



February 2017

Program of Excellence

Volume 3—Number-6

How to Raise a Compassionate Child

Source: CNN.com/
Parenting.com

Promote sweetness

Teaching your child ways to treat things with care helps him develop the understanding that actions have consequences. **Show them how to be gentle. Speak softly. Reject rudeness.** Compassion requires that your child respect others, including you. Gently but firmly, say "No, you may not spit!" In the same loving but no-nonsense manner, remove his little feet from the table and unlock his fist from your hair. Say "I'm sorry."

Enforce rules

Consistent limits help your toddler see that her behavior (and misbehavior!) affects others. **Provide structure. Expect your child to help. Use manners to connect.** Good manners, which keep us coexisting harmoniously, are one way to show compassion. As much as you can with a squirmy toddler, make good manners part of her daily routine.

Guide friendship

Stay tuned in during playtime so you can help your child figure out how to be a friend. **Outlaw name-calling. Give consequences. Label kindness.** When

you catch your child offering a shovel to a friend in the sandbox, label her actions by saying "What a good friend you are," or "You're very thoughtful." Over time, she'll understand that being a helpful friend, sister, neighbor, and human being is something you value. **Be considerate yourself. Don't trash talk.**

Encourage helping

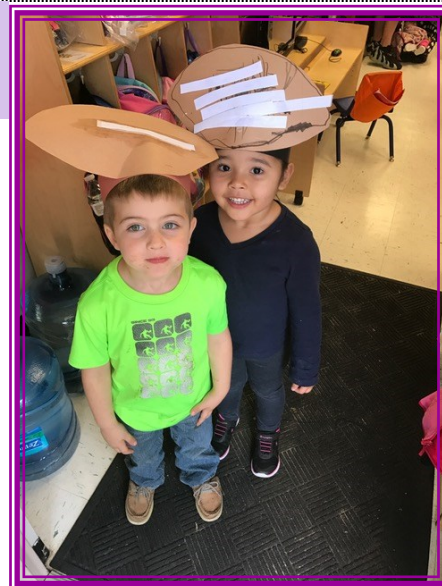
With their increasing awareness and independence, preschoolers are ready to participate, if you show them how.

Assign chores. Use stories. Reading books together can be a natural way to help your child start to understand that children aren't all the same. **Point out heroes.**

Build on their smarts

Your child's made cognitive and emotional leaps -- help him understand others' feelings. **Explore feelings. Monitor media. Expect more.** When it comes to your child's responsibility to be caring and compassionate, set your standards high.

**Model Compassion for them!!!
You are your child's first teacher!**



More "Superbowl of Dads" photos inside!

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Important Dates to Remember

- ⇒ 02/08 Parent Meeting
- ⇒ 02/14 Transition to Kindergarten
- ⇒ 02/20 President's Day-No School
- ⇒ 02/22 Early Release Day
- ⇒ 02/23 Policy Council Meeting
- ⇒ 02/25 It's a Health Thing

From Your CDS

Susan Vega, CDS

"To be in your children's memories tomorrow, you have to be in their lives today."

February is considered to be the "love" month but we all know that love for our children is every day all year long. When a person becomes a parent, "love" takes on new meaning. So what does parental love look like? Sometimes love gets confused with indulgence but love doesn't mean giving in to every desire of your child. The most valuable gift you can give your child that shows your true love is **TIME**. When we are all so busy trying to provide a comfortable life for our children, where do we find the **TIME** to give them any **TIME**?

Include them in your daily routines!

Here are a few simple ways to give time to your preschool child:

Shopping: Give them items to find on a list like carrots, milk, or cereal.

Cooking: Let them measure, pour and even crack the eggs!

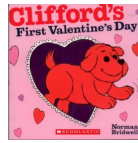
Cleaning: You will be surprised how helpful they can be with dusting and putting things away.

Mealtime: They are experts at setting the table!

Laundry: Sorting light and dark clothes is an excellent way to reinforce classification skills!

Gardening: Children love raking leaves and can actually be a big help!

Remember to give them that special 15 minutes of your uninterrupted time to read that favorite story at bedtime! This is one memory that will last a lifetime for both you and your child. Investing time in your children has the greatest return of any investment you will ever make. There is no better way to show your love!



