



GRANDMA'S HOUSE DAY CARE CENTERS, INC

GROWING HIGHLIGHTS

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN



Since 1983

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DIRECTOR NOTES

I think that we might officially be done with shorts weather, and I have to say I am really, really sad about that. The older I get, the more I realize I am not made for long Wisconsin winters!

With the weather getting cooler, we have already made plans for our Annual Harvest Fest. Please join us on Friday, October 20th, from 5:30-7:00 pm - dinner will be served from 5:30-6:00 in your child's classroom, and then each room will have tricks and treats available for the children. We've been doing this for over 10 years, and everyone has a great time and it's a great opportunity to get to know other families. Oh, and costumes are highly encouraged!

The following week we will have our Parent/Teacher Conferences. This is an opportunity to see how your child is developing without the distractions of the day. Each teacher will have time set aside after their work day to meet with you-we ask that you leave your child at home, so that there are no little ears around to hear conversations. Please remember that it is our job to advocate for your child, if we notice that they don't seem to be on track in an area of development and don't bring that to your attention, we aren't doing our job. Please also remember that we have education degrees, so we are trained to look at development of children. We do not have medical degrees or speech/language degrees, which is why we tell you our concerns, and then encourage you to seek additional evaluations. Our hope is that we are wrong, but if we aren't, our job is to walk with you and your child through the journey and provide as much support as we can-after all, we are a team, and only have your child's best interest in mind.

Did you know that we have a parent group that meets a few times a year? We get together and bounce ideas off each other, and help with planning events. If you would like to be a part of this group, please let me know!

As always, my door is always open!

Christie Dapelo, Director cdapelo@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 20 ~ Family Fall Festival
Week of October 23 ~ 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 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

Little Artists

This month we will be focusing on cause-effect play and sitting with support for our older friends. Our younger friends will be focusing on raising their chest off the ground during tummy time. Some of our favorite cause-effect things to do are art, saucer toys, musical instruments and soft blocks that squeak. At home you can make your own instruments by using empty water bottles filled with small bells, beads, water or rice. Just make sure the lid is secure! We look forward to seeing the costumes our babies will be sporting for Halloween!

Ms. Cassie & Ms. Shantice, 1st Infants

RUGRATS

First off, we want to say welcome to the Rugrats Room. It is a pleasure to have you all. It is also wonderful to find out more about your child through the posters. They were great and we really appreciate you for working on them. We know that the posters contain just a little information, but as we progress with more activities and new learning we will get to know your child more. Besides getting to know your child, we talked about our 5 senses. We explored through painting, tasting lemons, and touching many textures. Our five senses teach us many things thus it is very important for your child to learn through them. We will dive into our new themes such as autumn and pumpkins. We will explore things such as leaves, pumpkins and apples. Your child will get to play with these items and see how our weather is changing around us. It is going to be so much fun! With that being said, look out for more art activities and pictures hanging on our walls. Thank you parents and as always we are here to help you in any way.

Ms. Mailee and Ms. Delvina, 1st Toddlers

Disney Diehards

Hello from the Disney Diehards. So far we have been busy with the World of Disney. We learned our ABC, 123's and colors with our school unit. We learned about Disney Royalty from Snow White to Elsa and Anna. Coming up we will talk about the world of Pixar. We will be focusing on Cars, the adorable Nemo and Dory, and the scary monsters of Monsters, Inc. After that, we will be talking about friendship with Winnie the Pooh and friends. As part of these lesson plans we have been focusing on things that you can work on at home (i.e. sorting by one attribute). While putting the laundry away, have your child help sort the socks by color and size. While playing, see who can make the tallest tower. *Ms. Courtney & Ms. Kim, 2's*

Sundance Kids

Wow, we can't believe how fast the summer went by and fall came. We have been busy working on updating things in our portfolios. For example, we have been working on using spoons at lunch time. So, at dinner time try giving your child a spoon to help encourage self-help skills. Another thing we have been working on is color matching. Some of the children are really getting the hang of it. At home, you can ask your child to find a color to encourage color matching. We also have been stacking blocks to see how high we can make our towers. Just a reminder...with the cooler weather coming please make sure your child has the proper clothing in their cubbies and that their jackets are labeled. *Ms. Esther, 2nd Toddlers*

Park Rangers

Hello Park Ranger parents! We are so excited to spend another beautiful Wisconsin autumn with all of our Rangers. In September during our all about me unit, we practiced correctly pointing to our various body parts. You can help your park ranger master this skill by singing or acting out the "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" song. If you have any questions about this feel free to ask Ms. Laura or Ms. Hannah for a demonstration. Our next unit explores apples. We will be focusing on identifying colors and connecting them to the world around us. For example, we will associate the color red with an apple, orange with a pumpkin or autumn leaves, yellow with corn and so on. Happy Trails! *Ms. Laura & Ms. Hannah, 3rd Toddlers*

