



## Woodward Head Start Newsletter

### November 2017



#### From the teachers

This month we will focus on the theme “Seasons All Around.” The children will learn about the weather through the topic “weather Report,” we will read stories about how weather changes. Using the topic “All Year Long,” we will read stories about living things—animals and plants through the discovery of nature. Using the topic “Seasons Change,” we will read stories about how the weather changes throughout the year. You can help your child learn more by talking with her/him about the things he/she is doing at school and the new letters and words that he/she is learning. Through Second Step the children will be learning the concepts of accidents, caring and helping as well as recognizing their feelings and how to calm strong feelings.

*Mrs. Deakins, Mrs. Woodman,*

*Ms. Rose and Ms. B*

#### Teachers and Principle Reminders

- ♦ Check your child’s folder every day.
- ♦ Read with your child every night.
- ♦ Make sure your child is getting plenty of sleep and is ready for school each day.
- ♦ Attend school every day on time.
- ♦ **Sign up for your Parent Conference.**

#### November is Parent Conference Month

Parent Meeting: 11/011 @ 1:15 pm

No School: 11/10

Family Engagement Activity:

11/17 @ 10:15 am

Thanksgiving Holiday

11/22- 11/24/17

#### From the Desk of: Jennifer Fowler, CDS



#### The Importance of Play

It is generally through play that a preschool child learns about the world around them and then assimilates what they have learned into their concept of reality.

Preschool children enjoy three different forms of play: physical, manipulative, and symbolic.

**Physical play:** refers to activities that involve use of the muscles. These include running, hopping, jumping, climbing, throwing, sliding, and play-ing with a ball.

**Manipulative play:** refers to ac-tivities by which a child learns to gain better control over her environment. These activities include the use of puzzles and building blocks (which also require some physical play skills) as well as games that involve social manipulation (“What can I do to make Daddy come to me?”).

**Symbolic play:** involves manipu-lation of events and objects. These play activities would include the use of fantasy; pretend play, and nonsense rhymes. In symbolic play, a child can change events, identities and emo-tions for the sake of her play, thereby gaining more complete control over her newly created world.

Because young children enjoy play, it becomes a very natural way for them to learn about themselves and about the world in which they live. As children grow and change, play develops with them according to a developmental sequence.



## Family Advocate News By Nelly Pagan

Let's get ready for our Thanksgiving family dinner!

How? Let's share a few tips to help you save some money and still have a great dinner.

This year you can organize a **Family Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner:**

- Plan your menu with at least two weeks before the holiday.
- Call and confirm your guest.
- Assigned the menu.
- Get a Loyalty Reward Card from Winn-Dixie.
- Compare the local's supermarkets weekly specials.
- Don't forget to look for coupons. Some examples:

[http://www.couponsforprint.com/printable-coupons/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI1dSYnsXS1gIVFluGCh3xVgduEAAAYAAEgJsRPD\\_BwE](http://www.couponsforprint.com/printable-coupons/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI1dSYnsXS1gIVFluGCh3xVgduEAAAYAAEgJsRPD_BwE)

[www.couponmom.com](http://www.couponmom.com)

For decoration, your children can help you with hand crafts center piece.



Let's get ready! Is almost Christmas and you can save some money!

Don't forget that Christmas is around the corner.

Prepare your shopping list with time to assure the best prices in the stores.

You can start with the lay away plan that is already available in so many stores.

Take advantage on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Please remember you can use the facilities of the Center to use the computers.

Review the toys catalog with your children.

Don't forget if you need Christmas decorations, please visit the thrift shop or garage sales.

**Let's enjoy the Holidays all the way!!!!!!**

Thank you!

*Nelly Ann Pagan*

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## Policy Council update for October 2017

A mandatory Policy Council training was held on Thursday, October 26th at 9:30am at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg. The October Policy Council meeting started at noon on this date immediately after the mandatory training. Eighteen 2017-18 policy council members were present. Two of the eighteen members in attendance were alternate policy council members. Voting during this meeting was limited to official policy council representatives and alternates from sites that were not represented at the meeting.

The following reports were discussed: Budget, Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Areas and Centers.

Policy Council officers for 2017-18 were elected. The new officers are Chairperson - Jonathan Martinez (Volusia); Vice-Chairperson- Sheila Ramos (Volusia); Secretary - Pat Nohr (Volusia); Policy Council Liaison- Jacob Raby (Hernando).

Candidates for the following vacancies have been approved for hire: Early Head Start Teacher at Oak Ridge Site (Volusia); Teacher Assistants at Coleman (Volusia), Port Orange-2 (Volusia), Blue Lake Elementary (Volusia); Child Development Specialist (Hernando) ; Education Manager (Hernando, Sumter and Volusia counties).

Heidi Rand, Director of Early Learning Programs, advised the Policy Council of a recent Information Memorandum from the Office of Head Start that provided guidance for opportunities for programs to respond to the needs of recent hurricane victims. She also reminded the Policy Council of the Parent Activity Fund amount of \$5 per child and discussed the details of the permitted use of the funds.

Budget training will be conducted during the November Policy Council meeting by the Chief Financial Officer of Mid Florida Community Services, Kris Bates.

The School Readiness Committee will meet on Nov. 15th.

Due to the holidays, the November and December Policy Council meetings will be earlier than the regularly scheduled meeting date. The November meeting will be held on November 16th. The December meeting will be held on December 14th. Each of these meetings will be conducted via video conference. Participants will meet at the conference room of the administrative office closest to their county.

The program specialist from the Head Start Region IV Office will be visiting our program in November 14th - 17th.