



GRANDMA'S HOUSE DAY CARE CENTERS, INC

# GROWING HIGHLIGHTS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN



Since 1983

CORPORATE OFFICE \* 3150 N. Brookfield Road \* 262-790-9262 \* Fax: 262-790-9269

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

WEB SITE: [www.grandmashouse.org](http://www.grandmashouse.org) \* EMAIL: [info@grandmashouse.org](mailto:info@grandmashouse.org)

## DIRECTOR NOTES

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 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, families are welcome to join us and chaperone!

Soon, you will be receiving a family survey to fill out and return. Each year, the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) requests that families fill this out. The purpose of these surveys is to gather information from the families that directly benefit from our accreditation. We take the feedback seriously and use the information we gather to make improvements within our program.

Finally, we encourage families to attend Parent-Teacher conferences this month. This fall, evening conferences will be held on **October 25th and 26th**. 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*

[kpotter@grandmashouse.org](mailto:kpotter@grandmashouse.org)

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.



## Upcoming Events

**October 25 & 26 ~ Parent/Teacher Conferences**



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

**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

## Baby Farm Animals

I have enjoyed meeting you and getting to know your dear ones. We have been enjoying taking walks in our neighborhood, exploring books and music and being talked to. Our small class size affords us lots of one on one playtime. We are working on spending time on our tummies strengthening our muscles and grasping and reaching objects with our little hands. Next month we will focus on Music and babies for our themes.

*Ms. Ericka, 1st Infants*

## Fuzzy Ducklings

We would like to welcome our new friends to the Fuzzy Ducklings. During this past month, we have focused on farms, farm animals and fall. The children enjoyed playing with "fake" duck eggs, footprinted fossils and sensory play. We also loved flannel stories, playing outside, music and movement and art! The children are focusing on fine motor skills, language/communication and listening skills. We would like to take the time to thank the families for cooperating with us with our big room change. We would also like our parents to bring in jackets for cooler weather. Also, please remember to bring in a family photo. During October we will be learning about all of the different types of apples. If you have a favorite please feel free to bring it in. We would also love to hear about any of your favorite apple recipes.

*Ms. Johnnetta and Ms. Jessica, 4th Toddlers*

## Poky Little Puppies

October brings cooler weather and changes of items we need in your child's cubby. Instead of sun hats we need a nice warm hat and warm jacket for our cart rides in the neighborhood. Socks are a must along with long-sleeved shirts and long pants. You will also notice that your child has a wet/dry bag in their cubby. This will be used to send home any soiled clothing. Simply wash the clothes and the bag and return them to daycare. It is our little way of helping out the environment. There have been a lot of new friends in our classroom and we are beginning to work with them on meeting developmental goals for their age group. The books *Games Babies Play* and *Games to Play With Babies* are great resources for this and we use activities from these books often. Check them out for more information.

*Mrs. Jefferson and Ms. Judeen, 2nd Infants*

## Little Golden Book Land

The School-Agers started off the School year in Little Golden Bookland getting to know some of our favorite characters like Tawny Scrawny Lion, Saggy Baggy Elephant, Tootles, Scuffy the Tugboat, and Shy Little Kitten. We graphed and tasted our favorite teddy grahams. Then we made our passports, packed our bags and traveled the U.S. We talked about the 50 states and the landmarks to see along the way!! The kids loved completing various STEM building projects to recreate our own representations of these wonderful landmarks and wonders of the US. We also listened to some jazz and country as well as explored the art masterpieces our country has to offer! Coca-cola offered us the most fun as we explored science concepts like density and chemical reactions!! As the year continues we will travel to many great places like Australia, China, Brazil, Japan and Europe!

*Ms. Brie, SA*

## Jungle Book Friends

Language development in children is amazing, and it's a milestone that many parents really look forward to. This month language has been one of our main portfolio focuses. By the time your child turns 18 months they should have a vocabulary of between 3 to 10 words. Reading books, telling stories, and describing daily events to your child provide a language-rich environment, but language development is a two-way process: The amount of verbal interaction with your child is as important as the amount of language you use.

As a parent you can encourage the development of language skills with your child by interacting regularly, singing songs and reading simple stories. As your child grows, they can talk about their day or explain their likes and dislikes. You can also play games with a child, such as naming objects or practicing concepts of direction; for example: in, out, over and through. Visiting a library encourages reading stories, and a parent can teach a child simple stories and rhymes to encourage repetition and language. In the classroom, we have a wide variety of books that we read to the children several times daily, in addition to singing songs and doing finger plays.

