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Growing Highlights

October 2018



Dear Parents,

Families are an important part of our program at Grandma's House. Thank you to all of the families who attended our annual Fall Family Night last month! We had a wonderful

turnout and many families enjoyed a taco dinner, socializing, and entertainment from naturalist David Stokes.

October brings field trips to the pumpkin farm for our older children! Details will be posted in your child's classroom. As always, family members are welcome to join us as a chaperone!

Finally, we encourage families to attend Parent-Teacher conferences this month. This Fall, evening conferences will be held on **Tuesday, October 16th and Thursday, October 18th**. Our evaluations and child portfolios are compiled with ongoing observations and work samples from your children. Grandma's House uses assessments by age which help us measure developmental growth. Results from these assessments help guide lesson plans and will be shared with families at conference time. Please see your child's teacher to sign up.

Kristie Potter, Director

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday & Thursday, 10/16 & 18 Parent /Teacher Conferences

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Cabbage Patch Kids

Strawberry Shortcakes

Moments of Silence – Seconds of Science
Babies are too young to begin learning about

We have all been settling in nicely to
our new classroom and routines. We

science. Yes or No? The answer is No! At a time when your children are learning about their environment around them it is a great time to introduce some science activities. The reason this newsletter is entitled moments of silence – seconds of science is because that is all it takes (a few seconds) and the babies are so mesmerized about what is going on around them. You may even be able to sneak in some tummy time or practice sitting up with support at the same time. This is a double bonus activity!

Here are some simple science activities to try at home:

**Spin lids from containers on the floor.*

**Use a straw to move pieces of paper on the floor – also attempt to move other objects.*

**Make tinfoil balls and roll them on the floor or down a book propped up as a ramp. Roll other items also.*

**Feel all sorts of textures.*

Ms. Judeen & Mrs. Jefferson, Infants

Veggie Tales

So Summer has officially come to an end. It is always sad when that happens but now we get to look forward to things like pumpkins, bonfires and leaves changing colors. To round out summer, we learned about things

have spent a lot of time getting to know the children and we can't wait to share everything they can do during our October conferences. Please keep an eye out for the sign-up sheets. We have been practicing healthy habits like washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes. The children have really liked the small motor activities like peeling and sticking along with various art projects.

Ms. Shaparis & Ms. Claire, 2's

Zany Zucchinis

One of our social-emotional/self-help portfolio focuses is "dresses with supervision." We encourage this daily when preparing for outside by having the children dress themselves. Our saying is: "Tag to toes, arms in the holes and flip over." What this means is that the child places their coat with the tag touching their toes. Next, they bend down and place their arms in the arm holes. Finally, they get to flip their coats over their heads and the coats are on! Speaking of dressing...please check your child's cubby **DAILY**. Do they have a complete set of clothes in their cubby? Are there any notes from the office or masterpieces your child has made to take home? Another

that grow. We planted flowers, blew bubbles and watched them grow bigger and we looked at pictures of ourselves growing “sooo big!” We also learned about different kinds of transportation (buses, trains, airplanes, etc.) Just a reminder that we go outside daily with the weather permitting. Please bring in jackets, hats, gloves and boots.

Ms. Christie & Ms. Melissa, 2nd Infants

Red Hot Chili Peppers

Happy Fall from the Red Hot Chili Peppers! We can't believe how quickly the summer went by. Please make sure you stock your cubbies with weather appropriate clothing. During the past few months we have been focusing on using sign language in the classroom. This is a good way for the children to let the teachers know what they want. We will try to master this before moving up to our new classroom. We have also been working on our listening skills by attending to stories/songs and following simple directions such as “nice touches please” and “find your cot”. For the next couple of months, we will be learning about fall, pumpkins, animals and winter. We will continue to work on using a spoon, standing, and walking. We can't wait to learn and grow some more!

Ms. Jennifer & Ms. Pakou, 3rd Infants

Cuties

area that we would like you to visit daily is the parent board. What, you ask is the parent board? This is a bulletin board located at the end of the loft and across from the sink. On this board, you will find information about upcoming field trips, lesson plans and if we have had any contagious illnesses in our classroom. By looking at the lesson plan, you can see what we are focusing on which gives you an opportunity to talk to your child about classroom activities. We also encourage speaking/language by having the children dictate our daily message to you. This message is located on the dry erase board next to the sink.

