

WEST VOLUSIA EDUCATION CENTER (WVEC)

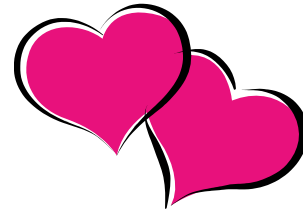
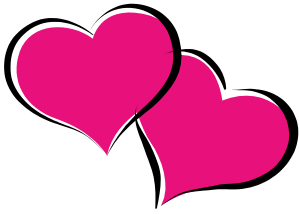


NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2017

IMPORTANT DATES:

February 7 Transition Support Group #1
February 7 & 21- Home Activities
February 14 - Friendship Celebration
February 15- Field Trip (Deland Library)
February 20- Holiday Presidents Day
February 22 - Family Engagement





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 a 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!



INSIDE STORY CLASSROOM #1

During the month of February our theme will be "Construction Zone"

Week 1: I CAN BUILD -

- The children will explore making and building things.

Week 2: BUILD WITH ME-

- The children will work together to solve a problem.

Week 3: EVERYBODY BUILDS-

- The children will work together to accomplish a big job.

We want to encourage all the parent to continue working with your child at home to, counting from 1 to 30, writing their name and letter recognition and their sounds.



At 8:00 we start with a whole group instruction. Your child should be at school before 8:00. Don't forget to call if you will be a little late.

Thanks to all the parents that was able to volunteer and help in our field trip to the Zoo.

INSIDE STORY CLASSROOM #2

We are very appreciative of your support and involvement in the school activities and in your child learning. The new theme for the month is **Construction Zone**. The letters that we are going to practice are: Bb, Mm, and Rr.

On Second Step our children will learn how to join others in with play and using their words to say the problem. We are so excited for the upcoming Family Activities, transition to Kindergarten meetings, and Field Trips. Thank you to the entire parents that come to the classroom to volunteer.

Remember our Home Visits, let us know the day, time and place to schedule an appointment. Also our message box, when you arrive after we have started our lesson, please write down any message, question or any communication that you need to tell the teachers. This is to help us have less interruptions and more learning time for our children.



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)
Charlie 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.



Notes from your Family Advocate:

♥ Dear Parent: Head Start Program is very proud of all Deland WVEC's Parents supporting their kids attending activities and volunteers in the center. Thank You!

♥ Apreciados Padres: El Programa Head Start está muy orgulloso de todos los padres de WVEC Deland. apoyando a sus niños asistiendo a las actividades y siendo voluntarios en el centro. Gracias !

♥ **Reminder/Recordatorio: February Parent Meeting**
Friday, February 10, 2017 at 1:30 PM

