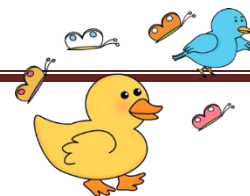




# Oakridge March Newsletter



## March is the beginning of spring!

This year has sure flown by and we have been very busy around here. This month is bringing in spring and lots of beautiful flowers. With spring around the corner there are several things to think about. Please be sure that the child is dressed with the weather, it is changing so we have to be aware of that when we dress the kids in the morning. We also need to remember that the kids have to have closed toed shoes. Also be sure to have a change of clothes at the center for your child, accidents happen.

We will have school pictures this month.

Please be sure to call your child's classroom whenever you are running late. This will ensure a hot breakfast for them.

### Parent Reminders: Important Dates

- Parent Involvement: March 8<sup>th</sup> 1:30 HS
- Parent involvement: March 8<sup>th</sup> 3:30 EHS
- Parent Meeting: March 8<sup>th</sup> 215
- Early Release Days: March 7, 21, 28
- Closed: March 9<sup>th</sup> in-service HS & EHS
- Closed: March 12-16 spring break- HS & EHS
- Daylight savings time: March 11<sup>th</sup>
- School Pictures: March 20<sup>th</sup> starting @ 8am
  - Classroom 3- 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Classroom 4- 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Classroom 1- 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Classroom 2- 4<sup>th</sup>

Siblings will have pictures taken together.



# Oakridge March Newsletter

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## What's happening at Oakridge Head Start?

### Ms. Mary and Ms. Elaine Classroom 1



During the month of February, we had wonderful time learning about construction! We discussed how construction works for us when building and the exciting tools we used in our classroom. For the month of March we're on to another exciting theme, In the City, In the Country. We'll be learning city and country life, how different people live, where they live and other thrilling information. In Second Step, we'll be discussing 'Saying the Problem'. The Busy Bees will be working on how to identify printed letters, produce words with same beginning sounds, make predictions, uses sensory words, recognizing environmental print, recognizing numbers in the environment, problem-solving, comparing, identifying what things are made of, creating own work through art, and recognizing from natural resources in communities.

We would like to continue to encourage our parents to volunteer. We love having you all!

Thanks to our magnificent parents, Stephanie Robinson, Samuel Williams, and Winston Maddox!

### Ms. Carolyn and Ms. Mandi Classroom 2

We had so much fun decorating our room for our Kindergarten Transition Meeting in circus theme. The children had a blast making elephants, clowns and cotton candy.

We are looking forward to learning about clothes and which outfits to wear during different seasons.

Since we have no birthdays to celebrate in March we are looking forward to Spring Time and celebrating the new weather and the new spring blossoms.

# Oakridge March Newsletter

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## What's happening at Early Head Start of Oakridge?

### Ms. Nikki and Ms. Ja'kera Infants Classroom 3

This month in the infant class we are learning all about Spring. We will be doing spring themed artwork all month. Please remember to let us know if your child's feeding plan changes (i.e. infant's now eating baby food, or change in formula). We will have to have you fill out a new feeding plan before we can change what they receive at school. Please remember we are closed for in-service training and spring break this month. Happy Spring!

### Ms. Rachael and Ms. Vicky Toddlers Classroom 4

This month in the toddler room we will be learning about spring and the different things that goes on during spring! We will discuss the rain and the flowers. We are working on staying at the table while we eat and also when we finish our lunch throwing our own plate away and cleaning up after ourselves. We are doing a great job so far.

We would like to wish Jesse happy birthday! He will be turning 2 on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Perfect Attendance

### Classroom 1

Jeremy Bailey Jr.  
Isaiah Haile  
Stefauni Jackson  
Collin Jolleys  
Aniah Maddox

### Classroom 2

Olivia Cason  
Deandre' Cotton  
Emerson McCraney  
Emily Rosales Gonzalez  
Chance Ross  
Jamaar Smith  
Jameer Smith  
Mariah Spikes

### Classroom 3

Jerkari Bennett  
Annaleigh Jolleys

### Classroom 4

Daniel Evans  
Jesse Futch  
Uriah Mobley





# Oakridge March Newsletter



## From the Desk of Crystal Hill, CDS

Can't believe March is already upon us. It seems like the months are flying by much too quickly. February was a flash and I am sure summer will be here in the blink of an eye. We had lots of exciting events that occurred in February and have much more to come in March.

We are delighted with the progress of all our children at this point of the school year. All have totally excelled in all their preschool activities. Our staff feels so fortunate to have such delightful, bright and beautiful children.

We also appreciate all of our parents' efforts in our behalf. Your participation and communication makes our job so much easier. Thank you for taking the time to allow the Teachers to come into your homes for the home visits. It's great to see the children in their natural environments. It helps the teachers learn so much about them.

