



GRANDMA'S HOUSE DAY CARE CENTERS, INC

GROWING HIGHLIGHTS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN



Since 1983

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DIRECTOR NOTES

Thank you to all of the families that donated nonperishable food items to benefit the Waukesha Food Pantry. The 4-K children had a great time delivering everything that we had collected. Your contributions will help many families this holiday season.

December is when winter officially begins. Just a reminder that children go outside twice daily depending on the weather. Children under two years of age go out as long as the wind chill is above 20 degrees and the older children as long as the wind chill is above 0 degrees. Please remember to bundle up your children in hats, gloves, snow pants, and boots. Make sure to label everything with your child's name too!

We have the "giving tree" going on in which we invite you to take a tag to help a child in need to receive a special gift. If you choose to take a tag, all you have to do is purchase the gift, and bring it back (unwrapped) with the tag on it. Thank you in advance for helping several families this holiday season!

Also, please note new tuition rates starting January 1, 2018. Please note the new Price Listing in this newsletter.

Jess Donohue, Director

jdonohue@grandmashouse.org

Grandma's House

will be **CLOSED** the following days:



Monday, December 25, 2017

Monday, January 1, 2018

Poky Little Puppies

In December, we will be focusing on attending simple rhymes/songs and imitating gestures. We will be singing Jingle Bells while shaking bells. We are hoping for snow so we can have some sensory fun.

December is a month of celebrations, whether it is Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah or Omisoka. We hope you enjoy your special celebration with your families.

Ms. Julie & Ms. Denise, Older Infants

Upcoming Events

December 5 ~ Unwrapped Gifts due back for Giving Tree



Chirpy Chicks

We are getting ready for winter! Brrr! But we are staying nice and warm inside while we explore new toys and activities. Recently, we have explored units of Pumpkin/Halloween and Pets. During our Pumpkin/Halloween unit, we worked on imitating every day tasks by washing the table with paper towels. We also worked on recognizing pictures of familiar personal items by creating and looking at photo albums for our book shelf that consisted of pictures of the children in the class. During our Pets unit, we compared big dog bones to small dog bones when creating a collage. We also worked on recognizing our colors by mixing paint with shaving cream in Ziploc bags. We've been having a blast so far and we are getting ready for the winter and holiday season. We are looking forward to snow!

Ms. Amanda C. & Ms. Cassidy, Toddlers

Old McHolly's Farm

The Kindergartners are introduced to a new letter each week. We use Handwriting Without Tears tools to understand the formation of the letter. We use songs, conversations, and books to hear the letter sound and find words that start with the letter. By the end of the year, the children will know how to form the letter, the sound, and the letter name of all the letters of the alphabet. One of the Kindergarten goals is to learn how to play a game with rules and structure. We have been introducing a number of turn taking games, like Zingo, Matching, and Bingo. We also make sure at the end of the game we say good job to all players. Cutting and scissor control is always a lesson worked on in our classroom. We have many projects that require the students to cut on a line. Even though this is a great small motor lesson, we do bring other small motor strengthening lessons in each day. The class is interested in Perler beads right now and that is a great hand eye coordination and motor control lesson to help in the long run with a student's cutting skills.

Ms. Holly G., 4K

♥ CPR/First Aid Classes ♥

Grandma's House offers American Heart Association (AHA) Heart Saver w/ AED and Medic First Aid Pediatric training through PULSES to our staff.

Parents are also welcome to participate in this training. This is a great opportunity to learn how to handle emergency situations should they arise.

Our next class is **Saturday, January 6, 2018** at our Tosa Center from 8:30 -10:30 am. The cost is \$42 per person. If you are interested, please see Jess to sign up.

DECEMBER 2017

Price Listing Effective January 1, 2018

	Age	Under 2	2 Year Olds	3-5 Year Olds	6+
Youngest/Single Child Pay First Child Rate * Older Child(ren) Pay Second Child Rate					
Full Day					
First Child		68	64	61	57
Second Child		58	54	52	49
Half Day (5 hours or less)					
First Child		--	54	52	49
Second Child		--	48	47	44



Little Hay Bales

It's that time of year where we all get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the holidays, but there are still easy ways to help promote development! This past month we've been working on rolling over (offering toys to the side to encourage rolling), responding positively (lots of talking & singing), reaching for objects effectively (offering toys just out of reach), and raising chest to gain head/neck control (lots of tummy time!). With the holidays right around the corner, here are a few sensory ideas to try at home!

Baking: Offer different textured ingredients to touch and feel.

Wrapping Gifts: Let them explore ribbon bows and wrapping paper.

Holiday Dinner: Let them explore the textures of different foods. *Ms. Holly S. & Ms. Jessi, Infants*

Little Piggies

We hope all of our Little Piggie families enjoyed Thanksgiving! We are staying busy finishing up our Turkey unit, exploring feathers, creating wreaths, and working on small motor using turkey stickers to decorate. We are finishing up our exploration of textures, during which we made cloud dough, mixed colors in shaving cream, and used cookie cutters in Kinetic sand to explore shapes. We are working on our large motor skills like pushing toys, climbing and confidently walking independently. We have been enjoying bundling up and playing outside. We are working on keeping our mittens on. We will be working on eating off plates while using a spoon and using sign language to communicate needs. *Ms. Ashley & Ms. Amanda P., Toddlers*

Puddle Ducks

We have been busy exploring things that are round and in the woods. One of our portfolio criteria was understanding 1-1 correspondence 1-10. We counted blocks, people, and beads on a string. We had fun playing with balls – we had to practice kicking a stationary ball. Then we worked on repeating successful problem solving with puzzles, drop-in-the-slot toys, and building block towers. Everyone loves to talk, so we also worked on using short sentences to describe simple thoughts using story stones and having conversations throughout the day.

Ms. Cat & Ms. Bekah, 2 1/2's

Little John Deeres

We are so happy to be learning a lot of new skills. We are learning how to find our coats from the hooks and help put on hats and mittens. We are also learning how to eat with a fork. We are getting excited to be doing sensory play with fake snow, until we have real snow to play with outside. We are continuing to work on using words or signs to express how we feel. We have also been enjoying listening to the new classroom books. We are working on fine motor skills by putting straws and necklaces into juice bottles and working on dumping them out. We are also learning how to graph how tall we are. Our next themes will be Animals, Snow and Holidays. *Ms. Brittnee, Toddlers*

Happy Birthday

- 7 Austin Bartolotta
- 7 Kylee Volkmann
- 7 Gretchen Hamm
- 8 Jacob Elkins
- 8 Nicolas Khalili
- 9 Ms. Jessi
- 13 Mason Armstrong
- 18 Elise Ackerman
- 19 Ms. Holly S.
- 23 Kiera Rauch
- 23 Cadence Valdovinos
- 24 Crew Johnson
- 28 Louisa Glick-Johnson

Llama Llamas

We have been very busy this past month! In November, we talked about the Bakery and Thanksgiving. During our Bakery unit, we focused on recognizing shapes by playing a giant shape matching game with blocks and hopping on one foot while playing a gingerbread number hop game. Later in the month we talked about Thanksgiving. The children measured each other using feathers and played a Turkey Feather Counting game that encouraged them to recognize and count numbers 1-10. Thank you to all the families who made the Thankful Feathers and the "turkeys in disguise". The children really loved sharing with their classmates.

Ms. Emma & Ms. Jenna, 3's