Along with the focus on word usage we are also starting to name body parts: eyes, ears, mouth and nose are just a few. Over the next few months your child should be able to point to and eventually name the body part. In the classroom we play games and sing songs to help the children recognize the location of their body parts. We make learning fun in the classroom by providing opportunities to learn through play. Stop by anytime and join us in an activity or to just read a book to the class.

*Ms. Diana & Ms. Sam, 2nd 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 Kristie to sign up.

## Happy Birthday

2	Kali Maxey
2	Julia Turner
2	Ms. Alison
6	Helaina Oby
9	Emilio Lopez
12	Samuel Pflugrad
16	Emma Cramton
16	Karina Kieser
22	Ms. Christie
23	Henry Blanchard
24	Ms. Diana
26	Ms. Sheryl
27	Pearl Yager
28	Olivia Cramton
29	Josiah Whitlow
29	Sarai Johnson
30	Isabel White
31	Ethan (Bear) Lowry
31	Gerard Prosper

## Congratulations

On celebrating anniversaries  
with Grandma's House!

Ms. Lynn	26 Years
Ms. Jessica	14 Years
Ms. Claire	3 Years

Autumn  
is a second spring  
when every  
leaf is a flower.  
~Albert Camus

## Tawny Scrawny Lions

As the weather cools down please make sure your child brings in a jacket/sweater for outside time. We encourage our 3 and 4-year olds to dress on their own, so please keep that in mind when bringing in jackets/sweaters. We have been working hard on recognizing letters in writing their names with name puzzles and tracing. They have also been working on labeling squares, triangles, rectangles, circles and hexagons through shape games and matching games.

*Ms. Nikki & Ms. Kiandra, 3-4's*

## Saggy Baggy Elephants

The Saggy Baggy Elephants are so excited for fall. In the upcoming week we will be doing all sorts of fun fall themed activities. Some portfolio focuses we will be working on include recognizing circles, squares and rectangles as well as primary color recognition. We will be tasting a variety of fruits and vegetables that are in season in a lesson called "taste the rainbow". We will also use these foods to follow healthy recipes, practice counting and make all sorts of fun art projects. We are super excited to welcome Ms. Ami to our group. She is such a fun teacher with a lot of experience in this age group. Please take the time to practice proper handwashing at home. As you all know, proper handwashing is one of the best ways to stop the spread of germs. Healthy friends are happy friends!

*Ms. Carmen & Ms. Ami, 2 ½'s*

## Inside Out

It's official, Fall has begun! We are asking that you bring in clothing such as long pants and long sleeve shirts for your child. We want to be prepared for the ever changing weather. Also, we want to thank you for your support in our transition downstairs to the two year old room, it means a great deal to us. Our first fall lesson plan will focus on language and social development through increased word recognition and the use of basic language skills. We will focus on learning about our various body parts and their names, as well as taking turns and sharing when interacting with peers. We will continue this concept into our second lesson plan that will focus on colors/shapes, big/small and engaging with our peers. Also, just a reminder parent teacher conferences are right around the corner. Dates and times will be provided soon.

*Ms. Zuleika & Ms. Shaparis, 2's*



## The Lion King

Fall is here and we will be learning about colors and the Fall season. We will have art projects with apples, pumpkins and leaves. We will also use apples, leaves and acorns to decorate the tree in our room. We are looking forward to the fall weather, so please make sure your child has the appropriate clothing in their cubby so we can enjoy our time outside.

*Ms. Salessa & Ms. Brittannie, 3rd Toddlers*

## Animal Friends

Hello Animal Friends! We have been very busy getting to know our new friends and getting settled into our routines. Our portfolio focus this month includes imitating gestures like clapping and waving. We also have used our large muscles to crawl through the tunnel and practice throwing a ball. Fall is just around the corner so please check cubbies for weather appropriate clothing.

*Ms. Claire & Ms. Jessi, 1st Toddlers*

## Gingerbread Friends

Our three year old friends have been very busy this month settling into a new room and new routine. One area we have been focusing on is self-help skills. For example, your child may be saying "tag to toes". What this means is when dressing for outside, they place the tag of their jacket on their toes. Next step is to flip their coats over their heads. We also have been encouraging them to pour their own beverages. A saying we use for this is "1,2,3, that's enough for me". Looking forward to October, we will be starting fall with a field trip to the pumpkin farm on Thursday, October 19th. Chaperones are always welcomed!

*Ms. Lynn & Mr. Scott*