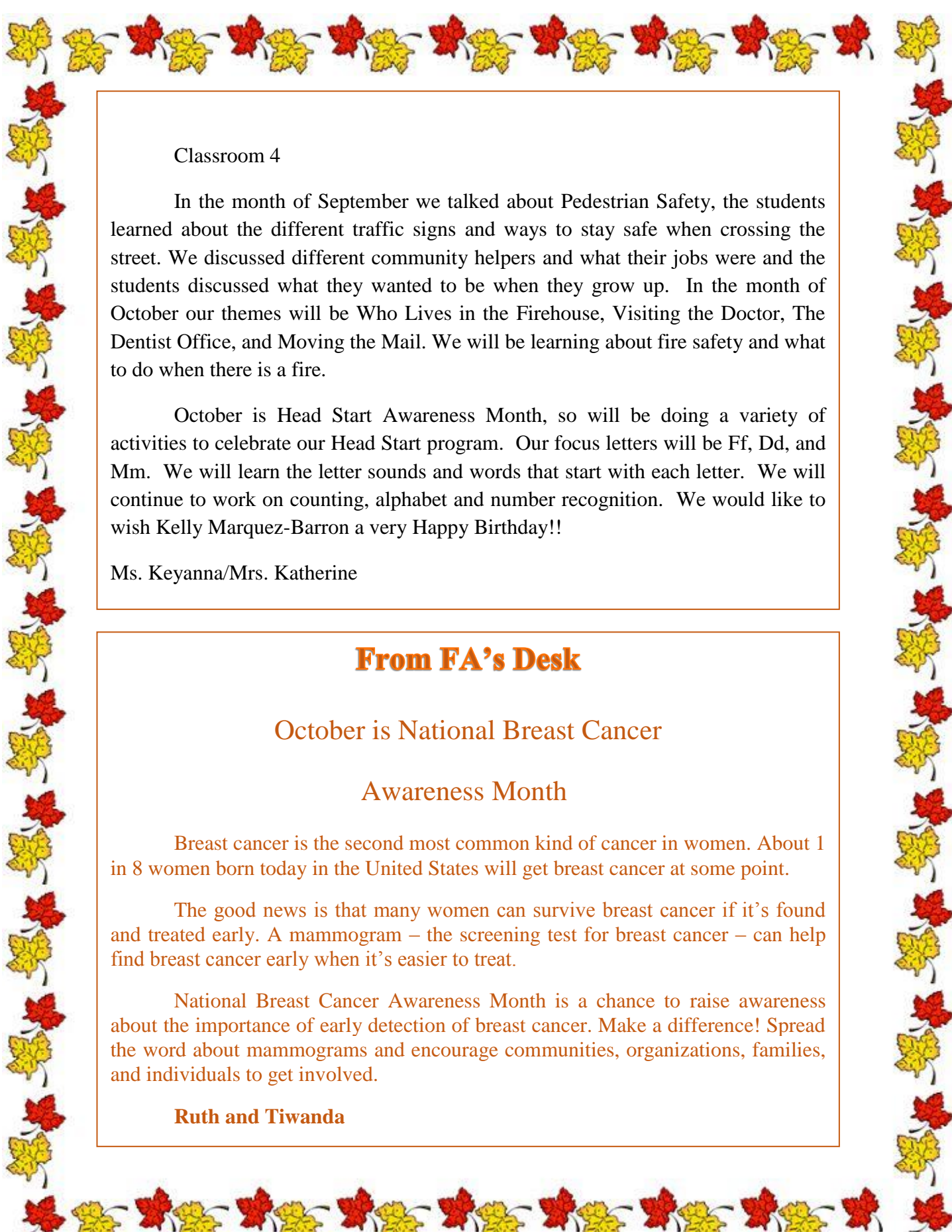
Hi! This month we are working on shapes, colors, numbers, counting, and patterns. The children's will also identify the first letter of their names. Our Second Step includes Social-Emotional Skills for Early Learning (following directions, asking for what you need or want, as well as working on Identifying feelings). The children are learning about community helpers and what their jobs are. We talked about the family members and what their responsibilities are. We are working on letters Ss, and Pp, and their sounds. In addition to, we will learn to identify our senses. Thanks to all parents that participate in our Family Engagement activity in September.