Book of the Month *Clifford's First Valentine's Day* By Norman Bridwell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LuKFwBjqQrY>



Parent to Parent

"I enjoy watching the interactions between the students and their teachers. The activities that they provide are educational and a great experience for the children\ to learn and have fun. Students are well-prepared for Kindergarten when they complete their second year at Head Start."

Thanks for Head Start!

Jennifer Quinones, Classroom 501

Community Events

All local events are listed on this Bay News 9 webpage:

<http://www.baynews9.com/content/news/baynews9/community/community-calendar/hernando-county-events.html>

BROOKSVILLE HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Saturday, Feb 25 Hernando County/Festival

Brooksville Train Depot Museum, 9A-4P

Brooksville Train Depot Museum 352-799-4766 70 Russell St.
Brooksville

JENKS R & R HORSE & EQUINE RESCUE

Sunday, Feb 12 Hernando County/Fundraiser

Brooksville Brewing Company, Fundraiser 12-4P

Brooksville Brewing Company 352-507-5543 1316 Commercial Way
Spring Hill



Classroom News



301: Home Visit Time!

February is here! We will be making hearts to hang up in the classroom. We will create Valentine's Day cards to share. I will send home a list of names the first week of February. We will share our Valentine cards on February 14th. We will be doing a cooking activity and a Male Involvement also in February. Please get with me to schedule your HOME VISIT. Thank you,

Ms. Ballou & Ms. Lynn

302: Happy February! During this month we will be learning about "The Construction Zone". Children will talk about different things they can build, how they can build it, & the tools that we use to create different things. In literacy & language the children are working on identifying & writing letters. In math children are learning about counting & identifying numbers, also comparing objects ex: Which is taller or shorter? In second step the children are learning techniques to use to invite peers to play with them. Please make sure home activities are done as soon as you & your child have finished working on it. The first homework will be due on Tuesday February 14th to share with their peers. We will be talking about people & pets that we love & care for.

Ms. Theresa & Ms. Mandy

401: For the month of February our class will be focusing on letters T, S, V, B and H. Our class will be attending a field trip on

February 22, 2017 at 9:30 to the Wild life Sanctuary, please let us know if you would like to attend. Home visits will take place this month; it is a short month so please work cooperatively with us so we can get them done in a timely manner. Please remember to drop the children off by 8:30 and pick up by 2:30. Thank you for all you do!

Ms. Ericka & Ms. Olena

402: During the month of February we will be focusing on "All Shapes and Sizes", "Clothes for My Body", and "Hats on My Head". We will be reviewing letters T, V, S, B and introducing H. Please continue to review all letters and numbers at home. Please return Home Activity forms to school. Also please see Ms. Maggie or Ms. Natalie to get your scheduled Home Visit time. Our parent/male involvement activity will be on February 8th at 1:15. We encourage you to join the parent meeting after the activity.

Ms. Maggie & Ms. Natalie

501: During the month of February we will be talking about different themes: All Shapes and Sizes, Clothes for My Body and Hats on My Head. We will be focusing on the letters: S, V, B, and H. We will also be celebrating Dr. Seuss Birthday; we will be planning activities with the kids in honor of Dr. Seuss the week of February 21st to 24th. Thanks to all our parents for participating in our Super Bowl; without your help, it wouldn't have been possible!!!

Ms. Samantha & Ms. Jackie

502: This month we will be learning about All shapes and sizes, Clothes

for my body, Hats on my head. We will be focusing on the letters S, V, B and H. We will also be celebrating Dr. Seuss Birthday, please look for the communication log with all the fun things we will have planned in honor of Dr. Seuss the week of February 21st-24th. Thank you to all our parents for participating in our Super Bowl for Dads Week. We will be collecting shoe Boxes for our Parent Involvement for February.

