



GRANDMA'S HOUSE DAY CARE CENTERS, INC

GROWING HIGHLIGHTS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN



Since 1983

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DIRECTOR NOTES

Mark your calendars for our 3rd Annual Fall Festival, which is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25th. We will have appetizers in one of the classrooms, and then tricks and treats in all of the rooms. If you would like to help out and bring an appetizer there will be a sign-up on my door. Children (and parents) can come in costume for the event, which starts at 6:00 pm. The teachers have lots of fun things planned! Conferences will be on a separate night (October 11th) and sign-up sheets will be out soon to sign up with your child's teacher.

You may notice lots of new faces this fall as we have FIVE student teachers helping out in our classrooms from WCTC. We love helping new teachers learn and always appreciate the extra help too!

We have also been busy this fall going to apple orchards and pumpkin farms. The children really enjoy these trips and always love bringing home their apples/pumpkins. Remember, parents are always welcome to chaperone a trip! I hope to see you all at the Fall Festival!

Jess Donohue, Director jdonohue@grandmashouse.org

Old McHolly's Farm

4K has jumped off to a great start! 4K is not just about creating your letters, we also focus on a number of other 4 year old objectives! Outside, we practiced throwing, catching and bouncing a ball with our friends. In the area of science the students started to develop an understanding of the life cycle of an apple. This is just a start to many life cycles we will be talking about and seeing first hand during the year. During our Bat unit, we worked very hard on our cutting skills. We cut out shapes to make bat hats, bat puppets, and a straight line to create a bat booklet. Think how many ways of learning we hit on while putting together a booklet! Cutting and coloring are great fine motor development, ordering the pages and counting develop math skills like number recognition as well as 1-1 correspondence, also reading the words or even just what is seen in the pictures helps develop the student's literacy skills and, in this case, science skills are developed as well when it has information on a subject.

Ms. Holly G., 4K



Upcoming Events

October 11 ~ Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 25 ~ Family Fall Festival

November 2 ~ Picture Day



Dear Families,

Later this month you will receive our NAEYC Annual family survey to complete and return. Your completed survey is a big piece of our accreditation and self-reflection practices. This year we're trying something new:

when you return your completed family survey you can enter a raffle for 1 free day of child care!

There will be red boxes in the center clearly marked for you to anonymously return your survey and then a separate ticket to fill in for the raffle and drop in the box as well. Thank you for your participation!

Kim Spankowski, Education Director

Poky Little Puppies

Fall has finally arrived! We are busy, busy, busy in the Pokey Little Puppies classroom playing with new toys and exploring new things we can do and say. We are also learning about lots of new things like Music, Pumpkins and Colors. The portfolio focus we will be working on is manipulating busy toys and pointing to body parts.

Ms. Denise & Ms. Julie, Older Infants

Little Piggies

We are working hard! We have been exploring cause and effect relationships such as pushing the buttons on a pop-up toy to get the animals to pop-up and scooping with a spoon. The children have really enjoyed art and playing outside. They are using their gross motor skills to climb the climber and push the bikes outside. We have been exploring sensory items such as rice sand and slime bags. Next we will be focusing on being able to throw a ball and using gentle touches with our friends.

Ms. Ashley & Ms. Amanda P., Toddlers

♥ 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, October 14, 2017** 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.

In order to ensure the confidentiality of all children at Grandma's House, parents may only photograph their own child(ren) when they are in our centers or on field trips.



Little John Deeres

We are loving the nice weather and playing outside! We are working on gross motor skills by pushing and riding the bikes. We are also working on fine motor skills by scooping and pouring sand in the sandbox and by using a fork/spoon at lunch. In the upcoming weeks, we are going to be learning about transportation and painting with cars and trucks and putting puzzle pieces together. We are looking forward to fall and the leaves changing colors. I look forward to seeing you at Parent/Teacher Conferences and the Family Fall Festival in October.

