



GROWING HIGHLIGHTS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN



Since 1983

Director Notes

Dear Parents,
52 field trips done and 27 left to go before our summer program ends! Our children over the age of 2 have enjoyed many rides on the “bumpy bus” to places such as Kids in Motion, Hart Park Splash Pad, Wiberg Aquatic Center, Miller Park, Horeb Springs wading pool, Whitnall Park, and Monkey Joes. Meanwhile, the infants and toddlers have loved water play and relaxing stroller rides through the neighborhood.

our teachers are beginning to prepare for our fall program which officially begins on Monday, August 28th. Be sure to watch for class lists, which will be posted in mid-August. Additionally, parents of school agers will receive a transportation permission slip that needs to be returned so we can appropriately coordinate busing to the following Elementary schools: Neeskara, Roosevelt, Lincoln, and Washington. Let the “Back to School” shopping begin ☺.

As much as we are enjoying the beautiful weather and outside activities in summer,

Kristie Potter, Director

kpotter@grandmashouse.org

Spider Monkeys

Your children have been working really hard on writing their own names. They have been using white board markers and name tags, magnetic letters, highlighters, play dough and much more. They have also been working on identifying the numbers 1-10 by matching quantities of items to numbers. We have been swimming, to parks and much more. So far, the children have loved every field trip. If possible, please send 2-piece swim suits for the girls. It makes potty time much easier. We also like them to have toe covered slip on shoes for swim field trips. Thank you! ~Ms. Nikki, 4's

Brown Bears

Summer is in full swing. We are having a blast riding the bumpy bus in our community. We have enjoyed getting wet and keeping cool on hot days on our playground too. Some skills we have been working on include math activities with shapes and colors, learning using our senses and practicing motor skills. Everyone has been doing a great job trying to use utensils consistently and being more independent.

~ Ms. Ericka, 2's

Tiny Tigers

During the month of July we focused on colors/shapes, transportation and friendships. In our lesson plans, the portfolio focuses were push and pulling toys, identifying body parts and new sign language words such as eat, more, car and plane. We would also like to mention that the children enjoy the buggy walks around the park and splashing water in the pools. Please remember to bring in a sun hat for your child. The children are enjoying both the indoor and outdoor activities.

~Ms. Claire & Ms. Johnnetta, Young 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, August 5, 2017** at our Tosa Center from 8:30 -10:30 am. The cost is \$42 per person. If you are interested, please see Kristie to sign up.

Congratulations

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House!

July

Ms. Sheryl 25 Years
Ms. Nikki 6 Years
Ms. Zuleika 1 Year

August

Ms. Judeen 27 Years
Ms. Michele 23 Years
Ms. Kim 20 Years
Ms. Kristie 14 Years
Ms. Ericka 11 Years
Ms. Marina 10 Years

Sleepy Sloths

Self-concept skills are taught to our children through playing games with them. On our child portfolios, we focus on several skills such as recognizing familiar objects and responding to being talked to one on one. Such things as playing peek-a-boo and smiling in response to facial expressions are all easy ways to work on developing self-concept skills. Playing games with babies is a valuable learning experience and a bonding experience for both adult and child. Healthy bonding and attachment to loving caregivers gives babies the emotional security so essential to their total development. A great resource book to use with your baby is entitled “Games to Play with Babies”, by Jackie Silberg. Have fun playing! ~Mrs. Jefferson & Ms. Judeen, Infants

Grandma's House Day Care Centers

BROOKFIELD CENTER
3150 N. Brookfield Road
262-790-9260

HARTLAND CENTER
229 E. Capitol Drive
262-361-4809

HIGHLAND CENTER
6119 W. Vliet Street
414-475-7605

TOSA CENTER
11401 W. Watertown Plank Road
414-475-9381

CORPORATE OFFICE
3150 N. Brookfield Road
262-790-9262

Fax: 262-790-9269

WEB SITE: www.grandmashouse.org

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Looney Orangutans

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over. The children really enjoyed water play this summer. They were able to use their senses and gross motor skills to dump, fill, play and manipulate the water. Developing gross motor skills is very important at this age. Gross motor skills are important for major body movement such as walking, maintaining balance, coordination, jumping, and reaching. We focused on walking, running and increasing control of body movements. In addition to playing outside to increase gross motor skills we also did many activities inside. Dancing and chasing bubbles are two of the favorite indoor gross motor activities.

~Ms. Diana & Ms. Zuleika, Older Toddlers

Great White Sharks

Wow! This summer is half over...time sure flies when you are having fun. We have gone on lots of field trips to parks, splash pads and even the zoo. There is more to come so remember to check your calendars and our family board so you know what is coming up. Some skills we have been working on when we are not outside are; shape and color recognition, building towers of blocks, putting puzzles together and counting...just to name a few! We have also been learning a few Spanish words and phrases. We say Mas, por favor, gracias, hola and Buenos dias. Listen closely to see if your children use these words at home. We are looking forward to the rest of summer. It is so much fun to play in the sun! ~Ms. Darcel & Ms. Carmen, 2 1/2's

Dancing Dolphins

We have been enjoying the summer so far. We have been learning about summer and all the fun things it has to offer; such as insects, warm weather, picnics, pop-sicles, ice cream and fire works. We have been reading stories about summer such as "Baby's Summer" and "Summer Time Fun". The children love the flannel story "We Are Going on a Picnic". They also got to help make blueberry Jell-O, match different colored sun glasses and different sized beach balls. We had fun using our hand/eye coordination skills by placing straws inside holes on a shoe box. We also love to take big red buggy rides to Hawthorne Glen. Yes, summer is treating us well!