Ms. Jeannie & Ms. Talia

601: During this month we will be talking about Shapes, Sizes, Clothing and we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss Birthday with different activities during the month like Crazy Hat, Silly hair and Wacky Wednesday. We are going to review the letters V, and S and will learn more about the letters B, H and F. Please remember to drop the children off by 8:30 and pick up by 2:30

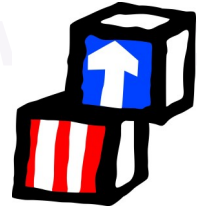
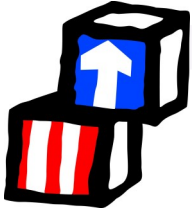
Ms. Costa & Ms. Rossi

602: In February, our theme is Construction Zone. The children will learn about what goes into building and designing. They will learn about tools and vehicles used in construction. In Second Step we will learn about playing and having fun with friends in fair ways. We will also learn about ways to show people we love that we care about them as we celebrate Valentine's Day. Finally we will observe President's Day by learning about some of our most famous American Presidents. Thank you,

Ms. Shelley & Ms. Wanda



News from your Family Advocates



We would like to thank our parents who attended our Parent Committee Meeting and our Super Bowl Tailgate Party! We enjoyed the hot dogs, chips, and fellowship! Congratulations to Classroom 501 for being the winners of our Super Bowl competition with the most volunteer activity participants for the week! Everyone did a wonderful job! Thank you to our classroom readers for encouraging literacy this month. Hope everyone enjoyed our Parent Activity as much as we did!

Things to Remember

Don't forget to **call** if you are going to be absent (Family Advocate) or late (Teaching Team). The phone number for the center is:

352-556-4800

Room 301.....Ext. 2301
Room 302.....Ext. 2302
Room 401Ext. 2401
Room 402.....Ext. 2402
Room 501.....Ext. 2501
Room 502.....Ext. 2502
Room 601.....Ext. 2601
Room 602.....Ext. 2602

Child Development Specialist:

Susan VegaExt. 2105

The phone number for the Family Advocate's office is 352-556-4800.

The extension for your advocate is:

301 and 302	Lynn Woerner	2203
401 and 402	Nitza Jerez	2204



Please reserve the disabled parking spaces for those with disabilities.

Please put litter in its place! Receptacles are located throughout the campus!



Super Bowl Champions



Ms. Samantha Cucurella & Ms. Jacqueline Clark

Dates to Remember

2/15/16.....No school-President's Day
2/18/16.....Transitions to Kindergarten
2/18/16.....Parent Committee Meeting
2/25/16.....It's a Health Thing

Arrive before 8:30....

Don't be late!!! Pick up at 2:30

***Please note** Extended Care children **MUST** be picked up by 5:30 PM!!

NO Exceptions!!

You **MUST** have a **Photo ID** to pick up your child



Parent Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Meeting opened at 2:00 pm.

Welcome back to parents from committee members.

Second Step: Ms. Talia and Ms. Jeannie (class 502) presented materials used in the classroom to teach the daily lessons to the children including puppets that the children name and situation cards that illustrate skills like sharing, expressing feeling appropriately & taking turns.

Reminders were given of the following celebrations in January:

National Blood Donor Month

National Eye Care Month

Cervical Health Awareness Month

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday. No School on January 16th

Reminders were given for upcoming events for February

Parent Activity (no children) will be on January 20th 12-2p.m. at Strike City

Literacy Week Celebration will be from January 23rd –January 27th

World's Greatest Baby Shower will be on February 18th 10-1:00 pm at the Fairgrounds

Head Start Calendars were shared as a reminder of school closings and holidays.

What is going on in your classroom? Ms. Samantha (501) shared the Unit Themes for the month of January by playing a word game with the parents. She also discussed upcoming activities that will be happening in classrooms.

Perfect Attendance Certificates for December were handed out.

Policy Council Updates-no updates this month.

Blue Survey cards were available for parents to complete.

Other discussions included identifying and treating head lice. Please ask for assistance if you need it.

Other discussion also included the need to vote for a new secretary.

Parents were invited to Tailgate Party immediately following meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm



Family Engagement

Luis Leon
Family Engagement
Coordinator
352-754-2464

Parents, LOVE is in the air!!!

February brings to mind many things.

As we continue forward with our school year

I want to remind you how important parent involvement is to your child's academic success! So look for ways to get plugged in:

Read in the classroom.

Ask your child's teacher how you can help.

Come to the parent meetings monthly.

Check on upcoming school events.

Whatever you can do will make a difference with your child.