Ms. Brittnee, Toddlers

Chirpy Chicks

We're off to a great start this fall and the children seem to be settling nicely into their new classroom. We enjoyed exploring our first two themes: Dinosaurs and Camping. During our Dinosaur unit, we focused on putting different puzzles together and exploring a variety of books: sing along, lift-the-flap and touchy-feely. For our camping unit, we focused on matching colors with file folder games and building block towers. We will continue to learn and practice new skills during our upcoming themes: Farm and Fall. We are looking forward to sharing your child's progress during our Parent/Teacher Conferences in October.

Ms. Amanda C. & Ms. Cassidy, Toddlers

Little Hay Bales

Welcome all of our new bundles of joy to Grandma's House! We look forward to getting to know your family! Since we have quite a few teeny tinies in our classroom, our portfolio focuses are going to be geared for the younger group. We are continuously working on holding the head erect/steady. We do this carefully by holding your child upright during face time and placing them on tummy time. We've also been working on holding hands in front/playing with fingers. We encourage this during feeding times and one on one time. Sitting with support will begin to happen slowly, but in the mean time we will sit with them on the floor or place them in a bumby or boppy pillow if developmentally appropriate. Lastly, we are working on showing pleasure by making sounds. Nothing beats hearing babbles and coos when your child is happy!

Ms. Holly S. & Ms. Jessi, Infants

Llama Llamas

We've had a great start to our Fall program. The 3 yr. olds have been busy working on several skills. In September, we learned about Apples and Weather. During our apple unit, we focused on handling scissors, cutting in a straight line and following a curved line. We also worked on throwing overhand by throwing apples in a basket out on the playground. After Apples we began our unit on Weather. While learning about all different types of weather we focused on fine motor movements beading rainbows and also worked on math concepts correlating number to items and pictures. We loved doing all of our weather experiments! Speaking of weather, please switch out clothes in your child's cubby. We also ask for lots of extra socks and pants with all the wet fall weather.

Ms. Emma & Ms. Jenna, 3's

Puddle Ducks

Autumn is here! We are enjoying the beautiful weather and continuing to bring inside activities outside. While exploring opposites we first read books about opposites. Then we moved our bodies up and down, in and out of things and went to the top and bottom of the slides. We also worked on learning which is the front of a book and which is the back. Puddle Ducks love to draw, so we worked on drawing a person. We used laminated black/white photos of the children's faces so they could draw on them. Next, we explored lines and shapes. We found lots of shapes everywhere and used laminated shape mats with playdough. When we were outside we practiced hopping on one foot. We are still going on field trips, we only do one a month instead of one a week. Let's have an outrageous October!

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

Happy Birthday

- 1 Rishabh Segon
- 2 Kendall White
- 7 Hadley Ziegler
- 14 Amara Okonkwo
- 14 Elaina Chou
- 14 Neven Markovic
- 15 Isabella Escobar
- 15 Alexa McFarland
- 16 Brody Ehlers
- 16 Finley Hayes
- 17 Ms. Diane
- 18 Nathan Brummer
- 20 Maryn Pichler
- 27 Brody Nelson
- 29 Haley Goodwin
- 30 Menna Ayalew
- 31 Gabriel Dahl

Congratulations

On celebrating anniversaries with
Grandma's House!

Ms. Diane 6 Years

Autumn

is a second spring
when every leaf is a flower.

~Albert Camus

Honey Bees

With the start of Fall comes lots of new adventures to be had. This month we saved three turtles while at the park enjoying the sunshine, made our own applesauce and apple pie, and got to know new friends in our classroom. Our focus this month for our "All About Me" theme was helping in simple tasks by our cooking activity of making pudding, following step-by-step directions. We also focused on our colors while working on gluing down our names and sponge painting. During our Fall theme we matched big and small by comparing the size of the apples we were using for our applesauce.

Ms. Diane & Ms. Jennie, 2's