Schnibbles

Now that we have all settled back into the school routines, I think it is a great time to share some exciting things that are happening in our Schnibbles room. Your little Schnibble has been having a lot of fun learning about different artists and singers. Our artists unit was a big hit. Each of the children seemed to find an artist that "spoke" to them. I am so proud of them for pronouncing all the long names, like Wassily Kandinsky (one fave!). We learned a lot about colors and shapes that unit. Our pop music unit went over well too! The Schnibbles were eager to listen to the various songs that make up the Pop Music culture. The big hits were the Beatles and Elvis. Thank you for participating in "What decade of Pop were you born?" The big winner was the 1980's! We are very busy learning new self help skills and social rules, so if you can reinforce those skills at home it would be beneficial to everyone. For example, making sure that your child asks for what they need/want with words only – no whining. It is okay to stand firm with your expectations of them and consequences for them. This age is a major "testing" age and they need to have clear boundaries, expectations and consequences. If you have any questions, please give me a call during nap time or catch me at the end of the day. *Ms. Amy, 2 1/2's*

Hitchhikers

The Hitchhikers are off to quite the adventure. We have already learned about apples, we even got to pick our own (of course, we "hitchhiked" our way there and a nice bus driver picked us up and brought us back.) This month we are excited to learn more about fall, pumpkins and super heroes. We have already made plans to hike to the pumpkin farm and a play. One of our goals this year is shape recognition. You can help us by pointing out shapes as you take a drive or make shapes as you bake cookies. We play all sorts of games to help us learn our shapes. With Halloween fast approaching keep your eyes peeled for our classroom celebration. We will have all sorts of games, adventures and a snack mix to put together. *Ms. Jennifer, Big 3's*

Happy Birthday

1	Henry Matthew
1	Landon Elia
1	Sylvia Cohen
2	Elle James
2	Jonah Cawrse
4	Isabelle Lewis
4	Ms. Kim
6	Lucas Worzalla
7	Aniya Weiss-Stokes
9	Noah Reich
15	Preston Kregel
15	Eva Flanagan
17	Callie Newman
18	Saumya Chhabra
20	Mira Gray
24	T.J. McGrath
25	Marek Malinowski
26	Ms. Sheryl
27	Asher Barkow
27	Hazel Paradis
27	Charlie Dworak
31	Charlotte Laviolette

Congratulations

On celebrating anniversaries with
Grandma's House!
Ms. Esther 27 Years
Ms. Jennifer 2 Years

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

Scream Team

Our weather has been awesome, but it is starting to get cool. Please remember to have appropriate clothing in your child's cubby to suit the weather. We had so much fun learning about princesses. We painted crowns and dresses. We read stories about Princess Jasmine and Snow White. We also listened to the story of Beauty and the Beast and the Princess and the Frog on iHeart radio. We liked learning about each other in our family lesson. We learned some of our friends have siblings, cats and dogs. We would like to welcome Ms. Kristie to the class as well. *Ms. Mo & Ms. Kristie, 2nd Infants*

Kindergarten

We started workbooks and have continued to use our journals to practice lines, shapes, Mat Man, and letters (our name & the word APPLE). In addition, we have practiced identifying letters by playing an apple tree game while listening to "Alphardy" & "Alphatates" by Dr. Jean. We created a "SEE" sight word color and number book. We rhymed words in the AT word family together at morning group this week as well. In math, we estimated the number of seeds in an apple, and discovered that not all apples have the same number of seeds. We learned that the more seeds in an apple, the more it was visited by bees as it grew. We learned that not all the blossoms are pollinated and thus will not produce fruit. We Read the story "Ten Red Apples" by Pat Hutchins and used the flannel pieces from the story to re-tell (& sequence the events) using the book pages as clues as to what happened first, second, and so on. We subtracted apples in a fun flannel story, counted seeds in a file folder game, and matched numbers. We used apple themed pictures to complete patterns. *Ms. Nikki, 4K*

Dr. Seuss

Happy Fall! Our themes this month will be Counting and Apples and Bananas. We will be working on transferring objects from one hand to the other. As the weather starts to cool down, please check your child's cubby for weather appropriate clothing. Also, if you feel your child is ready for table food let me know and I will be happy to get you a menu. You can then circle the foods you would like your child to try. We look forward to seeing you at the fall festival.

Ms. Taylor, 3rd Infants

Deep Sea Divers

The Deep Sea Divers have been busy learning about colors, apples and nature. Here are some of the things we did:

- We used props and reenacted two songs
- Worked on matching
- Practiced recognizing numbers
- Talked about classroom and playground safety
- Learned about the artist Wassily Kandinsky
- Dyed and played with rice in the sensory table
- Went to the apple orchard
- Went on a nature walk

This month's portfolio focuses were potty training, cutting, one to one coordination and properties of matter. We love using scissors so much and are getting so good at it! Give you children your junk mail and you will be amazed.

Ms. Jess & Ms. Katie, 3'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 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 Christie to sign up.