

# Head Start Herald

August and September, 2025



Welcome to the start of the 2025-2026 school year!

We are super excited to welcome new and returning students and families to York County Head Start.

Parent Involvement and Regular Communication between parents and Head Start staff is the key to your child's success. There are several ways you can accept this challenge. You can attend parent meetings, complete at-home learning activities, and talk regularly with your child's teachers. You know your child better than anyone else—you know your child's strengths and weaknesses. Share your knowledge to help teachers adapt lessons to match your child's interests and learning style.

Our goal is to develop engaged, enthusiastic learners who will be ready for kindergarten. Family Services is here to support you as you work towards achieving your family's goals. Let us know how we are doing and how we can best serve you. Give your Family Services Specialist ideas for parent training that can help you accomplish your goals. The more we know about your family's daily life, language, and culture, the better we can work towards meeting your family's needs.

Remember that we are here to support you, and your child is looking for you to share in their learning. At York County Head Start, we take pride in learning and growing together. We are looking forward to making this year bright and partnering with you on your child's journey from PreK to Kindergarten!

We are excited about the upcoming events for our program, and **THANK YOU** for gifting us with the opportunity to serve your family!

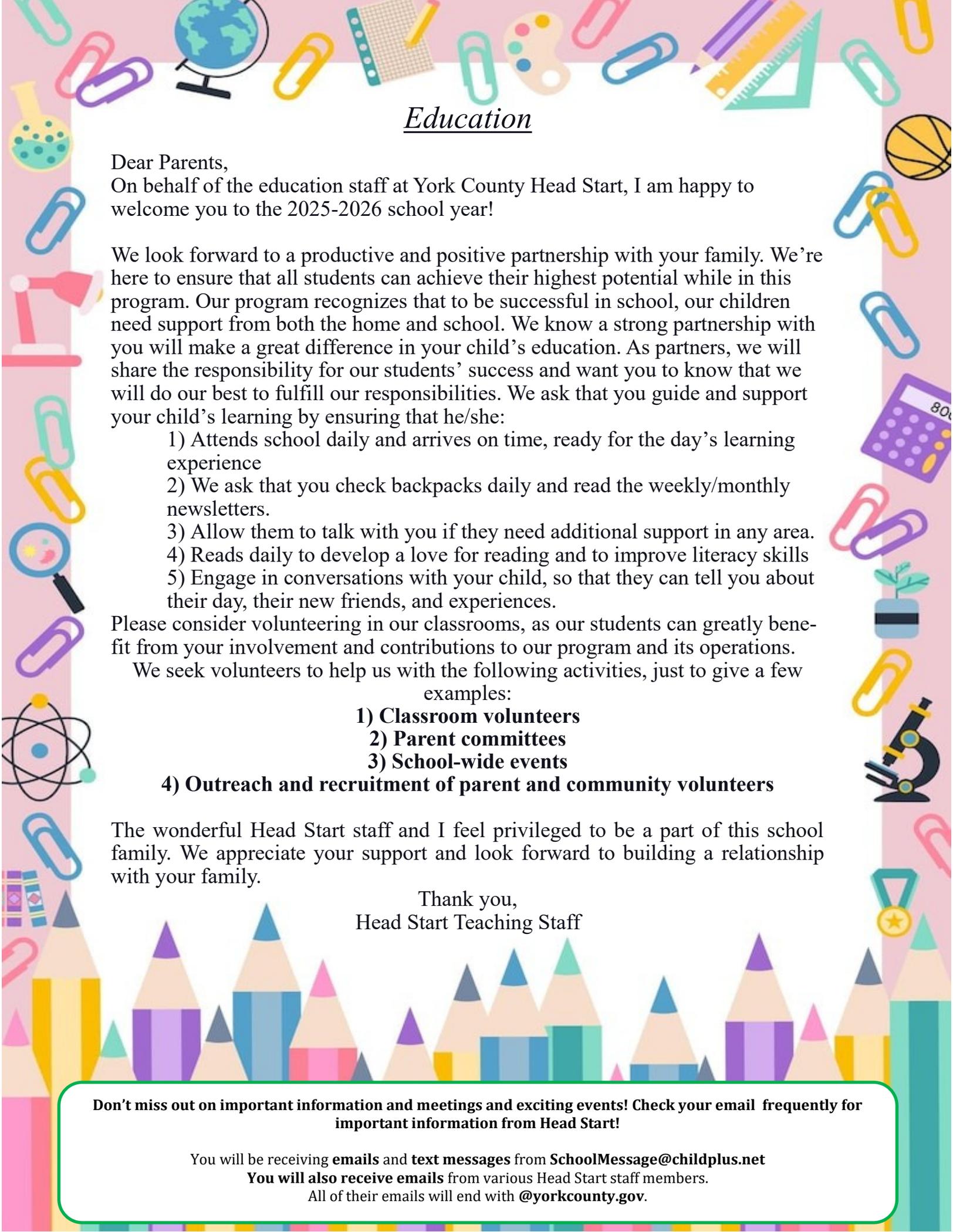
Tanya Coles,  
York County Head Start Director





