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Growing Highlights

June 2022

Calendar Reminder

We will be **CLOSING EARLY** for
Staff Development & Classroom Changeover
Friday, June 10th
Hours 6:00 am - 3:00 pm

Dear Parents,

Although summer doesn't officially begin until June 21st, our summer program at Grandma's House starts Monday, June 13th! We have a fun-filled summer planned with lots of exciting activities, new lesson plan themes, and of course, field trips on the "bumpy bus"!

A couple of reminders for our summer program...

*With your permission, we can apply our all-natural sunscreen and insect repellent on your child.

*Please send your child in closed-toe shoes and keep your child's cubby stocked with a sun hat and weather appropriate changes of clothes.

*Since the children engage in lots of water play outside to keep cool, we ask that parents supply a package of Little Swimmers for those children not yet potty trained, a swimsuit, and a towel (which will be sent home every week for you to launder).

As always, please make sure to label these items with your child's name.

Thanks,
Kristie Potter, Director
kpotter@grandmashouse.org

JOIN US
Thursday, June 9th
4 - 5 pm
Ms. Lynn's Retirement Celebration
Snickly Snacks and Beverages
Outside Weather Permitting

Summer Program Stars June 13th



June

2 Ms. Claire
3 Sully H.
3 Ms. Kaitlin
5 Ella G.
6 Kali A.
6 Joseph P.
6 Mason R.
8 Asher S.
12 Clara R.
12 Audrey S.
14 Vivian P.
18 Scarlett M.
19 Ryan C.
20 Thalia T.
27 Lyla B.

July

1 Theodore H.
3 Thomas C.
7 Ruby R.
9 Ainsley G.
10 Skye J.
13 Theodore M.
15 Brooke F.
18 Graham M.
18 Gianluca R.
19 Amiya W.
19 Ms. Theresa
22 Vera C.
22 Josephine Y.
23 Franklin W.

July

Ms. Sheryl 30 Years
Ms. Sam L. 5 Years
Mr. Terry 5 Years
Ms. Aleksandra 3 Years

Ms. Destiny 3 Years
Ms. Maddy 2 Years

Look What We Did!

Young Infants

We are so excited to start the summer program with your babies this year. We have some fun activities and projects planned for this month. Last month, we had a lot of different learning projects and we read books about vegetables and fruits. It will be a very busy month; all the children will learn and reach new milestones. Soon some will sit up on their own, some will crawl. The children really enjoy all the stories, songs, and interactions that they receive from the teachers each day. In June we will read: *Whose Nose and Toes?* By John Butler. *Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother, Too?* By Eric Carle, and *Good Night Gorilla* by Peggy Rathmann. Children enjoy being outside after a long winter, so we will walk outside and watch animals moving around. We will name these different animals for the babies (birds, squirrels, ducks, dogs, cats, rabbits). Children will also learn how to make their hands and eyes work together in order to reach objects. It's very important for

Toddlers

Summer has arrived. Please bring in Little Swimmers as we are looking forward to outside water play! Once the weather is nice, we like to be outside as much as possible. We will be doing water play activities and art outside with water and paint brushes. Inside the classroom, we will be focusing on putting linking toys together and trying to take them back apart as we work on our fine motor skills. We will also be working on matching different objects and pictures such as farm animals and shapes. We are looking forward to taking lots of walks to the park.

Toddlers, Ms. Jennifer & Ms. Alyssa

Almost 2's

It has been an interesting Spring with some cold days and some hot days! We enjoyed the fresh air as much as possible on the nicer days. Our upcoming themes are pizza and ice cream. We will talk

babies to search for a voice. This skill will help them learn how to locate the source of a sound.

Please take a look around our classroom to see projects and pictures of what we have been up to. We are always happy to answer any questions you may have.

Have a wonderful summer.

Young Infants, Ms. Alex & Ms. Jamie

Infants

Our summer program is just around the corner, and we are looking forward to lots of walks to the park and through our surrounding neighborhood. Some of our older infants have moved up to the next classroom and we will miss them dearly. However, we welcome our newcomers with open arms. We look forward to watching them grow, learn, and develop new skills. A portfolio focus we are working on is signing "more". Giving your infant the opportunity to learn sign language helps to speed up speech development. It also will help reduce frustration by giving them a means to communicate before they know how to talk. More importantly, it increases parent-child bonding. *"Sign language is a dance with words to be enjoyed from babyhood through childhood to adulthood"* - Marilyn Daniels.

Have a fantastic summer! As always, be safe, happy, and healthy!

Infants, Ms. Judeen & Ms. Sam

Older Infants

about the differences between hot and cold and will read books to help with our language development. Some of the books we will read are "How Do You Make Pizza?", "I Want Ice Cream" and "Should I Share My Ice Cream?" We look forward to pizza art and making ice cream. We will continue matching egg numbers and other shapes and colors. We enjoy seeing your children grow and look forward to our summer program.

