



Westside Head Start

February 2017

This month one of the activities we will be focusing on will be **"Valentine's Day"**. It is a day when we share our good feelings about special people. This day is also an opportunity to talk about the importance of sharing, giving and friendship. Our children will also be focusing on: "Construction Zone."



AT Home

Parents, try to set aside a time to have a heart to heart chat with your child. To develop self-esteem, talk about "feelings" and why you are proud of them. Help your child make a note card for someone special, while you dictate.



Groundhog Day Feb. 2nd



Dental Health Month



Valentine's Day Feb. 14th



President's Day Feb. 20th



Up Coming Events:

- Parent Involvement — Feb. 8th - 12:30 p.m.
- Parent Meeting – Feb 8th – - 1:00 p.m.
- President's Day – Feb.20th – No School
- Field Trip – Feb. 10th- Michael's Craft Store/ Rainbow Park
- Parent Activity – Feb. 22nd – 12:00 p.m.- CPR/First Aid
- Policy Council Meeting- Feb.23rd 10am
- Transition Meeting for Kindergarten Parents: Feb. 1st -1:30-2:30p.m.

Perfect Attendance for January

*Latraile Collins

*Treasure Larmond

*Ahnaztazya Owens





From FA's Desk:

- For all those parents who owe the physical and shot record and have not been able to turn in the documents please contact the family representative as soon as possible.
- Dental, if you have not taken your child into the dentist please make an appointment as soon as possible, if you have any question please contact you Family Advocate, please don't hesitate.

Desperately seeking new ways to celebrate Valentine's Day with your little sweetheart?

Share: Cards of course! Whether you make your own cards or opt for a box set for handing out at school, heed this teachers tip: have your child just sign his or her own name. This cuts down on the time it takes for special deliveries around the room. For a perfect card idea for little guys, check out the monster cards at makeandtakes.com. And if your son isn't into handing out cards, check with his teacher, he may be able to pass out pencils instead.

Watch: If you allow yourself enough time, Netflix has a handful of Valentine's Day flicks for kids. You can add Clifford's Be My Big Red Valentine, Miss Spider's Happy Heartwood Day, or Elmo Loves You! Or watch Be My Valentine, Love Barney instantly.

Betsabe Glenn
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Parent Meeting Minutes

Day: 11 Month: 01 Year: 2017

- Parent Meeting started at 1:00pm.
- Parents were greeted by: Teachers.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was leaded by: N/A.
- Minutes from last Parents Meeting were given by: Eleonore.
- Policy Council Representative, reported Policy Council Minutes:
Yes: X. No: .
- **Parents were notified of coming Important Dates:**
 - No school on Monday January 16, 2017.
 - Fill out chaperon training papers for the field trip. The training date were choose for the parent
 - On Wednesday 18nd at 8am.
 - Early release days on January 18nd and 25th were given to the parent
 - Family engagement on February 8th at 12noon
 - Parent meeting on February 8th at 1:00pm
 - Field trip to Michael store and Rainbow Park on February 10th
 - Home visit for the month of February needs to be scheduled for February 2017
 - Transition meeting dates and time were chose for the parent at the meeting.
 - The theme is Rock-N Roll.
 - CPR training dates February 22 or March 1st 12pm

Meeting adjourned at: 1:15 pm



Policy Council update for January 2017

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 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.





Stay Healthy During the Winter Months



With the cold weather here this means that you or your child may become sick at some point. One of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs and stay healthy is by washing your hands frequently throughout the day. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suggest following these guidelines for effective hand washing:

- Wet your hands with clean running water and apply soap. Use warm water if it is available.
- Rub hands together to make lather and scrub all surfaces.
- Continue rubbing hands for 15-20 seconds.
- Rinse hands well under running water.
- Dry your hands using a paper towel or air dryer.

If soap and water aren't available, the CDC suggests using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer to kill germs. However, hand sanitizers should not be used to replace the practice of hand washing. Germs are often spread by touching contaminated surfaces and then transferring the organisms to your mouth, nose or eyes. So avoid putting your hands in your face.

Try to keep a sick child out of the kitchen because germs can be spread to eating surfaces when kids cough, sneeze, and rub their hands on them. This can make the rest of the family vulnerable to getting sick.

Reminders

Please make sure that children are coming to school each day with labeled weather appropriate clothing (jacket, hat, mittens, snow pants, and boots). Please note that the classrooms try to go outside each day weather permitting.

Thank You:

Classroom teachers would like to thank all families that have graciously donated items to their child's classroom over the past months. Many families have donated classroom materials, extra clothes, went on field trips and volunteered in the classroom. We thank you for your continuous support!

