MARCH

PRESCHOOL NEWS

HORIZON HEAD START

SOME QUICK NOTES

This month our theme is "in the City, In the Country. Our students will compare/contrast life in the city and life in the country. We will also talk about the Advantages of eating healthy food and which fruits grow on vines like cantaloupes. We will be focusing on letters Cc, Vv and Qq.

Reminder: The first bell rings each day at 7:50 am followed by tardy bell at 7:55 am. When the tardy bell rings each child needs to be in our classroom to be on time for school. After the tardy bell rings the children will need to sign in with their parent/guardian before coming to class.

February Perfect Attendance

Lukas Garner

Jaiden Gonzalez

Ms. Whiston 5th

Second Step:

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

Important dates:

Family Engagement Activity	Monday 6th @ 1:30pm Family March Madness!
Parent Meeting	Monday 6th @ 2:00pm
Spring Break	March 10-17 (back to school on March 20th)
Kindergarten Transition Meeting	March 7th @ 2:00pm
Parent Activity: CPR/First Aid	March 30th @ 9:00am @ Pathways Port Orange

From the Desk of Crystal Hill, 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 I am sure summer will be here in the blink of an eye. We had lots of exciting events that occurred in February and have much more to come in March.

We are delighted with the progress of all our children at this point of the school year. All have totally excelled in all their preschool activities. Our staff feels so fortunate to have such delightful, bright and beautiful children.

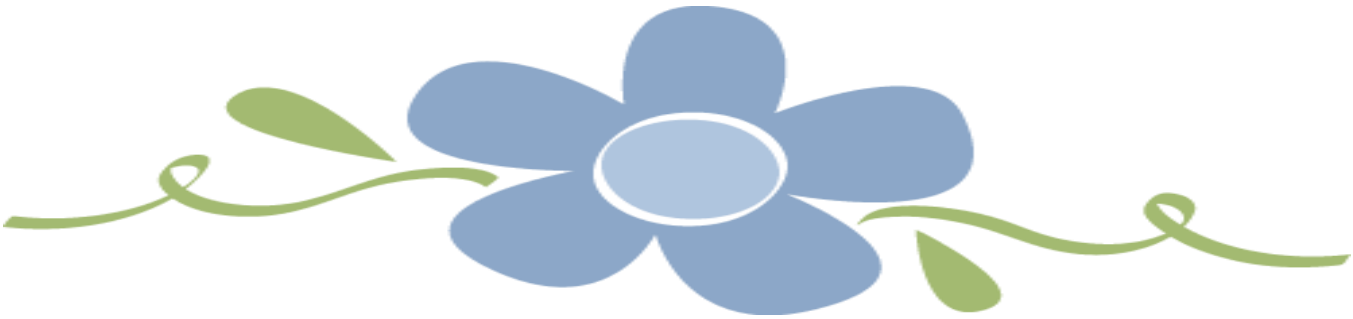
We also appreciate all of our parents' efforts in our behalf. Your participation and communication makes our job so much easier. Thank you for taking the time to allow the Teachers to come into your homes for the home visits. It's great to see the children in their natural environments. It helps the teachers learn so much about them.

March presents another fun filled and busy month in our center. We will continue to fill the student's days with a combination of fun activities, educational games and many other events.

Don't forget Daylight Savings Time starts on March 12, 2017.
Set those clocks ahead one hour.

Our Second Transition into Kindergarten Meeting will be this month. Please see you child's teacher to ask when this meeting will be and we hope to see you there. Remember there is a Party for the winning class at the end of the year.

Come in to Volunteer in Your Child's Classroom!!



Policy Council update for February 2017

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 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 23rd at 10 am. It will be a video conference meeting.

Parent Meeting Minutes Horizon
February 6, 2017

Old business reading of last meeting minutes. We re-voted on a new parent Activity which was board games if CPR did not get approved.
New Business: Still trying to get it approved by an outside agency.
Reminder that February 20, Horizon children will be in school due to the last Hurricane make up day.
FA Corner: Please continue to update shots and physicals. Phone numbers and addresses. Voting on our new President to run the meetings. Pleas also remember that Spring Break will be starting on March 10, 2017 until March 17th 2017. Children will resume classes on March 20th 2017. We still have openings for Summer VPK if you are interested. March 1st it's a health thing please try and come to our event.
Teachers: Thanked the parents for working on their home activities. Teachers reminded parents that they will be doing Home visits coming up in this month so please schedule your appointment.
Policy council, Report:
Mr. Michael Report. Mr. Michael thanked parents for attending the parent meetings. He stated that he would still be working on trying to get someone to do our First Aid and CPR.
CDS Crystal: Reminded all parents when our next transition meeting was and stated that she looked forward to seeing everyone there.

F. A Corner

Happy March some dates to remember. Spring Break starts at the end of the day on March 9th and children come back to school on March 20th. Please continue to update shots and Physicals. Phone numbers and addresses. We will still be having CPR/First Aid on March 30th at Pathways Port Orange as it has just been approved. And we look forward to seeing you there.

With tax time upon us: here are some tips to look for when opening a checking account.

- *Low cost Checking- or free*
- *Electronic Only/ATM checking this allows for direct deposit only. Can save you time from going into the bank.*
- *Regular checking: Usually a minimum balance required.*
- *Interest Bearing Checking: You usually have to keep a minimum High balance at least $1,000 in your account.*
- *Different types of checking accounts that might be of assistance.*