Toddlers, Ms. Theresa

2's

We have enjoyed teaching, loving, and helping our friends grow over our time with them. We have learned how to put on our winter gear, take on/off our shoes, and learned some shapes and colors. We are working on self-help skills and the first stages of potty-training. Other things we are continuing to work on is color recognition. This is something that can also be practiced at home. You can ask your child to tell you the color of different objects. Such as "What color is your shirt?", etc. We appreciate all the love and gifts families gave us for Teacher Appreciation week. We love our families, and we hope you have a fun, safe and relaxing summer.

2's, Ms. Salessa & Ms. Brittannie

2 1/2's

With the weather starting to get nice again, we rolled down the top on our convertible and did a unit on transportation. We engaged in pretend play by practicing rolling cars and then we learned about gravity as we watched the cars roll down ramps. We tried imitating the familiar sounds of "beep-beep-beep" and "shh-shh-shh" as we sang "The Wheels on the Bus". We also tried to find our image in one of the train cars that were velcroed to our carpeted wall. After learning about the different types of transportation, we headed out to meet our new friends on Sesame Street. While we were there, we matched certain Sesame Street characters that were contrasting colors like blue Grover with orange Ernie and red Elmo with green Oscar the Grouch! We clapped our hands to classic Sesame Street songs like the theme song and "It's Not Easy Being Green". On our trip back to the classroom, the babies really started to notice just how nice the weather was getting and began to worry that they didn't have warm weather clothes in their cubbies. We assured them that you would all check to make sure those cold winter clothes went home and that they would have summer clothes in their cubbies.

Older Infants, Ms. Christie & Ms. Emma

Young Toddlers

May has finally brought us Spring! Yay! Now here comes summer

Summer is near! As we prepare, we could encourage all parents to start switching out winter clothing for warmer weather attire. Feel free to bring water bottles, sunhats, and extra clothes. Thanks in advance for those of you who have started to bring things in early. In the month of May, we focused on independence and self-help skills. Secondly, we learned advanced math skills such as 1:1 correspondence. These are some easy tips you can use at home. With independent skills, have your children try and dress themselves for school. Pulling up pants, putting shoes on and flipping coats are all examples of things we work on daily. Practice makes perfect! In the month of June, our focuses are fine motor and identifying and expressing our emotions. If you have extra plastic bags at home, we will take them! Thank you and have a great month!

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

3's

This past month has been a trip to say the least. Between the crazy weather and quarantines, we are looking forward to getting back to normal! We spent the past few weeks talking about springtime, flowers, and bugs; all while practicing our letter recognition, cutting, and patterns. Over the next couple of weeks, we will continue working on these skills while also learning about and acting like superheroes. Just a reminder, if you haven't already, please take home any

weather which means we will be able to explore and learn outside. Please update your child's cubby with weather appropriate clothes such as shorts, short sleeve shirts, sun hats and sunscreen (if you prefer a specific brand). This past month was all about children's songs. We sang familiar children's songs, explored cause and effect relationships, and worked on opening and closing plastic eggs. This month we will play with toys, read books and sing songs about zoo animals. We will encourage independence by encouraging the children to feed themselves with a spoon. We are looking forward to summer and are ready to explore!

Toddlers, Ms. Pakou & Ms. Maddy

Toddlers

A tremendous amount of social and emotional development takes place during early childhood in our classroom. As your child's social world expands, they must learn more about their emotions as well as those of other people. This month we worked on socio-emotional development in our classroom. In the classroom, we provide the opportunity for the children to develop skills for entering into social groups, developing friendships, and learning to help. The activities we do are very simple. A simple dump and fill activity can help the children socialize. By sitting on the floor with the children with the activity, the children's favorite is dumping and filling with straws, we can

winter gear and make sure your child has appropriate summer clothes in their cubby along with a water bottle. Thank you!

3's, Ms. Claire & Ms. Samantha

4's

"Every child deserves a champion – an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be." - Rita Pierson

This is my last newsletter before retiring in June. I can only hope that I played the role of "champion" to the best of my ability in the life of your child. To all the families (past and present): thank you for the privilege of sharing your child with me. I have learned more from them than I ever could have taught them. Speaking of learning, this month we have focused on things that grow and what they need to grow. We explored the parts, life cycle, and characteristics of plants, flowers, and pond animals. That being said, the children have three favorites. The first was becoming a scientist by investigating, observing, and collecting data of different plants and flowers. Next was our dramatic play area. We added a "pond" and sorted animals that make a pond their habitat. Finally, if they did not mention it, ask your child about making rain in a plastic jar. At home and at the grocery store, look and see what plants you eat. Is it the root, stem, leaf, or flowers of the plant? Have a taste test party and sample some new foods.

encourage socializing between the children as well as with us. The children also interact with each other as we create classroom collages, read stories, dance to music, and play. Socio-emotional development is continuously happening in our classroom. Just a reminder, please make sure your child has weather appropriate clothing to go outside every day.

Younger Toddlers, Ms. Diana & Ms. Rebecca

With fond memories and appreciation,
4's, Ms. Lynn