

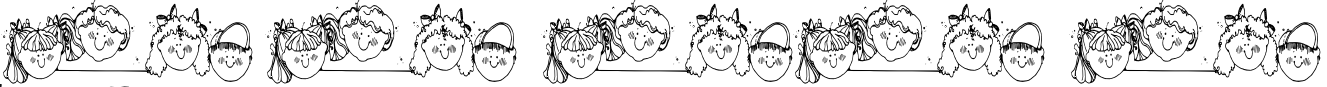
The Parent Involvement Press

September 2009

A Newsletter for Early Childhood Learning Services of Lee County Parents and Friends

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Important Dates

Sept. 7—Labor Day—No School

Sept. 25—Hurricane Make Up Day

(If school is closed because of a hurricane, students will go to school to make up the day of school that they lost. If there are no hurricane days to be made up, there will be no school on this day)

Sept. 28—Rosh Hashanah Holiday— No School



Parents are Key



to the success of the Head Start Program! We hope you will plan to be involved this year to share your ideas, time and energy. There are so many different ways that you can participate in Head Start and Early Head Start.

Here are just a few:

- Attend the parent meetings for child's class
- Become a Policy Council member
- Volunteer in class
- Participate in home visits
- Go on a field trip
- Set goals & check in on progress made with your Family & Community Services specialist
- Keep informed by reading information sent by the program (as you're doing right now).

It's Hurricane Season!

The School District of Lee County will always consider student and staff safety of primary importance when making a decision to close schools when severe weather threatens. Unless there is a clear threat of danger, the decision to close schools will be made around 4:00 a.m. and announced through NBC-2, WINK, ABC-7 TV morning news shows, and via NOAA Weather Alert Radio. Parents and staff should listen to local media beginning at 5:00 a.m. for the latest information pertaining to school closing during severe weather months.



Understanding the Influenza Virus- Part 1

Influenza, "the flu", is caused by a virus which infects the nose, throat and lungs. The flu is far more dangerous than the common cold to children. Children under 5 who have the flu commonly need medical care. Most people with the flu feel tired and have fever, headache, dry cough, sore throat, runny/stuffy nose and sore muscles. People with colds are more likely to have a runny or stuffy nose. The best way to protect your child from the flu is to make sure they have a flu vaccine each year. You can also protect your child by getting a flu vaccine yourself. To prevent the spread of germs, remind everyone in your family to wash their hands often with soap and water, cover mouth/nose during coughs/sneezes, and limit contact with people who are sick.



Social Emotional Corner

Liz Bender and Christine Pound are excited to have your kids with us this year! We help kids practice the social skills they learn at home and in the classroom, including sharing, working together, following directions, listening and respecting other people. We work with you and the other staff at Head Start to help prepare kids for kindergarten next year. It is hard for our little ones to enter a new environment and meet new friends and teachers. This this will be a fun experience for your child! We also know that seeing your child leave home to go to school is an exciting, but sometimes difficult, change. We are here for you. If you would like to talk or have any concerns about your child's behavior, please call us at 332-2512. We speak Spanish and English.