Ms. Lynn & Ms. Nicole, 3's

Wild Berries

Hello Families! Fall is just around the corner and with that comes cooler weather. If you haven't already, please bring in a jacket labeled with your child's name. The Wild Berries have been working on identifying the letters of the alphabet. They have also been working on counting and sorting using the game Mini Muffin Match Up. During the game they roll 2 different dice; one with numbers and

With the cool weather making its way toward us, we are stepping into fall with vibrant colors and cozy sweaters. This coming month we'll introduce these young toddlers to many fun fall-themed activities. We will be exploring our neighborhood while taking walks and stimulating our senses with a cool breeze and the changing of colors of leaves as they begin to fall. Some of our portfolio focuses include being able to identify our friends and family through photos and increasing our vocabulary through fun ways like songs and stories. Learning by play is so important in this developmental stage because it makes learning desirable and fun! We are excited to grow with our Toddlers and have a great time while doing so.

Ms. Sam & Ms. Mia, Toddlers

Bananas in Pajamas

This October we will be getting prepared to learn about all things fall. We will be painting with apples, leaves and even our fingers! We will also be doing a lot of small motor activities such as dump and fill and place and pull to work on our grasping skills. The children love flannel stories, so we will be doing a lot on fall and colors as well as big and small.

Ms. Salessa & Ms. Brittannie, Almost 2's

Lemon Head Crew

the other with colors. They must identify the color and number in order to sort the muffins. The Wild Berries have also been practicing writing their names by tracing using dry erase markers.

Ms. KeKe, 4's

Wild Watermelons

Summer has come and gone way too fast. As Fall approaches and the colder air rushes in, please remember to send coats or hoodies as we will go outside every afternoon! This year will be a lot of fun with this group of school-agers. I hope to give one on one attention to the children, whether it be with homework help or building with Legos. Throughout the summer I noticed that these children liked playing games. If your family has a special game, please feel free to share it with us.

Ms. Ami, School-Age

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Kinley Landowski</i> |
| 2 | <i>Kali Maxey</i> |
| 2 | <i>Julia Turner</i> |

We are now in the full swing of our Fall program. The Lemon Head Crew has transitioned through all of the changes and are now in the comfortable rhythms of a daily routine. I have been super excited about our transition to the 2 ½ year old room. It has given me the opportunity to nurture existing relationships and foster new ones with our new classroom members. Parent teacher conferences are this month and I will look forward to connecting with all of you. Please see the sign-up sheet in my classroom. As always, please feel free to stop by or call me with any questions or concerns.

Ms. Zee, 2-1/2's

- 5 *Lauryn Henderson*
- 6 *Smith Nickols*
- 6 *Rose Goesch*
- 6 *Helaina Oby*
- 9 *Emilio Lopez*
- 14 *Elle Mueller*
- 16 *Charlie Doerfer*
- 16 *Karina Kieser*
- 19 *Johanna Schimek*
- 23 *Henry Blanchard*
- 26 *Ms. Sheryl*
- 28 *Olivia Cramton*
- 29 *Sarai Johnson*
- 30 *Isabel White*
- 31 *Gerard Prosper*
- 31 *Holdyn Hoskow*
- 31 *Ethan Lowry*



Dear Families,

As part of our new NAEYC requirements we are working to implement several eco-friendly practices company-wide. With your help in the following areas we can do what's best for your children and their future:

- do not allow your vehicle to idle in the parking lot (barring extreme temperatures),

Congratulations!

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House!

- Ms. Lynn* 27 Years
- Ms. Jessica* 15 Years
- Ms. Claire* 4 Years
- Ms. Pakou* 1 Year
- Ms. Samantha B.* 1 Year
- Ms. Kalin* 1 Year

- wipe your feet upon entering the center on the walk-off mats provided to reduce possible exposure to lead-contaminated dirt,
- always use shoe coverings in the infant classrooms (no bare feet), and
- thoroughly wash all fruits and vegetables to avoid possible exposure to pesticides (and we are doing the same here as well).

With the holidays soon approaching, we also wanted to share a link to finding the safest, non-toxic-toys, for your children:

<https://www.mommytomax.com/ultimate-guide-best-non-toxic-toys/>