



Jo Sheppard Newsletter

DECEMBER 2016

No Early Release Days during the month of Dec 2016

Holiday Days: starting on 12/21/2016

Classes Resume: 01/04/2017

Field Trip: December 16th at Santa's Christmas Tree Forest

Next Parent

Meeting: Thursday, December 8th @ 5:00 pm

Parent Engagement Activity: December 18th @ 7:45 am

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Pierson, FL 32180
FA's number
(386) 749-0300
Teacher's number
(386) 749-0003



From the Desk of Dr. Marcy Guddemi
Child Development Specialist



Dear Parents:

I am very happy to be working at the Center where your child attends Head Start! I worked for Head Start many years ago as a classroom teacher and Education Director. I truly believe that Head Start is an outstanding program, and children and families grow from their participation. So don't be LATE and don't be a NO SHOW. Help your child get to school every day on time and ready to learn. As I have been observing in the classrooms, I have noticed the types of play that children are engaging in. You more than likely have heard that children learn through play. They learn different things with different types of play. For example, they learn about math with the building blocks: two squares are equal to one long block. Children learn science when they play with or use in art projects different objects from nature: feathers, pine cones, shells, seeds and nuts, leaves, etc. However, the most important play of all is pretend play. In pretend play children learn and practice language, they learn about self-control and turn-taking, and they learn about different roles and the rules that govern that role. For example, the receptionist makes the appointments and the nurses and doctors give the shots. Another important benefit of pretend play is how it helps the child cope with stress. Have you ever seen a child spank a baby doll or give the baby a shot? Help your child pretend play by taking a role yourself. Encourage your child to pretend!

Classroom #2 News

During the month of December classroom 2 will have the third Nutrition Activity which will be a spinach dip that we will be tasting with some delicious vegetables. The children are enjoying these Nutrition Activities and they are tasting new vegetables.



During the month of December we will be having our first field trip to Santa's Tree Farm. In there we will be learning how they plant the Christmas trees and how the people at the farm take care of them. In the classroom we will also be learning how people celebrate the holidays in other countries,. We will learn songs and taste different foods from other countries during the Holiday Season. The teachers from classroom 2 are very happy to serve you and your children. Please remember that if you have any questions or concerns just ask us. We are here to serve you. Thanks for all your help.





*Attend Today
Achieve Tomorrow*



Classroom #3 News

During the month of December we will enjoy talking about all the holidays that our children celebrate. We talk about families, friends, love, giving and sharing. We will learn how families from a variety of different cultures or religions celebrate different holidays. It is so wonderful for us to be able to share our holidays and traditions and to learn and appreciate our likenesses and differences. All of us wish you and your family a very happy holiday season.

Thank you,

Ms Joseline & Ms Maria Eva



Family Advocate

Dear Parents,

With the approach of the different holiday celebrations, I wish you for a great opportunity of a family gathering of renewal, togetherness, love, hope and future projects. Enjoy a safe and fun winter vacation with your children.

I would like to thanks to all parents for their attendance in our Parent Meeting, Parent Training and Family Engagement Activity with your child; your participation is very important to us.

If you has made any change in your address or phone, please let me know to inform your child's teacher and update your child's file.

Keep updated your child's medical records (physical exam, immunization record, dental).

Thank you,

Ms Carmen



Policy Council UPDATE of November 2016 Meeting

The November Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, November 17th at 10:00 am via video conference. Fifteen policy council members were present. A special welcome was extended to a new community policy council member, Carolyn Casler. Ms. Casler is employed by the Early Learning Coalition of Pasco/Hernando counties.

The following persons were approved for hire:

Jessyal Acevedo, Teacher's Assistant - Hernando Head Start , Megan Golembieski, Program Substitute -Hernando/Sumter counties, Jeamary Garcia, Teacher - Horizon Head Start - Volusia County, Brittany Jackson, Extended Day Teacher - EVEC - Volusia County, and Juliette Santiago, Family Advocate - Chisholm Head Start - Volusia County.

Budget report training was conducted by Kris Bates, Chief Financial Officer of Mid Florida Community Services, Inc.

The following reports were approved: Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center. Staff will be asked to decrease the number of pictures included in center reports and increase the size of any pictures that are included in these reports.

An Information Memorandum recently issued by the Office of Head Start was reviewed. The memorandum highlighted new requirements in the Head Start Performance Standards. As a result of the memorandum, programs are prohibited from expelling or suspending a child due to the child's behavior.

A presentation on the Galileo curriculum was provided Child Development Specialist, Karen Bourbonnais. The twelve learning domains were reviewed. Additionally, information related to how the Galileo data can be easily accessed by parents and utilized by teachers and administrators to support the development of children in the program.

A series of changes to the Policy Council By laws were reviewed and approved during the meeting. The specific areas affected by these changes included:

Family and Community Partnership, Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment & Attendance - ERSEA, Health , Oral health

The following announcements were made:

Mid Florida Community Services, Inc. has purchased a new location at 233 Oakridge Street in Holly Hill, Florida. The goal is to open the location at the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. However, if we are awarded the Early Head Start grant, efforts will be made to open the new location in April 2017.

A large room at the Hernando Head Start building is currently being renovated to become a Training Room for use by Head Start staff and possibly community partners.

Our Children at Jo Sheppard Head Start