March presents another fun filled and busy month in our center. We will continue to fill the student's days with a combination of fun activities, educational games and many other events.

**Don't forget Daylight Savings Time starts on March 11, 2018.  
Set those clocks ahead one hour.**

**Our Transition into Kindergarten will begin this month. Please see you child's teacher to ask what they will be doing and what you can do at home to help your child with this transition.**

**Come in to Volunteer in Your Child's Classroom!!**

## Family Advocate Corner: Tiwanda Saxton

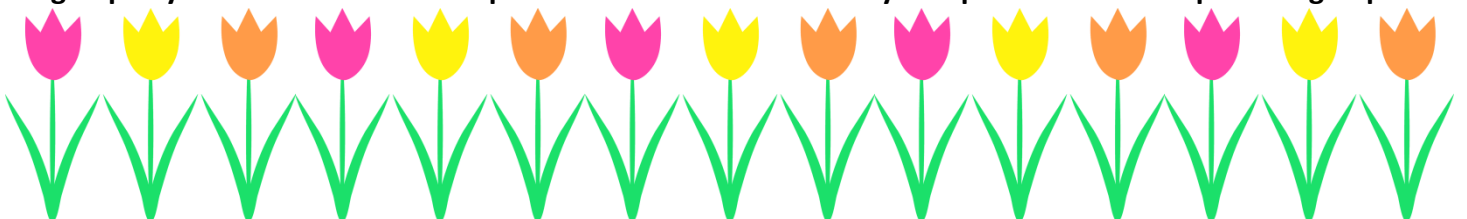
Please remember to turn in your VPK vouchers. If you need help with getting your vouchers, I will be happy to help you.

### Spring Nutrition Event!

On March 28, Head Start will provide transportation to our families to the Farmer's Market at the Volusia County Fairgrounds.

There will be cooking demos, taste testing, and a lot more! All parents will receive a \$5 vouchers to shop at the Farmer's Market.

Please sign up in your child's classroom. Spaces are limited. We can only accept 12 families. So please sign up fast!



# Oakridge March Newsletter

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## Policy Council Update – February 2018

The February Policy Council Meeting was held on Thursday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> at Mid Florida Head Start/Early Head Start Administrative Offices in Hernando and Volusia Counties via video conference. Fourteen policy council members were present. Twelve staff members were present.

The attendance rate of several classrooms fell below 85% last month. The primary reason for absences was illness.

The following reports were approved: *Budget, Credit Cards, Enrollment/Attendance, Meals and Snacks, Service Areas and Centers*. Parent Activity requests for EVEC and Jo Sheppard were approved. New hires for the following positions were approved: One substitute teacher - Hernando ; Three substitute teachers - Volusia; One Early Head Start Teacher at Malloy - Volusia; One Early Head Start Teacher at Oakridge-Volusia. The submission of an Early Head Start grant application in the amount of \$154,612 was approved.

Denise Thompson, Disabilities Services Coordinator, made a presentation about Disabilities Services provided by the Head Start/Early Head Start program. She explained how the program helps children prepare for school by conducting developmental screenings (if consented by parents), providing referrals for additional evaluations and individualization.

The program is set to expand soon with the opening of one more Early Head Start classroom at the Malloy center and one more at the Hernando center. The program's recent proposal to provide child care services at Hope Place, a transitional housing community in Volusia, has been accepted and negotiations to initiate the services are in process. The program will open classrooms at this location in the near future.

The annual audit for the agency has been completed. The audit resulted in no findings. The federal review visit was conducted during the week of Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. We are awaiting information as to the outcome of the visit.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10am and will be conducted via video conference. Members will meet in the conference room at the administrative office in their county.

## Parent's Meeting Minutes

Day: 8 Month: 2 Year: 2018

- Started at: 2:15pm
- Parents were greeted by: Ms. Tiwanda
- The Pledge of Allegiance was leaded by: Ms. Tiwanda
- Minutes for the parent meeting read by: Tiwanda
- Parents were notified of upcoming Important Dates:
  - **February 19<sup>th</sup> Presidents Day- No School**
  - **March 9<sup>th</sup> In-Service- No School**
  - **March 12<sup>th</sup>-March 16<sup>th</sup>- Spring Break**
  - **Early release dates: Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> and Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>. March 7<sup>th</sup>, March 21<sup>st</sup> and March 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm**
  - **Classroom 1 performed the song "I'm the Boss"**



### Notes:

-FA: Spoke about Summer VPK Voucher.

### Training:

Car Seat Safety- **by Ms. Cher**

Meeting adjourned at: 3:00pm Presents: 9 Parent Committee: 1 Staff: 3

Minutes taken by: Tiwanda Saxton