



Pathways Port Orange Newsletter

March is here!!! Yay!! We are moving right along! We are continuing to become successful little learners! Home visits went great! We really appreciate your time meeting with us to discuss your child's progress. However, we are **always** available to share exciting news or any concerns you might have. You are your child's First teacher. ☺ This month we are working on themes such as, "Spring is here, Shades of Blue and Green, Watch my Garden Grow and a special lesson on Gun Safety by Eddie Eagle!!

Mrs. Brandi & Mrs. Sue



Birthdays

Mackenzie 4th

Perfect Attendance

****Ma'Kenna Cooper
Cooper***

****Ernesto Desantiago***

****Joshua Lamkin***

****Zoev Walker***

****Savannah***

****Avery Hartley***

****Levi Tolbert***

****Miklo Zamora***

Important Dates:

Student Holiday: 3/10

Spring Break: 3/13-3/17

Classes resume 3/20

Early Release Day:

3/1

3/8

3/22

3/29

Parent Activity:

3/1 @ 12:45pm

Parent Meeting:

3/1@1:00pm

Transition Meeting:

3/31 @ 1:30pm

Garden Day:

3/21 @ 9:00am

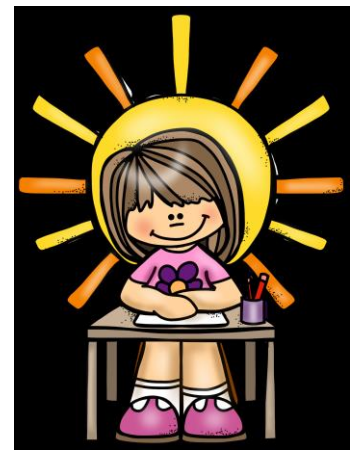
Going beyond "How was your day?"

Questions to ask your child after school to get a conversation started.

1. What was the best thing that happened at school today?
2. How were you a good friend today?
3. What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
4. Tell me something that made you laugh today.
5. Tell me about what you read in class today. What did your teacher read to you today?
6. If you could choose, who would you like to sit by in class? Who would you not want to sit by?

In class? Why?

7. What's the biggest difference between this year and last year?
8. Who did you sit by at lunch today? What did you talk about?
9. Can you show me something you learned today?
10. What part of school is your favorite?
11. Tell me the name of 3 kids you sat next to today.
12. What was the most interesting/funny thing your teacher said today?
13. What class rules does your teacher say are important?
14. Tell me one interesting fact about your teacher.
15. What's your favorite time of day at school?



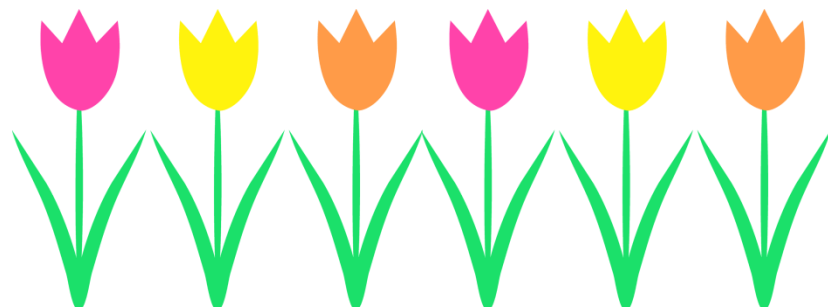
FA Corner

Welcome to March. As the months are flying by we are looking forward to our upcoming events. Our activity is going to be Nutrition. Please also remember that Spring Break Starts at the end of the Day of March 10th and the Children return to school on March 20th 2016. Kindergarten Registration will also be starting in April. FA Yvette has your original Shots and Physicals and will provide them with the zoned school on the children's envelope. Teachers will provide you with your Original Shots and Physicals for Kindergarten enrollment. Thank you and enjoy your Break! Different types of checking accounts that might be of assistance.

With tax time upon us: here are some tips to look for when opening a checking account.

- Low cost Checking- or free
- Electronic Only/ATM checking this allows for direct deposit only. Can save you time from going into the bank.
- Regular checking: Usually a minimum balance required.
- Interest Bearing Checking: You usually have to keep a minimum High balance at least \$1,000 in your account.

Yvette (386) 492-6680





From the Desk of Crystal Hill, CDS



Can't believe March is already upon us. It seems like the months are flying by much too quickly. February was a flash and I am sure summer will be here in the blink of an eye. We had lots of exciting events that occurred in February and have much more to come in March.

We are delighted with the progress of all our children at this point of the school year. All have totally excelled in all their preschool activities. Our staff feels so fortunate to have such delightful, bright and beautiful children.

We also appreciate all of our parents' efforts in our behalf. Your participation and communication makes our job so much easier. Thank you for taking the time to allow the Teachers to come into your homes for the home visits. It's great to see the children in their natural environments. It helps the teachers learn so much about them.

March presents another fun filled and busy month in our center. We will continue to fill the student's days with a combination of fun activities, educational games and many other events.

Don't forget Daylight Savings Time starts on

March 12, 2017

Set those clocks ahead one hour.

Our Second Transition into Kindergarten will begin this month. Please see you child's teacher to ask what they will be doing and what you can do at home to help your child with this transition.

Remember there is a party for the winning class at the end of the year!!





Parent Meetings Minutes

Feb 1, 2017.

Stacy Hill was voted to be our New Chair and will now open the meetings. She is also our new Policy Council Rep. February 20th is no school due to the President's Holiday. April 12th is Picture Day. Some ideas for our Nutrition activity are Smoothies, and Fruit Platters.

Date to be determined. Parents want VPK for the school year not for summer. Mrs. Brandi continued to talk about the Buddy Bag and how well it is doing. She also spoke about home visits starting this month. The last day of the month will be Hat day. The teachers are also going to try and fit Pajama Day in this month as well. Theme of the Month is all shapes and sizes, and seasons. Male involvement parents will come up with ideas. March 24th is our second Kindergarten Transition Meeting.

Policy Council update for February 2017

The February Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, February 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 (11 parents and 2 community partner members) were present.

The following person was approved for hire:

Kari Thornsbury, Dietary Aide (Hernando County)

The following reports were approved/accepted: December 2016 Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center. Heidi Rand- Director, expressed concern regarding the amount of classrooms (more than 25%) with attendance rates below 85%. Parents are encouraged to be mindful of the attendance policy and remind other parents as well.

An overview of the High Scope Curriculum, Houghton Mifflin Curriculum and Galileo Assessment/Curriculum was provided by Heidi Rand. A detailed review of the Second Step Curriculum will be presented next month.

Our Quality Assurance Manager - Jeff Heyne led training on Head Start program eligibility. He explained the four eligibility categories, provided examples of funds that are considered to be income and described the consequences a staff member would face if it is determined that the staff member did not accurately process income information in an effort to ensure that the family is determined to be eligible.

Policy Council members were advised that our program has been asked to submit a grant proposal for Volusia/Flagler United Way. The grant proposals will request funding to support kindergarten readiness and promote healthy lifestyles in Volusia County.

The next Policy Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23rd at 10 am. It will be a video conference meeting.

