



# THE SCOOP



## HEAD START NEWS

The first days of school were such a happy time for so many children. The welcoming staff and inviting classrooms were evident. Thank you to everyone for a successful start to our year!

We have so many celebrations to share about our Home Visits. Coming in the next few weeks.

### Some reminders

- Home Visit forms will be collected by your coach
- Give your Family Advocate a copy of the School Readiness Goals/Objectives for each family

### First Day of School





First Day of School

During preplanning your coach provided an overview of the process for completing the required developmental screener, Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ). As a reminder, the Parent Consent form in English and Spanish can be found in Section 2 of your Teacher Resource Binder. Parents can complete the ASQ by clicking the link below, then choosing their child's school. Please provide parents access to the screener in the manner that works best for your individual classrooms and families. Your coaches will be delivering hard copies of the screener to your school this week. Please contact your Coach or Michele McKay if you have any questions regarding the ASQ Screening.

[Head Start / Ages and Stages \(ASQ\)](https://www.brevardschools.org)  
[.\(brevardschools.org\)](https://www.brevardschools.org)

**Have you ever used a calendar that looks like this? Look at the next page for details.**



Shared by Ms. Rotan at Saturn

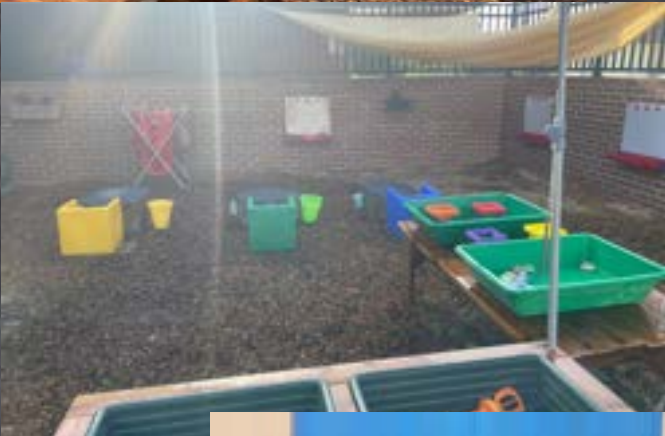
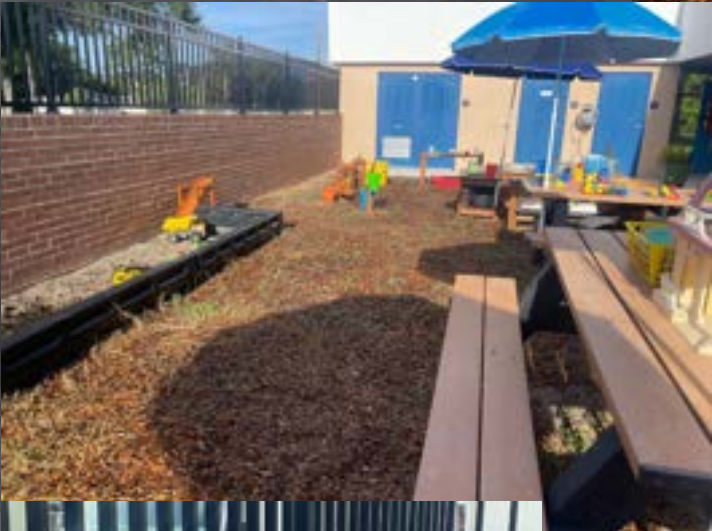
# Making Calendar Meaningful in PreK

Sitting still and listening isn't something that comes naturally to many children. The ideal calendar time is very short, to match the attention spans of young children - no more than 2-3 minutes. But what are you teaching when using a calendar? The true purpose of any calendar activity is to track the passage of time. The big calendar with squares on top of each other with numbers inside is full of things young children have not been introduced to (i.e shapes, number sequence). Young children struggle with this concept when they are just beginning to understand letters, words, numbers and how they work. A preschool child might even tell you their birthday is tomorrow when it's actually two months away. Children have to understand that yesterday means the past and tomorrow means the future. But then we throw in words like Tuesday and Friday, and those don't mean either the past or future. How does a 3 or 4-year-old, who's not yet understanding that yesterday means "past", grasp words like Wednesday and March and Saturday and October? You can teach your pre-k class to recite the days of the week and months of the year, but they really don't understand what it means. We have to build the oral language first to understand the meanings of the words before a calendar concept can be understood.

There is a way to teach the calendar so that it's more purposeful and allows less time if using it in a large group setting. Start off with a 7-day linear calendar when introducing the calendar concept. Monday - Friday and Saturday/Sunday are all you need on your calendar. Then add visuals that the children can connect with, such as a picture of a nap mat for napping or images of playground, field trips, and birthdays. When children can see the progression of time stretching in a single line from right to left, they will begin to understand the concept more quickly, along with understanding the reason for teaching today, tomorrow and yesterday (RTA). Then, when you see progression to understanding a basic 7-day calendar, then you can start a regular calendar in a small group, similar to journaling. Stop with the rote, big calendar time and make your teaching moments more meaningful!

VII. Social Studies E. Time, Continuity and Change: 1. Recognizes sequence of events to establish a sense of order and time. 2. Explores changes that take place over time in the immediate future. (Classroom schedules and routines

# Opening of our first Outdoor Classroom at Saturn



thank you

SO many people supported the opening of this Outdoor Classroom at Saturn.

Thank you to:

Celeste Rotan, Teacher

Kori Hurst, Principal

Michelle Dale and Tarra Bertram,  
Coaches

The whole Head Start staff at Saturn  
Robert Salgado, Environmental Health  
and Safety

Terri Barlow, Assistant Director  
and Dr. Wendy Smith, Director



More pictures  
of the first day  
of school



# 25th ANNUAL

# TEACHER OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, Sept. 20 | 5:30 - 8 PM

Enjoy a night to mix and mingle with fellow teachers, plan great experiences for your students and win fun door prizes! Educational organizations and businesses from throughout Central Florida will be present to speak with you and provide informational handouts and freebies for your classroom and school. Registration is required to attend this educator-only event. Admission is \$5, which includes hors d'oeuvres and a beverage.

## GREAT DOOR PRIZES!

- Brevard Zoo membership
- Gift baskets
- Gift cards
- Classroom books
- Apparel
- Tickets to local attractions ...and more!



## MORE THAN 30 EXHIBITORS INCLUDING:

- City of Melbourne—Eco Division
- Crayola Experience
- Environmentally Endangered Lands Programs
- Environmental Learning Center
- Florida Wildlife Hospital
- Keep Brevard Beautiful
- Kelser University
- Kennedy Space Center
- Sea Turtle Preservation Society
- St. Johns River Water Management District
- Solar Energy Center
- WonderWorks
- ...and many more!

Register online at  
[brevardzoo.org/teacher-resources](http://brevardzoo.org/teacher-resources)

Registration open August 14 - September 10

