



## Woodward Head Start Newsletter December 2017



**There are NO early release days for the month of December 2017**

### From the teachers

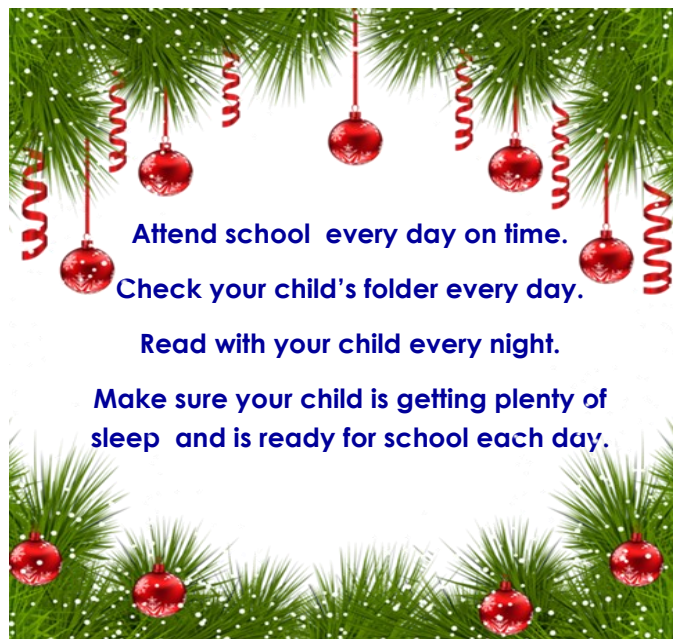
December will be a short but eventful month. We will begin by focusing on topic "Seasons Change," we will read stories about how the weather changes throughout the year as we observe and record the changes in our environment and how they differ in other parts of the world. Winter will be upon us soon and we will learn how others in the world celebrate this season. The children will learn about holidays, traditions and cultural diversity.

Please continue to review counting and numbers. We have a focus letter of the week and those are noted on our lesson plans located on the parent info board. Please take time to look and review with your child.

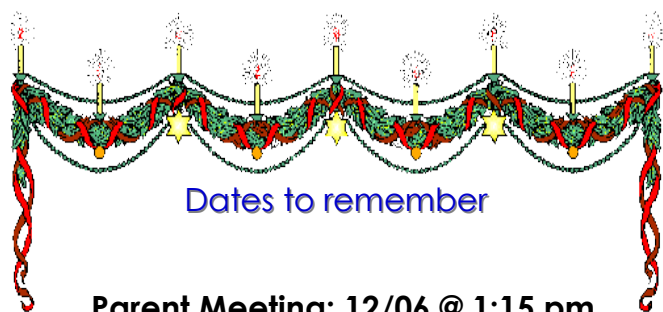
Parent participation in home and center activities is crucial to a successful fun year. We look forward to seeing more of our families participating in the classroom and in center events. As always we thank you for your continued support.

Have a safe and fun Winter Break!!!!

*Mrs. Deakins, Mrs. Woodman, Ms. Rose and Ms. B*



**Seasons Greetings**



**Dates to remember**

**Parent Meeting: 12/06 @ 1:15 pm**

**Snow Day! 12/08 5:30-7:30pm**

(Our Family Engagement Activity)

**Winter Break: 12/21- 01/07/2018**

**Return to School: 01/08/2018**

**Save the date!**

Woodward

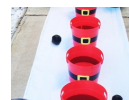
Elementary

Snow Day!

Come and join us for winter carnival  
games, food and prizes.

**Friday, December 8th**

**Time: 5:30-7:30pm**



By Jennifer Fowler , CDS

Holidays can be a time when parents decide that doing things with their children will be a priority and 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 and 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....**

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**Family Advocate News** By Nelly Pagan  
Welcome December!

We want your family to feel warm and healthy during this season, so we will suggest a few stores:

**Goodwill:** You can buy second clothe and items in good conditions.

**Once upon a child and Oodles, OC:** You can sale and buy second clothe and items.

\*Remember, you can look your local holiday's events for a free Santa's pictures and family outings.



**Hope you all have a wonderful Holidays break!**

*Nelly Ann Pagán*

Family Advocate

## Policy Council update for November 2017

The November Policy Council meeting training was held on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> 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 approved 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.