# Important Dates and INFORMATION

Day	Date	Time	Event
Monday-Friday	August 11- 22	— —	2nd Home Visits (Please schedule with your child's teacher)
Monday	August	6:00 pm	Orientation/Pedestrian Safety at Yorktown Middle School
Wednesday	August 20	10:00 am	Policy Council @ GYC or
Thursday	August 21	10:00 am	Open House at All-Sites
Monday	August 25	8:30 am	1st day of school at All Sites
Monday-Thursday	August 25-28	12:30 pm	Early Dismissal @ 12:30p at All-Sites
Friday	August 29	— —	In service Day: No School for Students
Tuesday	September 2	— —	First full day of class for students/ Extended Care begins
Tuesday	September 16	5:45 pm	Back to School Night: All Sites Dinner 2 go: 5:45-6:45 pm.
Wednesday	September 17	10:00 am	Policy Council @ GYC or
Monday	September 22		Parent Connections at Bethel Manor
Tuesday	September 23		Parent Connections at Yorktown
Monday	September 29		Parent Connections at Griffin Yeates



## Education

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the education staff at York County Head Start, I am happy to welcome you to the 2025-2026 school year!

We look forward to a productive and positive partnership with your family. We're here to ensure that all students can achieve their highest potential while in this program. Our program recognizes that to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we will share the responsibility for our students' success and want you to know that we will do our best to fulfill our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- 2) We ask that you check backpacks daily and read the weekly/monthly newsletters.
- 3) Allow them to talk with you if they need additional support in any area.
- 4) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 5) Engage in conversations with your child, so that they can tell you about their day, their new friends, and experiences.

Please consider volunteering in our classrooms, as our students can greatly benefit from your involvement and contributions to our program and its operations.

We seek volunteers to help us with the following activities, just to give a few examples:

- 1) **Classroom volunteers**
- 2) **Parent committees**
- 3) **School-wide events**
- 4) **Outreach and recruitment of parent and community volunteers**

The wonderful Head Start staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We appreciate your support and look forward to building a relationship with your family.

Thank you,  
Head Start Teaching Staff

**Don't miss out on important information and meetings and exciting events! Check your email frequently for important information from Head Start!**

You will be receiving **emails** and **text messages** from **SchoolMessage@childplus.net**

**You will also receive emails** from various Head Start staff members.

All of their emails will end with **@yorkcounty.gov**.



## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES



Off to a Great Start: Welcome to a New Head Start School Year!

Dear Head Start Families,

We are excited to welcome you and your child to a brand-new school year at Head Start! The start of the school year is a special time full of fresh beginnings, new friendships, and amazing opportunities for growth and learning. Our staff is ready to provide a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment where your child can thrive.

### **Why Attendance Matters**

Every day counts! Regular attendance helps children feel more connected, build routines, and develop the social and academic skills they need for kindergarten and beyond. When your child is here on time and every day, they benefit from consistent learning experiences and build a strong foundation for success.

Here are a few ways you can support good attendance:

- ◆ Set a consistent bedtime and morning routine.
- ◆ Plan appointments and trips outside of school hours whenever possible.
- ◆ Reach out to your Family Services staff if you face challenges getting your child school—we're here to help!
- ◆ Family Services support is available to assist your family throughout the school year. Whether you need help with resources, referrals, or just someone to talk to, we are here for you!

### **Get Involved: Volunteer with Us!**

Head Start is a family-centered program, and we value the important role you play in your child's education. There are many ways you can get involved this year:

- ◇ Volunteer in the classroom – read stories, assist with activities, or share a special skill.
- ◇ Join parent meetings or our Parent Policy Council to help guide program decisions.
- ◇ Support events like field trips, family fun days, or parent connections.

Your time and talents make a big difference in creating a vibrant, connected school community. Whether you have one hour a week or one day a month, we welcome your support!

If you're interested in volunteering, please talk to your child's teacher or our Family Services team. We will help you find the best way to get involved.

Lets make this a year of learning, laughter, and lasting memories—together!

Please bring your child's backpack to school every day and ensure that you check it every morning and evening. For safety and security, children are only allowed to bring clear backpacks to school provided by Head Start. No toys, food, medication, or other items should be brought to school in your child's backpack.

# AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
						In Service
						Classroom Visitor
						No Teaching Staff
						Closed
		Evening Event				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Staff Returns					
	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
			Policy Council (GYC/Zoom)10am			
	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	
		YKT Parent Orientation 5:30	BM Parent Orientation 530	GYC Parent Orientation 530	Open House All Sites 1:00-2:00	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	1st Day of School					
	1/2 Day : Early Release 12:30 pm	In-Service Day: No School				
	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS	HOME VISITS		

# SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 SCHOOL HOLIDAY Labor Day	2 Students Start Full Day Extended Care Starts @GYC	3	4	5	6 In Service Classroom Visitor Winter/Spring Break Closed Evening Event
7	8 PBCM #1	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 VDH -Hand Washing Demo. BM @ 10:00am	17 VDH -Hand Washing Demo. YKT @ 10:00am Policy Council @ 10a (GYC/Zoom)	18 VDH -Hand Washing Demo. @ GYC @ 10:00am	19	20
	Parent Connections @ GYC	Parent Connections @ YKT	Parent Connections @ BM			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
					Zumbini	
28	29	30				
	Parent Connections @ GYC					