

# Horizon Newsletter

April, 2017

## SOME QUICK NOTES:



*This month our themes are "Let's Move" and "Peach Tree Orchard". The objectives are to start early, make nutrition fun, get kids moving, inspire, and change lives. Children rely on their teachers and parents to role model healthy choices. Children will exercise large muscles and identify a variety of exercises that help enhance fitness. When children see implementation of physical activities and healthy meals being served, they are more prone to model the same behaviors. We will be focusing on letters Hh, Ii, Jj.*



## MARCH PERFECT ATTENDANCE

JAELYNN DELGADO

LUKAS GARNER

ARIELL-JANE LOVEN

JULIA PETERSON

**Second Step:** *Through Second Step we are working on Unit 4: Friendship and Problem Solving.*



## Important Dates:

Family Engagement Activity    Monday 4/3    @1:30 Making Easter Baskets and Dyeing eggs!

Parent Meeting    Monday 4/3    @2:00

**NO EARLY RELEASE:**    April 12, 19, 26



## *From the Desk of: Crystal Hill, CDS*



### *Day after Day after Day...*

*Children thrive on routines. The daily routine carried out in the classroom helps children feel safe, secure and happy because they know what happens next.*

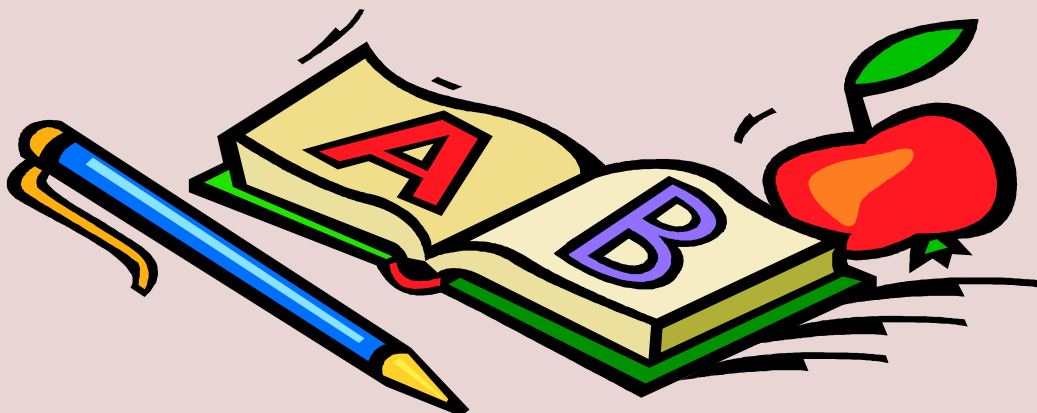
*A written schedule is posted in each classroom, and outlines a time frame for the day's events. The schedule includes a balance of activities like arrival time, large group, small group, meals and indoor/outdoor play. Written schedules are critical for managing the day, but they are only a guide.*

*A picture schedule is available for the children. This helps them understand the routine and that certain things happen every day at school.*

*"Transitioning" in the classroom, or moving from one activity to the next throughout the day, can cause stress and mistaken behavior in children. To help, a successful teacher will have some creative transition ideas in her bag of tricks and will allow a child to move at his or her own pace whenever possible.*

*Classrooms that I consider "evolved" often seem loud and chaotic, but a closer look will reveal that the children know the routine, are independent and are working in their own way to achieve a common goal or to arrive at a certain point in the day.*

*Ask your child's teachers about transitions! They'll be happy to share some really clever ideas that may even help you keep things running more smoothly at home. Then children are beginning their transition into Kindergarten this month. There are many things that will be changing, ask your children about this as well.*





## *Policy Council update for March 2017*



The March Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, March 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 (9 parents and 4 community partner members) were present.

*Two persons were approved for hire.*

*The following reports were approved/accepted: January 2017 Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center.*

*An overview of the Second Step Curriculum was provided by Damaris Conner, Education Manager. Parents are encouraged to ask their children about the puppets in their classroom.*

*Our Quality Assurance Manager - Jeff Heyne presented the proposed Early Head Start program selection criteria. He explained the additional points available for foster care, homelessness and sibling in Head Start.*

*Heidi Rand announced that the program has been notified of its selection as an Early Head Start Grant Recipient. The grant will allow us to provide quality child care services to 112 children between birth and 3 years old. This funding will allow for new positions. The first phase of the program expansion will include opening 3 classrooms in Hernando and two classrooms in Volusia.*

*The next Policy Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. It will be a face to face meeting at Holiday Inn Express in Leesburg, Florida.*

### *Minutes from last parent meeting Horizon 3-6-17*

*Minutes from past parent meeting were read.*

*Items discussed were the upcoming Parent activity and how we are now able to do the CPR/First Aid. We did explain that it was going to be on March 30th at 9:00 AM. At the Pathways Port Orange Center. Parents would be receiving a Certification card. We wished everyone a Happy Spring Break and reminded them about upcoming shots and physicals. We also asked if anyone had changed their address or phone number to please make sure we changed it with the staff. Teacher Report was March 10, 2017 was no school due to teacher duty day. We reminded parents that Spring Break starts on March 13, 2017 and children return to school on March 20th, 2017. We reminded parents about the Kindergarten transition Meeting which is going to be held on March 7th at 2PM. Mrs. Jeamary spoke to parents about if they are in school after the bell rings they will have to go to the office and get a tardy slip. This was brought to our attention so we had to share it. Letters that were being worked on were C Q and V. Our theme is the City and the County. Teacher also reminded parents to please make an appointment if they need to speak to a teacher after the kids are gone. It makes it a lot easier for teachers to focus on the conversation. Mrs. Jeamary also thanked teachers for letting them come into their homes for the home visits. As of March 20th children that are going to Kindergarten will no longer be napping, and they will no longer be having family style service. The children will now be walking through the Lunch line like all the other kids. CDS Crystal spoke about Eddie the Eagle and explained how it was a gun safe program for all kids. She explained that we will be teaching the kids to run away and tell a grown up. She also explained to the parents that a video will be shown to the children and parents are welcome. Next Parent Meeting is on April 3rd. Meeting adjourned.*



## ***From the Desk of: Yvette Family Advocate.***

*Hello and Welcome to April. We have had a busy school year and a fun year as well. We have many new things coming up and we look forward to our continued participation. Please be aware that Kindergarten Registration is beginning soon so please make sure you bring your necessary paperwork. You will need to register at your home school. If you have moved you still need to register at your home school and then ask for a variance. In order to get that information you need to go onto the Volusia County Schools Website and click on Parent Portal. It will then say zoned school. You have to put the name of the street in the space and not the number and it will give you your zoned school. If you need any assistance please feel free to contact me at any time so that I can assist you. Thank you for your continued Participation and we look forward to your continued support. Tips to consider as tax season is upon us:*

### ***Types of checking accounts you can use.***

***Free-low cost checking*** is often no more than \$5.00 per month. This may be waived if you get direct deposit.

#### ***Electronic-Only/ATM checking:***

*This account usually requires you to use direct deposit and your ATM Debit Card. This might be good to handle all you're banking Transitions:*

#### ***Regular Checking:***

*Usually a minimum balance and a fee might be waived. This type of account allows you to write unlimited checks.*

#### ***Interest Bearing Checking:***

*This account usually requires a high minimum balance. Generally at least \$1,000.*

*Different Bearing accounts are negotiable Order of Withdrawal (NOW) account.*

***Money Market Checking Account.***

