



Pathways Port Orange Newsletter

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great spring break we are excited to be back!! Only a couple more weeks to go before school is out. Spring is here so please make sure your child has the appropriate changing attire in their cubbies in case of accidents. We had super fun making cat and hat patterns using strawberries, bananas and marshmallows at our last parent involvement, thanks to all who came out! This month we are working on themes such as, Shades of Blue and Green, Watch My Garden Grow and Water and rain. We will be completing our last parent conference this month. . If your work schedule prevents you from meeting with us please let us know so that we can work something out at a better time. The parent visits are our time to sit down and share your child's developmental progress in class so we really look forward to meeting with each and every one of you.

Mrs. Sue and Mrs. Brandi

Perfect Attendance for March

Ernesto Desantiago

Joshua Lamkin

Levi Tolbert

Zoey Walker



Important Dates:

- *4/5: Parent Involvement @ 12:45 pm "Come plant with me"*
- *4/5: Parent Meeting @ 1:15*
- *4/21: Parent Activity @ 9am "Nutrition"*
- *4/15: Field Trip- One Fun Place*
- *4/12: Picture Day 10am*
- *4/27: Policy Council Meeting*

20 Positive things you can say to your kids: You never know the words of encouragement from you that your kids will carry with them for years.

- ☐ You are loved
- ☐ You make me smile
- ☐ I think about you when we're apart.
- ☐ My world is better with you in it.
- ☐ I will do my best to keep you safe.
- ☐ Sometimes I will say no.
- ☐ I have faith in you.
- ☐ I know you can handle it.
- ☐ You are creative.
- ☐ Trust your instincts.
- ☐ Your ideas are worthwhile.
- ☐ You are capable.
- ☐ You are deserving.
- ☐ You are strong.
- ☐ You can say no.
- ☐ Your choices matter.
- ☐ You make a difference.
- ☐ Your words are powerful.
- ☐ Your actions are powerful.
- ☐ Your emotions may be powerful.



From the Desk of: Crystal Hill, CDS

Children thrive on routines. The daily routine carried out in the classroom helps children feel safe, secure and happy because they know what happens next.

A written schedule is posted in each classroom, and outlines a time frame for the day's events. The schedule includes a balance of activities like arrival time, large group, small group, meals and indoor/outdoor play. Written schedules are critical for managing the day, but they are only a guide.

A picture schedule is available for the children. This helps them understand the routine and that certain things happen every day at school.

“Transitioning” in the classroom, or moving from one activity to the next throughout the day, can cause stress and mistaken behavior in children. To help, a successful teacher will have some creative transition ideas in her bag of tricks and will allow a child to move at his or her own pace whenever possible.

Classrooms that I consider “evolved” often seem loud and chaotic, but a closer look will reveal that the children know the routine, are independent and are working in their own way to achieve a common goal or to arrive at a certain point in the day.

Ask your child's teachers about transitions! They'll be happy to share some really clever ideas that may even help you keep things running more smoothly at home. Then children are beginning their transition into Kindergarten this month. There are many things that will be changing, ask your children about this as well.



From the Desk of: Yvette Family Advocate.



Hello and Welcome to April. We have had a busy school year and a fun year as well. We have many new things coming up and we look forward to your continued participation. Please be aware that Kindergarten Registration is beginning soon so please make sure you bring your necessary paperwork. You will need to register at your home school. If you have moved you still need to register at your home school and then ask for a variance. In order to get that information you need to go onto the Volusia County Schools Website and click on Parent Portal. It will then say zoned school. You have to put the name of the street in the space and not the number and it will give you your zoned school. If you need any assistance please feel free to contact me at any time so that I can assist you. Our Parent Activity is on April 21st our activity is Nutrition. Please come join the fun. We would like to also thank everyone who came out and participated in our garden making and planting. If you have a chance please come see what is growing. Thank you for your continued Participation and we look forward to your continued support.

Tips to consider as tax season is upon us:

Types of checking accounts you can use.

Free-low cost checking is often no more than \$5.00 per month. This may be waived if you get direct deposit.

Electronic-Only/ATM checking:

This account usually requires you to use direct deposit and your ATM Debit Card This might be good to handle all you're banking Transitions:

Regular Checking:

Usually a minimum balance and a fee might be waived. This type of account allows you to write unlimited checks.

Interest Bearing Checking:

This account usually requires a high minimum balance. Generally at least \$1,000.

Different Bearing accounts are negotiable Order of Withdrawal (NOW) account.

Money Market Checking Account.





Parent Meeting Minutes

Meeting opened at 1:15 PM. Items discussed were transition meetings and when they will be held. We talked about Friday April 21st to be our Nutrition activity at 9:00 AM. The parents want these items on the Menu.

- ☐ Smoothies
- ☐ Peanut butter Banana Wraps
- ☐ Whole Wheat Tortillas.
- ☐ Healthy Omelet's
- ☐ Bagel Something Sandwich.

March 10th is the Start of Spring Break. Children will return on March 20th. Next Field Trip is to the One Fun Place on April 14th. They want to change the Park location to All Children's Park. From 10-12 Noon. Teachers will provide permission slips. March 2nd is Dr. Seuss birthday. They will be doing reading across America. This Friday is the 3rd. Children will be wearing Crazy Sock Day. Children will no longer be taking Naps after Spring Break except for the three year olds. They will no longer have Family style meals. They will be doing cafeteria style meals.

March Policy Council Update

The March Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, March 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 (9 parents and 4 community partner members) were present.

Two persons were approved for hire.

The following reports were approved/accepted: January 2017 Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center.

An overview of the Second Step Curriculum was provided by Damaris Conner, Education Manager. Parents are encouraged to ask their children about the puppets in their classroom.

Our Quality Assurance Manager - Jeff Heyne presented the proposed Early Head Start program selection criteria. He explained the additional points available for foster care, homelessness and sibling in Head Start.

Heidi Rand announced that the program has been notified of its selection as an Early Head Start Grant Recipient. The grant will allow us to provide quality child care services to 112 children between birth and 3 years old. This funding will allow for new positions. The first phase of the program expansion will include opening 3 classrooms in Hernando and two classrooms in Volusia.

The next Policy Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 27th at 10 am. It will be a face to face meeting at Holiday Inn Express in Leesburg, Florida.

