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Growing Highlights

January 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season and was able to enjoy some quality time at home with family! On behalf of myself and the teachers, thank you for your understanding as we navigated through an unprecedented year; we truly appreciate your support!

Thank you also for your open and honest communication with us in regard to COVID symptoms, contact, and tests. I rely on your honest answers each morning to help us look out for the health and safety of over 100 children and 35 staff. Please take a moment to re-read through our COVID Health and Safety Policy.

While the New Year typically brings time for resolutions, after reflecting on 2020, I don't even know where to begin! While we are all awaiting changes in the world around us, rest assured that our commitment to providing the highest quality care for your children will never waiver.

Take Care,
Kristie Potter, Director
kpotter@grandmashouse.org

[PRICE LISTING 2021](#)

[2020 Expense Statement Request](#)

[COVID-19 Health and Safety Policy](#)

Scholastic Book Orders

PLEASE HELP US EARN NEW BOOKS FOR THE BEDTIME BOOK CORNER

It's book order time. You are welcome to order as much or as little as you would like.

Orders can be placed online. Go to [scholastic.com/bookclubs](https://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs).

You will set up an account in which they will ask for our **center code: M8RF4**. Books can be ordered and paid for online and will arrive at the center 1-2 weeks after the due date.

Book orders are due by Thursday, January 7th

Reminder, our center earns books each time you order.

Happy Birthday

- 5 Reed B.
- 5 Annabelle B.
- 5 Ms. Jennifer
- 9 Lawrence T.
- 10 Drew W.
- 15 Jacob O.
- 19 Theodore B.
- 20 Jack D.
- 25 Scarlett P.
- 26 Teddy G.

29 Hailey T.
27 Ms. Kate
31 Jameson G.

Congratulations

*On celebrating anniversaries with
Grandma's House.*

Ms. Shapis 6 Years

Ms. Melissa 4 Years

Ms. Cynthia 2 Years

Ms. Justine 1 Year

Ms. Kate 1 Year

Executive Order - Face Coverings

Governor Evers has extended the Executive Order through January 19, 2021. Children ages 5 and over are now required to wear face coverings while inside at Grandma's House; except when eating and drinking.

*Just a reminder....children should not come to the center if:

1. **Anyone in your household has been tested for COVID-19 and you are waiting for results.**
2. They have a fever.
3. They have taken any medications in the last 48-hours for a fever or for COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms.
4. They have ANY signs or symptoms of COVID-19, such as shortness of breath, persistent cough, chills, body aches, loss of taste or smell, rash, vomiting, or diarrhea.
5. They have come into contact with anyone who has COVID-19 or ANY signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

*Staff take their temperatures upon arrival at the center each day and answer the above questionnaire each time they clock in.

Infants

2's

Happy New Year Everyone! Winter is here and the cold is among us. Please remember to bring in warmer clothes, winter hats and gloves as we will still try to go outside as much as we can. We will be exploring polar animals together with exciting activities, like art projects in winter themes. Our main portfolio focuses include increasing our pincer grasp by picking up small objects and working on our gross motor skills by waving hello and goodbye to our families and peers. We will continue our favorite way of learning, which is through play and fun. Stay Warm!
Infants, Ms. Judeen & Ms. Sam

Older Infants

Our class spent part of the month learning about the farm. We looked at imprints of different animal's feet like cows, chickens, and horses. We also used our fine motor skills to try stacking blocks with pictures of farm animals on them. Most of the children enjoyed knocking the towers over rather than stacking them! We sang "Old MacDonald Had a Farm", but instead of saying Old MacDonald, we said "Old Mac (insert child's name)" to help with name recognition. We also learned about "The Very Hungry Caterpillar", by Eric Carle. We processed how he went from a caterpillar to a cocoon to a beautiful butterfly with butterfly fold art. We learned how to balance our feet/legs with push/pull toys as a gross motor activity to help our non-walking friends. We read books like "Where is the Very Hungry

