



Indian River Head Start March, 2018



From the Desk of: Jennifer Tinstman, CDS
386-235-4480

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 makes our job so much easier.

This month we will continue to fill the children's school days with a combination of fun activities, and events.

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:

- 3/9** No school for students: Teacher Workday
- 3/12-3/16** SPRING BREAK
- 3/19** First Day back to School
- 3/20** Family Engagement: 1:00-2:00
Shamrock Crafts
- 3/20** Parent Meeting 2:00
- 3/30** Happy Birthday Samson & Olivia!!!



**Congratulations to the following
students for having Perfect
Attendance for the month of
February!**

**EVAN BROUGHMAN
MADDOX WEIMER
ARKIN FLORES**



We are concluding our unit on country and city living. We are now going to learn how our bodies move! We will teach literacy, mathematics, and science topics all through the theme of moving our bodies and exercising. Our new alphabet letters will be J, H, and I. We will learn the beginning letter sounds as well as words that begin with that letter

We cannot believe that it is already March and that means Spring Break. The children will begin their Spring Break on Friday, March 9th. It is a teacher workday. They will come back on Monday, March 19th.

Please make sure your child has a complete change of clothes in the classroom at all times. We have had several instances where we needed to change a child and their clothes were not available and we had to call the parents. If we do send your child home in their change of clothes, please return a new set the next day.

We hope that all parents will be able to attend our Parent Activity. The parents are going to get together while the children are in school and create baskets on a budget. We will get the date and time to you as soon as possible.

Mrs. Hurley, Ms. Ward,
Ms. Fenner, Ms. Severski



FA Corner:

Hello, I would like to welcome you all again here at Indian River. Friendly reminder of school closing dates are the 9th of March- In Service day and also Spring break dates will be on March 12th-16th, 2018. Congratulations to all the parents and children that has been selected for Perfect attendance!

Daylight savings time starts on March 11th, 2018. Don't forget to swap out those old winter Clothing and pack the summer clothing.

*Attendance and punctuality of every child is extremely important. Please ensure that your child attends school daily during the full instruction time so that he/she can benefit from the full learning experience!

*Parents are asked to call their child's classroom before 8:00 am to report an absence or tardiness for the purpose of meal count. As always I can be reached at (386) 427-8149, with any concerns or comments. I also encourage all to call with absences, running late, etc., as it helps so much with recording attendance. Thank you all so much for your efforts in this area so far and for bringing your children to school every day. Our attendance has been great!!



*Please remember to give your Family Advocate your child's immunizations, physical exam, lead and dental treatments. It is very important to keep these documents up date, first for the health and well-being of your children and because it is a requirement of the school.

Ms. Kishmar Petersen- Family Advocate



Indian River Head Start

Parent Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2018. @ 2:00 pm

Teacher Report- Working on construction unit and then country vs. city life.

Michael Davis brought up the Parent Activity. This is when the parents get together to work on an activity during one of the school days when the children are at school. The activities could include nutrition activities, first aid or health activities, crafts, etc. The parents discussed and brought up creating Easter baskets on a budget. The parents in attendance stated they would talk with the other parents in drop off and pick up line to see if they were in agreement. This activity will need to be approved by the Policy Council.

Alan Broughman expressed interest in becoming our new Policy Council representative. He was unanimously voted into the position by the parents in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM

Next Parent Meeting: Tuesday, March 20 at 2:00.



Policy Council Report 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.