



May-June Newsletter

Congratulations



Head Start Class Of 2021



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PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE

City of Homestead Champions for Education

Teacher of the Year

Suzette Guerrero

Suzette has been part of the Le Jardin family for 20 years as a Head Start teacher. Her greatest passion is seeing academic growth in her students. She believes in supporting their individual capabilities, strengths, and needs. Ms. Guerrero is an advocate for parent involvement and encourages parents to continue working with students at home.

A true team player, Suzette assists her fellow teaching staff with instructional ideas, suggestions, and support based on her experience and extensive knowledge.



Rookie Teacher of the Year

Olga Garcia

Olga has been with Le Jardin's Early Head Start program for two years. Her commitment to the education of her students marks a difference in their life. Great teachers bring out the best in their students by challenging them to think for themselves and be creative.

"Being a part of the Le Jardin family has been extremely rewarding and gratifying. I've always loved children and being around them because with their innocence they manage to teach you something new every day. I am grateful because while being part of the Le Jardin family I've been able to develop professionally and the work environment is supportive."



Prenatal Academy



Thanks to the generous donations from members of the community and our partners, Le Jardin was able to provide goodies for our soon-to-be-moms enrolled in the Prenatal Academy.

Each mom received a pack of diapers, a baby blanket, socks, and newborn clothing items.

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Prenatal Academy

Le Jardin's Prenatal Academy is grateful for community partners like the Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Miami! Through the Coalition's Child Car Seat Check Program, Le Jardin's Prenatal Academy soon-to-be moms received training on how to keep kids safe on the road and a complimentary car seat! After the training, Child Passenger Safety Technicians checked the child car seats to make sure they are appropriate and properly installed.



A team member from the Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Miami helps a soon-to-be mom by properly securing her new car seat.



A team member from the Injury Free Coalition pictured talking to a mom after her car seat was improperly installed.



A Prenatal Academy mom receives instructions on how to set up the car seat appropriately to best fit her growing child.

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LE JARDIN'S 2021 HEAD START GRADS

CONGRATS

Le Jardin takes pride in providing tomorrow's leaders a head start!

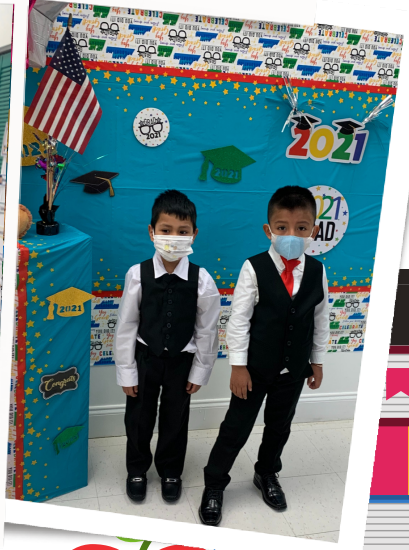
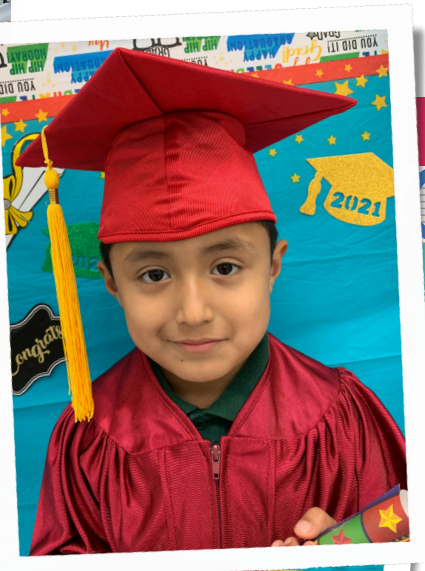
Preparation for a child's transition from Head Start to Kindergarten takes time. Le Jardin begins to prepare the child and parents from the first day of class to ensure a quality transition.

We foster our relationships with local schools and arrange Field Trips for children and families to get familiar with the facilities and Principal Meet and Greets for them to establish meaningful connections. This year, due to COVID restrictions, Le Jardin children experienced a virtual transition to Kindergarten. The field trip to a local elementary school was arranged virtually thanks to Kindergarten teacher, Jessica Arnaiz from Redondo Elementary School. A big shout out to Ms. Arnaiz and Principal Keith Anderson for always supporting Le Jardin!

Head Start's high-quality, research-based curriculum promotes measurable progress toward children's development and paves their way to success.

We wish success to all of our 2021 Head Start Graduates and express our gratitude to their families for entrusting Le Jardin with their education and care!





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Community Partners

The Children's Trust Learn To Read For Free Book Program

Thanks to our amazing community partners from the Children's Trust Learn To Read For Free Book Program for donating over 300 books for our children to enjoy at home and in the classroom during story time!



Homestead Police Department



Thank you!

Head Start and Early Head Start teachers, staff, and students made beautiful "Thank You" cards for the officers who keep our City safe! Thank you, Officer Beaver, Officer Demps, and Officer Wadley for taking the time to take the cards back for the rest of the department!

The Homestead Police was also kind enough to provide an Active Shooter/Lock Down training to ensure the safety and preparedness of our teachers, staff, and students!



Caribbean American Heritage Month

In June of 2005, the House of Representatives “unanimously” voted on the bill that Congresswoman Barbara Lee presented for Caribbean Heritage Month. This bill recognized the history of Caribbean people, their significance, and their culture. On February 14, 2006, the resolution passed the senate. On June 6th, 2006, President George W. Bush issued a proclamation declaring June as Caribbean American Heritage Month. This year marks 15 years since this event is celebrated in the United States.

On June 28, 2021, Dr. Mary, Manager of the MH/DS Component, celebrated this day with some of the staff at Le Jardin. In order to build team cohesion, promote health and mental wellness, and celebrate success, Dr. Mary presented an atmosphere of fun and laughter with a Caribbean feel. Dr. Mary and the staff decorated the open area of Center 1 with palm leaves, balloons, and bright-colored streamers. Caribbean appetizers were served with Martinelli’s Sparkling Cider and homemade Caribbean lemonade.

Activities included a “Dollar Wine” dance contest (a classic Soca song and dance), a limbo contest (bending your back to go under a lowered stick; a contest enjoyed at traditional Caribbean parties and tourists’ events), and a Caribbean trivia quiz. Prizes were given to the first and second place winners of each activity. Staff reported that they were able to enjoy themselves after a long school year and experience other staff members in a fun setting. “I feel like I’m on a cruise” shared Maria Rossiter and Maria Motta stated, “Now this is wellness.”