Ms. Ada /Ms. Stephanie

Classroom 3

Wow! The year is going by so fast. We are so glad that everybody made it through the hurricane and are getting back to normal. Thank you for being patient and working with us to get things back on track. This month we will be working on Using my senses, Outside Our doors, We're Detectives and Doing a Nutrition Activity with strawberries. We would like to send birthday greetings to Bryce 10/2 and Elizabeth 10/24. We would like to remind you to check your child's mail boxes for important information we may be sending home daily. Thanks for your support and allowing us to work with your children in this important stage of their lives.

Mrs. Gaynell & Ms. Deborah



Classroom 4

In the month of September we talked about Pedestrian Safety, the students learned about the different traffic signs and ways to stay safe when crossing the street. We discussed different community helpers and what their jobs were and the students discussed what they wanted to be when they grow up. In the month of October our themes will be Who Lives in the Firehouse, Visiting the Doctor, The Dentist Office, and Moving the Mail. We will be learning about fire safety and what to do when there is a fire.

October is Head Start Awareness Month, so will be doing a variety of activities to celebrate our Head Start program. Our focus letters will be Ff, Dd, and Mm. We will learn the letter sounds and words that start with each letter. We will continue to work on counting, alphabet and number recognition. We would like to wish Kelly Marquez-Barron a very Happy Birthday!!

Ms. Keyanna/Mrs. Katherine

From FA's Desk

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast cancer is the second most common kind of cancer in women. About 1 in 8 women born today in the United States will get breast cancer at some point.

The good news is that many women can survive breast cancer if it's found and treated early. A mammogram – the screening test for breast cancer – can help find breast cancer early when it's easier to treat.

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer. Make a difference! Spread the word about mammograms and encourage communities, organizations, families, and individuals to get involved.

Ruth and Tiwanda



Policy Council Update

The **September Policy Council meeting** was held on Thursday, September 28th at 10:00am at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg. Eight 2016-17 policy council members were present. Two community members were present. The Mid Florida Community Services Board of Directors liaison was also present. Numerous members of the Mid Florida Head Start/Early Head Start Administrative Team were present. Several newly elected 2017-18 Policy Council representatives attended. The new representatives could not vote during this meeting because they have not received the Policy Council training yet.

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

The following items were *reviewed*:

Family Engagement Plan - Several parenting curriculums have been reviewed. One will be selected for our program.

PIR (*Program Information Report*) - Highlights of 2016 -17 Head Start services included a high percentage of well credentialed staff, positive health outcomes and an increased focus on capturing male involvement).

Policy council members were asked about their training needs. Any future training interests or needs should be sent to Family Advocates.

Awards were presented to parents who completed 1 year of service and 3 years of service on the Head Start Policy Council. Kim Ferwin (Spring Hill Center), Adelani Adekunle (Horizon Elem.), James Norton in absentia (Center), Juan Echezebal (Holly Hill Elem.). Community members Chuck Moreau and Jackie Davis also received service awards. A plaque was given to Trevene Christian-(Westside Elem.) for committed service as Head Start Policy Council Chairman. Each recipient gave a short speech highlighting how Policy Council has benefitted them and encouraging new representatives to expect good things from their involvement with Policy Council.

The following **announcements** were made:
The recent update to Performance Standards allows parents to serve on Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council for a total 5 years in lifetime. The old term limit was 3 years in lifetime.

Kim Ferwin (Spring Hill Center) was acknowledged for having Perfect Attendance at Policy Council Meetings during 2016-2017 program year.

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

The **next Policy Council meeting** is scheduled for Thursday, November 16th. The meeting will be conducted via video conference. Participants will meet at the conference room in their county.



Important Dates:

- Open House- October 12th at 2:15 to 3:15
- Parent meeting- October 13th at 2:00pm
- In Service Day - October 16th (No School)
- Head Start Awareness Month – October 23-27th
(Spirit week)

Important Numbers:

Classroom Phone: (386) 238-5333 or (386) 238-8670
(classroom 4)

Family Advocate: Tiwanda/Ruth

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

CDS: Jennifer Tinstman

Phone Number: (386) 235-4480