~Ms. Rina & Ms. Salessa, Almost Two's

Komodo Dragons

We have had a lot of fun going on field trips. We especially like swimming and exploring parks. It's amazing how many of the children love to swim! So far this summer I have had the pleasure of observing your children interact with each other. This is building social skills that your children will use for the rest of their lives. I am also amazed at your children's artistic skills. We have had drawing challenges and their artistic skills and imaginations make their drawings awesome. This past month we talked about Legos and endangered species. We really enjoyed reading silly stories that were a part of these units.

~Ms. Ami, Young SA

Playful Pandas

We can not believe that it is august already. Summer is just zooming on by. Our Playful Panda's are enjoying their outside time. We love to go on walks and explore the playground and our environment. We brought the baby pools out and most of the babies loved exploring with different water toys. Only a few were not so sure about the whole pool thing! As you all know, we use some sign language throughout our days here at day care. We have had a few parents ask about the signs we use. In the next couple of weeks we will be making individual books of signs for families to take home and practice with their child. We hope you enjoy the rest of summer!

~Ms. Terricka & Ms. Jennifer, Infants

Happy Birthday

July

- 1 Ethan Schilling
- 4 Mr. Scott
- 6 Benjamin Modl
- 7 Ms. Marina
- 8 Elias Lopez
- 9 Luke Broeckling
- 13 Ian Podevels
- 14 Michael Knutson
- 15 Lydia Johnson
- 17 Edward Morien
- 18 Aria Sims
- 21 Ms. Jessi G.
- 22 Dylan Bleskachek
- 24 Jayla Ross
- 25 Penelope Gahl
- 27 Ms. Carmen
- 28 Madelyn Broeckling
- 30 Stella Hack
- 31 Zaina Rawashdeh

August

- 1 Rhys Mayer
- 1 Dante Ramirez
- 2 Beckett Rodin
- 2 Louie Atkinson
- 2 Kwmaine Johnson
- 3 Amery Graves
- 5 Oliver Podd
- 12 Carter Persons
- 13 William Green
- 17 Elle Maes
- 17 Mitchell Williams
- 18 Ms. Michele
- 19 Mr. Scott K.
- 20 Ariana Bell
- 20 Ms. Salessa
- 23 Ms. Rosanne
- 24 Ms. Ami
- 26 Quinn Sugden
- 27 Mekhi Robinson
- 28 Grace Brimeyer
- 29 Kai Ivy
- 29 Jordi Carlisle
- 31 Mireille Prosper



Arctic Foxes

The summer has been a fun one so far. With plenty of field trips, activities, and warm weather, the kids are having a blast. My own childhood has informed my teaching philosophy as much as my schooling. When summer came, as long as I could get outside, connect with friends, and have the freedom to choose how I spent my time, I was happy. Therefore, as the summer school-age teacher, I made it my number one priority to make the outdoors our primary classroom. The children love taking our daily walk to nearby Hawthorne Glen Park to play baseball, kickball, swing on the tire swing, climb (and then roll down) the big hill, and take long hikes through the park's beautiful nature trails. Study after study shows that playing outdoors is crucial to healthy childhood development with benefits like stress reduction, increased attention spans, boosted immune systems, better physical fitness and coordination, gross and fine motor skill development, heightened curiosity and imagination, increased risk-taking, improved academic performance, and many more. Plus it produces a lot of smiles.

Both indoors and out, I like to allow as much freedom as possible. The many activities I plan and carry out are optional. Children are able to gravitate towards what stimulates their curiosity, and what they find enjoyable and engrossing.

Whether we're making homemade slime, running an imaginary bakery, playing board games with friends, or games on the computer, what's important to them (and therefore to me) is that they feel safe, included, engaged, independent, and happy. Summer should be fun, and we're having plenty of it.

~Mr. Scott, School Age

Magical Macaws

What a busy summer we have had. We began with exploring our classroom and making new friends. We have also been working on respecting ourselves, our classroom, our teachers and our classmates. One way this is being accomplished is by "*take it out, play with it and put it away*". We also have been working on "*treat others the way you want to be treated*". Next we have enjoyed many field trips on the bumpy bus. We love to explore new playgrounds, splash pads and pools. If you have already chaperoned a trip, thank you so much! If not, we still have a few trips left in August and you are welcome to join us. On field trip days, please have your child here by 8:45 a.m. so that we have enough time to get them ready! Finally, we have been busy using our senses when outside. Our favorite activities have been looking at and smelling flowers, observing the clouds and the moon, touching pinecones, sticks, and rocks and identifying the sounds we hear. We can hear the garbage truck long before we see it!

~Ms. Lynn & Ms. Mary, 3's