



Malloy Head Start Newsletter

December 2017



From the Desk of Rosalyn Figueroa,

Child Development Specialist

Holidays can be a time when parents decide that doing things with their children will be a priority. They will use the time to get to know each other and enjoy each other's company. Children love doing things with parents. Try to arrange some individual time with each child if you can, as well as family time - this helps build good relationships

and helps your children's self-esteem. Just one different activity each day will help keep children interested and looking forward to it. Remember children do not need to be 'entertained' all the time. Just a change of place or a few suggestions can help them to be very creative on their own. Sometimes saying "I'm bored" is another way of saying "I want

you to play with me", and sometimes the child has not even started to try to think of what to do by themselves. Happy Holidays to everyone & enjoy this time with your family!! **Remember to login and check your child's progress in Galileo. If you need the password again, see your child's teacher....**

Special events

- * Parent Meeting
12/19/2017 @ 5:30 pm
- * Family Engagement Activities
12/20/2017 @ 10:00 AM
- * Winter break
12/21/2017 - 01/5/2018
- * Back to School on:
01/8/2018
- * Last Day of School
12/20/2017

Policy Council update for November 2017

The **November Policy Council meeting training** was held on Thursday, November 16th at 10:00 am via video conference. A quorum was established. Thirteen policy council members were present. The following reports were reviewed and approved: *Budget, Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Areas and Centers*. The results of the election of officers conducted at the October meeting were reviewed. Council members were advised that the person elected as chairman was not eligible for election to an office as he attended the meeting as an alternate and alternates are not eligible for nomination to an office. The official policy council representative from a center is the only person who can be nominated for or elected to a policy council office. The previously elected vice chairman, Sheila Ramos (Representative from Coleman Center in Volusia) was nominated to now become the chairman. There was a unanimous vote in favor of Ms. Ramos. Ramon Ayala was nominated for the office of vice chairman. There was unanimous vote in favor of Mr. Ayala. Candidates for the following job vacancies have been ap-

proved for hire: Hernando: Substitute Teacher III Volusia: Substitute Teacher III, Blue Lake Elementary Blended Classroom, Family Advocate, Jo Sheppard Early Head Start, Family Advocate, Holly Hill Head Start, Teacher Assistant III, Blue Lake Elementary Blended Classroom Substitute Teacher Assistant

Full Time Extended Day Teacher Assistant, EVEC, Nutrition Coordinator. Budget training is postponed until next month due to the hospitalization of the Mid Florida Community Services, Inc., Chief Financial Officer - Kris Bates. A maximum of 25% for food expenses was agreed upon per Parent Activity. All parent activities have to be submitted, in advance, to the Family Advocate for forwarding to the Family Engagement Coordinator for approval. The cost of food items that serve as materials to help teach a specific parenting skill during a Parent Activity is not included in the food expense. The School Readiness Committee update was provided. The committee met on Nov. 15th. Topics of discussion included children arriving late at centers, behavior concerns and curriculum. The Selection Criteria for 2018 - 19 was approved. Special appreciation was extended to Robin Bowman from WVEC for her recent participation on the



interview panel for Family Advocate interviews. The Program Specialist from our regional office and an Early Childhood Specialist from our regional office visited several of our sites during the week of Nov. 13th. They complimented the consistency of documents on parent boards and health boards in each classroom they visited and recognized the high level of teamwork among staff. The following committees are looking for parent volunteers: Community Needs Assessment, ERSEA (Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment and Attendance) and School Readiness. Any parent interested in serving on any of these committees can contact the Family and Community Partnership Manager in their county. Volusia county parents can contact Cindy at 386-736-1325. Hernando/Sumter parents can contact Jaclyn at 352-754-2464. The December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14th. The meeting will be conducted via video conference. Participants will meet at the conference room of the administrative office closest to their county.

Inside Story Classroom 1

By Ms. Marline & Ms. Maria



We are welcoming the new month with excitement! Teaching young children about all the different holidays celebrated during the winter months is not only important for teaching diversity, but to work as a stepping stone into understanding that everyone is unique. Whether a family celebrates

Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Las Posadas or Christmas, this December lesson plan opens the door to our classroom on the special days celebrated around the world. We will be learning about the unique traditions, celebrations, and holidays that occur around the world. We focus on reviewing letter recognition, letter sound, recognizing numbers and beginning sounds of consonants in a

word. Through Second Step we review some skills to increase, our ability to identify own and others feelings, understand the complexity of feelings, takes other's perspectives, and learn ways to respond empathically. As always, we enjoy you volunteering your time. Thank you for your help and cooperation. Happy Holidays, Felis Navidad Y Prospero Año Nuevo!

Inside Story Classroom 2

Mrs. Agustina & Mrs. Mary

Dear Families, we achieved half of our school year, but we need to continue working at home with the children, specially our little ones who are going to kindergarten. Coming back we will have our 2nd VPK assessment, this will let us know which areas the children need to improve. During our December Holiday Break, please read

to your child, talk about the story, visit the Library, and the Natural Parks, enjoy nature and the peaceful time of the year. Have a wonderful Holiday time close to those you love, keep your family safe, and rest to be ready for the rest of the school year. We always want to thank our amazing vol-

unteers, who give us so much time for the welfare of the children; Thank you Ms. Nancy Sandoval for a delightful Fall Festival, the children really enjoyed the activities. From Ms. Mary and I, we want to wish you a loving Christmas time, be safe, Malloy classroom 2

Inside Story Classroom 3

By Ms. Amanda & Ms. Gina

Hello again parents,

It's hard to believe that half the school year is almost gone. We still have a few more weeks until vacation though. In classroom three, we are looking for a few volunteers in the classroom. We need some help organizing a couple of closets and preparing the area in front of the classroom for some new plants.

We have been working on the letters S, P, O, T, X, and U. This month we will be adding the letters, Y and W. Please practice with your child both the letter names and sounds. We have also been working on clapping the syllables to our names. For example, A-Man-Da, three syllables. We are finishing up our theme on Seasons. The rest of December we will look at this

month's fruit, cantaloupe, and then see how children around the world celebrate the holidays. In Second Step, we will be looking at We Feel Feelings in Our Bodies, Strong Feelings, and Naming Feelings. The last day of classes will be on December 20th and we will return to class on January 8th. Please be safe during the holiday break.

Family Advocate News

By Ms. Rosario Sanchez

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 Up-

coming Events, you'll also have the opportunity to get to here, many events will come in the unknown different community services that are available thru the invited speakers that come to our meetings. Parents Meetings take place only once a month and is also the perfect moment to get to know your child teachers, other parent and the Family Advocate. Please mark your calendars every month to attend, we are counting on you!

Our next Parent Meeting will be on Tues-

day, December 19 at 5:30 PM December is finally 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. Has always we wish you peace, love and joy this holiday season. And be safe to all those families traveling/ driving to their country during his holiday season.