



GRANDMA'S HOUSE DAY CARE CENTERS, INC

GROWING HIGHLIGHTS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN



Since 1983

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DIRECTOR NOTES

Dear Parents,
2018 is just "March"ing along! In my last newsletter I mentioned if any parents wanted to act as a classroom representative for your child's class... maybe organize a get together on the weekend for class and siblings somewhere, etc. I have a parent representative for Ms. Shannon/Ms. Donna's class and for Ms. Ruth/Ms. Andrea's class. Please let me know if anyone else is interested. It does not have to be very time consuming, more just sending out an email or thinking of a place to meet and get together. I have had many parents tell me that they would like to meet other parents with children of similar ages. I am also lining up a speech and language therapist to come in and give a talk some evening in April. Watch the doors for postings for it.

A big thank you to all who donated pajamas for the "Pajama/Book" Drive! That was very generous of you all to do that. Next month, in April, we will be celebrating the *Week of the Young Child*. That is a special week set aside through NAEYC, the organization that we receive our accreditation through. Each day will have something special for the children to do to celebrate being children!! We will also be planning a family night/dinner here at the center.

It has been extremely wet outside lately, but we still try to get out! Please, please, please, bring extra clothes and winter gear still. A general reminder to all, if you feel your child is too sick to go outside, then your child should stay home. We try our hardest to be respectful of parents' wishes but this a group center and the children need to stay with their group. Fresh air is probably the best thing for everyone! ☺

Jane Sweet, Director, jsweet@grandmashouse.org

Ingredients

1 cup water
1 cup flour
1/2 cup salt
1 tsp oil
a pinch of cream of tater
a little food coloring of your choice

Directions

Mix and stir constantly over low heat until it clumps together and then knead with a little flour. Enjoy!



The more that you read, the

more things you will know.

The more that you learn, the

more places you'll go.



~DR. SEUSS

Merry Monkeys

In February we had lots of fun learning about Colors and Space. We are certainly enjoying the outdoors no matter the weather. The children enjoy shoveling and chasing each other around the playground. We also made a little snow mountain for running down or rolling trucks down. Please stock your child's cubby with extra clothes; our Grandma's House extras are limited. The children are encouraged to dress themselves and we race to see who can beat Ms. Shannon at getting ready for outside. The children love doing various art activities which include painting with brushes, fingers and food. The children also like to peel and put stickers on paper which is a great fine motor activity. We work on following directions which Ms. Donna challenges the children to clean up before the song ends. If we do, we get to dance for the rest of the song and the next one. We LOVE dancing in this room.
Ms. Shannon & Ms. Donna, 3's

Marvelous Mouseketeers

We ended February learning about what makes us special and how to be a good friend! We had such a nice Friendship Party where we made a special snack, made a little book about things we love, and created a tear art picture that said I Love You to Pieces!

This month we are starting with a fun author Study on Laura Numeroff. We will be looking at her series based off the story: *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*. Starting with this theme and going through the end of the month we will be working on the following:

*Name Writing (first & last names)

*Rote counting to 20

*Identifying the numbers 1-10 with one to one correspondence

*Cutting on a variety of different lines (straight, curved, zig zag)

Ms. Amy, 4's

♥ 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 classes are *Saturday, March 3, 2018 & Saturday, April 28, 2018* at our Tosa Center from 8:30 -10:30 am.

The cost is \$42 per person.

If you are interested, please see Jane to sign up.

MARCH 2018



Celebrating Our Youngest Learners!

Mark your calendars! April 16 - 20, 2018

Tender Turtles

The infant room is Rocking and Rolling. Motor development is an ongoing learning process that needs to be supported and encouraged. In the Tender Turtles room, the infants are given time and opportunities to challenge and strengthen their motor development. They spend a majority of their day exploring the floor so they have opportunities to reach, grasp, pull, stand, sit, roll, touch, move head and kick legs just to name a few. We encourage movement by playing on the floor, bringing new and interesting activities throughout the room and changing the environment. The continued opportunities allow for them to grow, test and refine their skills. We encourage you to create opportunities at home and make the environment an invitation that creates movement. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Ms. Kristine & Ms. Andrea K., Infants

Creative Critters

Last month we enjoyed Valentines Day and talked about Love and Friendship. Thank you to the families who brought in Valentines for the class! We also explored our planets; we looked at books and pictures and talked about what we see. A few portfolio focuses we are working on include: sorting, putting puzzles together and cleaning up our toys. We encourage everyone to put toys back where they go by singing and modeling how to put toys away. One of the songs we sing is: *I like the way (Name) is cleaning, (Name) is cleaning, (Name) is cleaning. I like the way that (Name) is cleaning up the toys.*

Ms. Kelly & Mr. Carlos, 2's

Happy Hippos

For the month of March as we get closer to approaching spring, we will begin to introduce different gross motor activities that will allow these busy toddlers to get all their energy out from being cooped up during winter. Some of these games will include, climbing on low to medium objects, and learning to jump then challenging them to jump three times. These activities will help meet our portfolio focus in gross motor development for this month. As always we will continue to encourage sign language to help with using words as well as using their forks and spoons while eating.

Ms. Andrea G. & Ms. Ruth, Toddlers

Delightful Dinos

The month of February we enjoyed learning about Valentines and had fun making cards for each other. We worked on being extra super nice, too. Our first portfolio focus was exploring with different types of art materials. We used tissue paper, red & white paint, lick & stick tape to make various art projects. We also work on our pincer grasp of holding pencils, markers, and crayons to scribble on heart shape paper and our journals. Our next lesson plan we focused on playing in the Solitary Play stage. We have been working on playing together and sharing toys by using nice words with one another. We also continually work on removing clothing such as our outside gear from playing in the snow and putting it in the correct places. *Ms. Tricia, 2 1/2's*

Happy Birthday

- 11 Eden Evans
- 11 Zakyla Rogers
- 11 Ms. Jane
- 12 Norah Schwartzmiller
- 15 Jase Hillard
- 20 Ariely Martinez
- 21 Ms. Donna
- 25 Catelyn Kaho
- 27 Ms. Andrea G.
- 29 Adley Holdman
- 29 Keegan Galbari

Congratulations

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House!

Ms. Andrea G. 1 Year

Curious Crawlers

Most young toddlers favorite activity is to be outside, where they can explore new senses and try new adventures. We are looking forward to Spring!

A child portfolio focus is an older baby/young toddler transitioning from a bottle to using a sippy cup. When a child is still drinking formula and beginning to eat table food, we will introduce a sippy cup with water. It's a good approach to learning about using fine motor skills. Learning how to turn pages of a book is another portfolio focus. Simply, demonstrating to a child how to turn pages of a book is a good way for children to learn about turning pages. It's also a good exercise in utilizing their fine motor skills.

Ms. Marti & Ms. Loryn, Toddlers