Most importantly remember that children spell **LOVE: TIME!**



Superbowl of Dads Champions 2017

Happy Birthday



Congratulations to Classroom 501, Ms. Samantha & Ms. Jackie, our Superbowl of Dads Champions for 2017 with 89 parents in attendance at functions throughout the week! Presenting them each with a \$20 gas card is Mr. Luis Leon, Parent Engagement Coordinator.

301:	Aleah	2/23
	Aliza	2/23
	Jayla	2/9
302:	Valeria	2/14
	Joseph	2/22
	Annabelle	2/27
401:	None	
402:	Zyla	2/19
	Jayden	2/28
501:	Daniel	2/3
	Casey	2/23
502:	Maven	2/23
601:	Karisma	2/3
602:	Gianna	2/5
	Ezekiel	2/11



Star Parents!!

301: I would like to thank Crystal, Kara, Melissa, and Theresa for joining us on our field trip.

302: Thank you to Victoria's mom for helping set up at breakfast time in the morning.

401: Gabriel Horn, Yuliana Capo Rodriguez, and Lenette Torres. Thank you for all your participation, help and donations!

402: Christy Bush (Grayson B.) for attending our Parent Activity and helping all of the children make their goal posts.

501: Thank you... to all my parents because of you and your dedication we won the SUPER BOWL!! ALL MY PARENTS ARE STAR PARENTS!!!! J

502: Thank you to all the parents that participated in our Super Bowl week. Thanks to Terry, Francisco, Julianne and Michael, Ileana, Ann, Raquel, Kimberly and Lissette. We appreciated everyone that came to our super bowl week to volunteer and all the parents that participated in the parent involvement activities. Thank you, We appreciate all that you do to make our class and your child's future successful.

601: Michael Haddock (Mason H) and Nirma Olivert (Eddy M.) for supporting the "Super Bowl".

602: Denise Rios Quinones, mother of Ana. She comes to all of our events whenever she is able and she always makes sure that Ana does a beautiful job on her Home Activities. She is a very involved mother. Chantal Hughes, mother of My'Leia. She always makes sure her daughter gets to school every day even though she is a very busy Mama! We appreciate her very much!

Kids love helping out in the kitchen, and this recipe is easy enough for them to do on their own. As an added plus, it gives them a serving of dairy and fruit!

Valentine's Day Berry Parfait

Fresh strawberries, sliced

Fresh raspberries

Vanilla-flavored yogurt

Granola

Whipped cream



1. Start with a layer of strawberries and Raspberries.
on the bottom of a glass or clear plastic cup.
2. Next, add a layer of granola.
3. Add a tablespoon of vanilla yogurt.
4. Repeat layers until you reach the top.
5. Add a big spoonful of whipped cream and enjoy!

Policy Council Report



The January Policy Council meeting was held on Thursday, January 26th at 10:00 am. It was a face to face meeting that was held in Leesburg. Thirteen policy council members (11 parents and 2 community partner members) were present.

The following persons were approved for hire:

- ♦ Ivy Sebastian, Family Advocate (Volusia County)
- ♦ Tony Broxton, Family Advocate (Volusia County)
- ♦ Amanda Phillips, Teacher (Volusia County)
- ♦ Ja'kera Peterson, Program Substitute (Volusia County)
- ♦ Elizabeth Witt, Child Development Specialist (Volusia County)
- ♦ Kaitlin Burton, Teacher's Assistant (Volusia County)
- ♦ Lillie Shells, Program Substitute (Sumter County)
- ♦ Carlie Nelson, Teacher's Assistant (Sumter County)

The following reports were approved: Budget and Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Area and Center. Parent activity requests for the following sites were approved: Bushnell, Brooksville, Horizon, Westside, Pathways Port Orange and Malloy.

Policy council members were advised of the update to the program's Selection Criteria which included an increase in the points for the following risk factors: homelessness, foster care and having a family member in the household with a current IFSP or IEP. An updated Head Start Public Relations Plan was reviewed and approved. Materials for an age appropriate home safety program titled "Eddie the Eagle" were distributed following introduction and discussion of the program at a previous policy council meeting.

Our Disability Services Coordinator, Denise Thompson, led a training for policy council attendees. She explained the developmental screening process and how the program works with parents to make referrals to support children.

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