As we end the year with skills that we have learned through play, we will continue to practice self-help skills such as putting on our snow gear! The children enjoy the independence of doing things by themselves. We are also learning new games that you can try at home. One of these games is hiding objects for your child to find. In the classroom, we will hide objects under 3 different cups. The children also like to play the matching game. You can use daily household supplies such as forks and spoons. Have your child match two of the objects together. We hope your family had a safe and happy holiday season!
2's, Ms. Claire & Ms. Salessa

2 1/2's

Happy New Year! We would like to encourage all parents to start bringing in snow gear: snowpants, boots, hats, mittens, etc. Please remember to take home water bottles and bedding at the end of each week. We enjoyed some cooking: s'mores, smothered potatoes and we mixed baking soda with shaving cream to create fake snow. We focused on flushing after ourselves, handwashing, and cleaning our nose. We say, "Catch your cough" and "wash your hands" more than a few times each day! These are also hand eye coordination and fine motor skill enhancer. We did a scavenger hunt to find our names and hang our belongings on our specific hooks. In addition to name recognition, we had each child find their

Caterpillar?” by Eric Carle, “Pete the Cat and the Cool Caterpillar”, by James Dean. Happy New Year!

Older Infants, Ms. Christie & Ms. Melissa

Younger Toddlers

We hope you had a wonderful holiday! As a reminder, we will try to go outside at least once a day with the weather permitting. Please bring in the appropriate winter gear daily. We will be focusing on our senses for the next couple of weeks. We will be seeing, hearing, smelling, touching, and tasting new things. We will be reading about snow and different winter animals. They will get a chance to touch snow in our sensory table and feel the cold in their hands. Happy New Year!

Younger Toddlers, Ms. Diana & Ms. Jennifer

Toddlers

It is hard to believe it is the beginning of winter. The weather has treated us well and we are enjoying our time outside. We would like to continue the building the children's vocabulary by reading books and flannel stories. This month we will read about zoo animals. In science we are going to explore our sense of smell by smelling different spices. We are going to explore cause and effect by doing a rain cloud experiment. We will watch to see what happens when water goes through

names on cubbies. We created a name scramble where the children see their name printed and unscramble it correctly. This helps to improve math and problem-solving skills. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday!

2 1/2's, Ms. Johnnetta & Ms. Trae

3's

We hope you all had a joyous and safe holiday season! It's hard to believe it's already 2021, but we did it, we made it through all the craziness of 2020. We have been learning all about winter and holidays through skills like 1:1 correspondence, patterns, and measuring using non-standard units, e.g., mittens! We have even been learning through science, using our senses and prediction skills to observe dissolving candy canes.

Although we are in a new year, we will still be working on some of the same things. We have really been working on name recognition, but now we will be working more on letter recognition and spelling our names. We will also be strengthening our fine motor cutting skills and our AB patterning. We would also like to encourage all of you to work with your child at home in order to strengthen these important skills. As we progress into 2021, we hope you all have a safe and healthy start to the new year. Let's hope it's a good one!

3's, Ms. Samantha & Ms. Michele

4's

shaving cream foam. We enjoyed doing process art to see what the children can create using their fine motor skills. We used paint brushes, cotton balls, and Q-tips for our process art. We love our friends and enjoy teaching them as they grow. We enjoy their hugs, smiles, and giggles every day.

Toddlers, Ms. Theresa & Ms. Cynthia

Almost 2's

During the month of January, we will be focusing on all the fun that winter provides. Here's hoping for snow!! Our fun will include winter animals, weather appropriate clothing, and gentle touches; such as high fives and hugs. Language development will be our main focus as our class ages into the 2's. Please encourage your child to tell you about their day with their words!

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

Our focus this month has been on the Gingerbread Man and our five senses. We have moved onto identifying the characters, repeated phrases and ending in a wide variety of gingerbread man stories. We also have enjoyed solving clues the gingerbread man has been leaving in our very own gingerbread house we created. We have become real scientists by exploring and experimenting using gingerbread and gingerbread goodies. Be sure to ask me about our sense of sound, taste, touch, smell, and sight. A few reminders: Even if we do not have snow, please send labeled snowpants, hat and mittens. We go outside twice a day if the wind chill is above zero degrees. In closing, we would like to thank you for sharing your children with us along with notes, presents, and well wishes this holiday season.

4's, Ms. Lynn