# THE L.B.J.& C. HEAD START HEADLINER

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE L.B.J.C. HEAD START COMMUNITY



"Creating learning environments that students can use to become school ready is a top priority."

- Head Start Director, Penny Meadows

## **Upcoming Events**

- 4/15: Good Friday-- All Centers Closed
- 4/21: Family Breakfast
- 4/29: Staff In-service (No Children)

## **Inside this Issue:**

Employee Spotlight Upcoming Events Best of Smithville Award WIC Shopper Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Getting Ready for Kindergarten

## BEST OF SMITHVILLE AWARD

We are happy to announce that LBJ & C Headstart in Smithville, TN has been selected as the Winner for the 2022 Best of Smithville Awards in the category of Preschool.

Each year, in and around the Smithville area, the Smithville Award Program chooses only the best local businesses. We focus on companies that have demonstrated their ability to use various marketing methods to grow their business in spite of difficult economic times. The companies chosen exemplify the best of small business; often leading through customer service and community involvement.

For most companies, this recognition is a result of your dedication and efforts as well as the work of others in your organization that have helped build your business. Your team is now a part of an exclusive group of small businesses that have achieved this selection.



# WICSHOPPER

### Simplify your WIC Shopping



- 1. Install "WICShopper" from your app store.
- 2. Select Tennessee as your WIC Agency.
- 3. Register using the 16-digit number from your TNWIC card.
- 4. Scan products using the app to verify WIC-eligibility as your shop!
- 5. View your remaining balance\*, food list, recipes, and more.

# **Tennessee Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention**



Older housing is the #1 risk factor for childhood lead exposure

High risk zip codes have at least 27% of homes built before 1950

There are over 300,000 Tennessee homes built prior to 1950

#### Which Children Should be Tested?



- Children living in homes built before 1978 or whose parents have occupational exposure to lead
- TennCare children at ages 12 and 24 months
- Children living in high risk zip codes
- Children whose parents answer "yes" or "don't know" to any questions on the risk assessment questionnaire used at well-child checks between six and 72 months of age



#### **Health Effects of Lead Exposure**

- Damage to the brain and nervous system
- Slowed growth and development
- Learning and behavioral problems
- Hearing and speech problems

Source: www.tn.gov

# THE FACTS

Blood lead levels in children as low as 10µg/dL can be associated with <u>reading and</u> <u>learning disabilities, impaired</u> <u>hearing, damaged red blood</u> <u>cell production, hyperactivity,</u> and behavioral problems. Kids with lead poisoning don't always act or look sick.

900,000 children between 1-5 years of age have an elevated blood lead level.

# **GETTING READY FOR KINDERGARTEN**

## Want to prepare for the next school year?

Keep the learning going over summer. Below are suggestions of skills families might explore together during the school break.

# With parent/caregiver support...

- Identifies basic emotions by looking at others' faces (ex. happy, mad, sad, scared)
- Identifies ways to calm when upset
- Listens quietly for 5-10 minutes during a story
- Runs, jumps, skips, climbs and uses big muscles while playing

# With parent/caregiver support...

- Counts to 20 in order
- Counts 10 or fewer objects by pointing to each object
- Knows written numbers 0-9
- Sorts and compares objects (like toy cars) by similarities and differences. More, less, same)
- Names shapes: circle, square, rectangle, triangle

L.B.I.& C. Head Start is a Limited Purpose Agency serving Clay, Cumberland, Dekalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, Warren, and White Counties. Parents' participation is not required as a condition of their child's enrollment. Participation is voluntary. However, Head Start needs Parental Input into all aspects of the Head Start Program. Funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. L.B.J.& C. Development Corporation is an Equal Opportunity Agency. The agency does not discriminate on any nonmerit reasons such as race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, political affiliation, sexual preference, or qualified individuals with mental and physical handicaps. The 504/ADA/Title VI Contact Person: Amy Mahoney (931) 528-3361. For reprints of this newsletter, contact us at (931) 528 -3361, e-mail us at information@lbjc.org, or FAX us at (931) 528 -2409.

#### With parent/caregiver support...

- Understands and uses gestures and body language
- Speaks in complete sentences and is understood
- Understands and retells stories, events, and other learned information
- Names different sounds; rhymes; hears and names the beginning sound in a word; hears words in sentences; hears parts of words
- Begins to name upper and lowercase letters
- Understands that letters make words and words make sentences; uses finger to track words from left to right on a page; reads symbols and words around them (ex. STOP sign, McDonald's)

# With parent/caregiver support...

- Asks questions while using senses (sight, smell, taste, touch, sound) to explore
- Describes living things around them
- Explore/describe objects based on what materials they are made of (color, size, shape, etc.); types of motion (fast/slow)

#### With parent/caregiver support...

- Names and follows rules
- Describes events in relation to time past, present, and future
- Describes/respects similarities/differences between self/others
- Lists different jobs, services, businesses in the community

# APPly Non

All age eligible children can apply. Serving children 3 & 4 years of age including children with disabilities. <u>www.lbjc.org</u>

## L.B.J. & C. Head Start

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Events, parenting tips, developmental milestones, and more... L.B.J. & C. Head Start is your reliable source for early childhood education information.

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