

Oakridge Head Start/Early Head Start October Newsletter



Fall is in the air!

October brings fall. With fall come all the pretty colors of leaves. All the children would think it fun if they could just go outside and enjoy the beautiful colors. This month we will see changes happening outside and hopefully enjoy some cooler temperatures.

Please be sure to call your child's classroom whenever you are running late. It is still very important to keep your child's teachers updated about anytime they are absent or late. Be sure to dress your children appropriately for the weather and remember always closed toed shoes. As the weather is changing make sure the clothes in your child's cubby are changing also.

Parent Reminders: Important Dates

Closed: October 15-teacher duty day

Open House: October 23

Parent meeting: October 22 at 200p

Officer friendly Reading event -October 26

Spirit week- October 29- November 2



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What's happening at Oakridge Head Start?

Ms. Mary and Ms. Elaine classroom 1

The Rocketeers are working on recognizing their names without using symbols, in addition to tracing the letters. In math, they are using letter bears for counting and naming the letters. Our Second Step activities consist of learning how to take turns and sharing. We had an awesome time when 'Officer Friendly' visited and read a book about feelings and emotions.

Ms. Carolyn and Ms. Arnessia Classroom 2

For the month of October, the shining stars are learning about community helpers: Doctors, Dentists & Mail Carriers. In our first week we had a nutritional activity learning about strawberries. You would be amazed about how much we learned from strawberries. 1. The color red 2. They look heart shaped 3. Counting up to five strawberries with beans 4. They start out as a seed, and then you plant them in the ground. Soon they grow on bushes until we can pick them. Lastly, they taste delicious. After we tasted the strawberries, we made a strawberry smoothie. Our letters of the month are Bb and Ff, and the number 5. Parents, you are welcome to our class anytime for a fun-filled learning experience.

What's happening at Oakridge Early Head Start?

Ms. Rachael and Ms. Ja'Kera Infants Classroom 3

This month in the infant classroom we will be working on cleaning up our toys when we are done playing with them. With that being said it would be really awesome if we could get all parents on board to join us in working on this skill at home as well. Another skill we are working on is sitting at the table while we are eating. This skill is very important as it prevents choking. We appreciate everything our parents do for their children.

Ms. Sheila and Ms. Jody's Toddlers Classroom 4

The month of October is going to be an exciting month in the toddler room. We will be exploring shapes and colors through using our senses. Near the end of the month we will be making a pumpkin. A quick reminder for parents to please bring in family photos for your child's family wall display.

Happy birthday October 5 Kamyli'k; she is turning 3, October 21st Ja'Vonte; he is turning 3 and Marcel October 28th; he is turning 2!

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From the desk of: Jennifer Tinstman, CDS

jtinstman@mfcs.us.com , 386-235-4480

Fall is upon us! (Although we cannot tell it from the temperature outside!) and we are off to a wonderful beginning of our preschool year! The children have been busy making friends and having fun. And we also want to welcome the new children and families that have more recently joined us!

Your children are a delight and as they are learning, we can all learn from them each day too. They will help us remember how to play, how to live in the present moment, and how to make new discoveries. As grown-ups, we can also be models of the behavior we want them to learn: cooperation, sharing, taking turns, laughing, playing and “using our words” to communicate our needs.

All of us at Head Start have been enjoying each day since the school year has begun and we hope you will enjoy these days as well . . . this is a special time for you to spend watching your child grow and learn.

Please do your very best to bring your child to school every day. We understand that things do happen, and if your child cannot attend, please be sure to call your child’s teacher to let them know they will not be coming or that they will be late on a particular day. Keep an eye on the calendar for all of the fun activities the teachers’ have planned for your child during the month of October! We hope to see you at our parent meetings, and other preschool activities and at our Open House that will also happen during this month on October 23rd !

From the FA’s desk:



<https://volusiacountytoysfortots.com/toy-request/>



Mid Florida Community Services, Incorporated
Head Start



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Oakridge Early Head Start/Head Start Parent's Meeting Minutes Day: 24 Month: 09 Year: 2018.

- Parent Meeting started at 2:15pm.
- Parents were greeted by: Ms. Tiwanda.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by: N/A.
- Minutes from last Parents Meeting were given by: Tiwanda.
- Policy Council Representative, reported Policy Council Minutes:
Yes: . No: X .

- **Parents were notified of upcoming Important Dates:**

 School closed September 15 and Early Release dates

Teachers Report: Ms. Sheila (EHS), Ms. Arnessia and Ms. Elaine
CDS- Jennifer Tinstman

FA- Dental, Physicals and Immunizations and Goal setting

Mr. Micheal- New Chairperson and Policy Council meeting dates and time

Meeting adjourned at: 2:35 pm

15 parents in attendance and 5 staff members

Policy Council Update – September 2018

The September Policy Council Meeting was held on Thursday, September 27th at Lake Sumter State College in Leesburg. Five 2017-18 policy council members were present. Sixteen policy council members, elected for 2018-19 program year, were in attendance to observe the meeting process. Seven staff members were present.

The following documents **were approved**: *Budget Report, Credit Card Report, Meals and Snacks Report, Service Area Reports, Center Reports and the Family Engagement Plan*. Details of the approved

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Enrollment/Attendance Report included the following: The average daily attendance of 3 Head Start classrooms in Volusia County was below 85% in August 2018 due to illness or transportation issues. The daily attendance of 2 Head Start classrooms in Hernando/Sumter County was below 85% in August 2018 due to illness, family travel plans or transportation issues.

The Program Information Report for services provided in 2017-18 (Early Head Start and Head Start) was reviewed. This report included data about program services in a variety of categories such as the number of children and families participating in the program, number of staff employed by program and the number of families who achieved their goals.

The following **new hires** were approved for Volusia County sites: 2 teachers and 1 center aide

The following **new hires** were approved for Hernando County sites: 3 teachers

Policy Council members who served during 2017-18 program year received special recognition for their dedicated service.

Training for newly elected 2018-19 **Policy Council members** is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 11th at 9:30 am in Volusia County at the MFCS Admin. Office in Deland and Tuesday, Oct. 16th at 10:00 am in the Training room at the Hernando Admin. Office in Brooksville.

The **next Policy Council meeting** is scheduled for 9:30am on Thursday, October 25th. The meeting location is to be determined.