



## Molloy Head Start's December 2016 Newsletter

The holidays are a time for families to come together to celebrate tradition and to learn the reason for the season. Teaching your children about how different cultures and religions celebrate these holidays can do wonders for their ability to respect other cultures and expand their worldview.

### **Classroom 1 - Ms. Teal and Ms. Gina**

Hello all, the Emoji's will be learning so much within the Month of December, through our "Arts On The Grow" program. We are learning to appreciate the value of authentic art and the history that surrounds it; as well as, painting, pasting, and using pastel chalks to learn so much. Fall colors and fall leaves have educated us about the seasons and what to expect as it changes one season to the next. Lastly, we are beginning our number and letter recognition through our names, games, and songs that deal with the alphabet. I would like to give a **Birthday Shouts Out** to: Bryan Rodriquez, Joshua Rivera, Alyssa Medrano, Sarai Bravo, and

Yours Truly, Ms. Teal! Happy December, everyone!

### **Classroom 2 - Ms. Agustina and Ms. Provi**

Dear Families, We want to wish you a very Merry Christmas or whatever holiday you celebrate, and also a Happy New year 2017! Be safe and enjoy making memories with your family. Have the children rest during the holiday because there is a lot more to learn when they come back next year!

During December we will be learning about how we, the people in the United States, celebrate the Holydays and we will have our third Nutritional activity. We will be sending home the recipes we make and the children have enjoyed. Look for them in your child's mail.

Just to remind you, please bring a change of clothes for this cold season approaching. Also take your child's work that he/she has worked so diligently while doing it.

Best wishes, Ms. Agustina & Ms. Provi

### **Classroom 3 – Mrs. Elizabeth and Ms. Judith**

Dear Families, December is a very exciting month because children will learn how people around the world celebrate the holidays. We are going to be reading stories and doing art projects for this season. We will continue to learn the value of the numbers and how to spell our name. Through Second Step we will be learning what we feel feeling in our bodies. Children will learn steps for comfort when they feel worried or have strong feelings. Please make sure that your child has a change of clothing appropriate for the weather during the coming cold season.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday.

Sincerely, Ms. Elizabeth and Ms. Judith

### **Classroom 4 – Ms. Gisela and Ms. Marianela**

Hello Parents, During the month of November we have been learning about the seasons of the year and how the weather changes from season to season. In December we are going to be learning about how people celebrate the Holidays around the world. We are very excited because on December 20<sup>th</sup> we are going to enjoy our last day of school wearing pajamas and having Hot Cocoa among other surprises. It will be fun! Please come and join us!! Enjoy the Holidays!

### **December Important Dates**

- **5<sup>th</sup> – Field Trip to Santa's Christmas Tree Forest**
- **7<sup>th</sup> – Family Engagement Activity**
- **15<sup>th</sup> – Parent Meeting**
- **20<sup>th</sup> - to Jan 4<sup>th</sup> - Student Holidays**



***From Malloy  
Family Advocates***

Happy Holiday to all of our families! We would like to invite you to keep participating at the schools events. It is very important to support our school, community, and activities. Parents Meetings are a good way to stay in touch with your child school. In these events you have the chance to have an active participation in the decision making that are pertinent to Head Start and to our Schools Upcoming Events. You'll also have the opportunity to get to know different community services that are available thru the invited speakers that come to our meetings. Parents Meetings take place only once a month and it is also the perfect moment to get to know your child's teachers, other parents, and us the

Family Advocates. Please mark your calendars every month to attend, we are counting on you! Our next Parent Meeting will be on Thursday, December 15, 2016 at 5:00 PM.

December is finally here, many events will come in the upcoming weeks! Every classroom will be posting all their family engagement activities and special events; so keep track of them if you don't want to miss it. Please remember to wrap up your child in warm clothes during cold

weather. Also please follow up your child's dental care by scheduling treatment appointments as we requested in the referrals that we have recently send home.

As always we wish you peace, love, and joy this holiday season!

*Thanks for all you do!*  
*Suzette Otero & Rosario Sanchez*  
*Family Advocates*

## **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.

### **Welcome to Head Start Dr. Marcy Guddemi CDS Volusia Head Start**



### **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 blocks 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. For more information contact Dr. Marcy at [mguddemi@mfc.us.com](mailto:mguddemi@mfc.us.com)