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Growing Highlights

MARCH 2023

Dear Parents,

One month closer to warm weather!! I do realize that we still have 3 months of yucky weather to get through, but I'm trying to look at the bright side.

April will be a busy month here-we will be celebrating *Week of the Young Child* the *week of April 3rd*. We will handle all the fun activities going on here but each classroom might have special days that will require some additional support from you (like special snacks or dress up days). We will also be doing in person conferences the end of April-information on both will be out soon.

Thanks to all of you that quickly turned in your registration forms because you are expecting-we received 5 forms within a few days! We actually had to push our availability back even further because of that, as our February 2024 spots are all taken.

As always, please see me with questions!

Christie Dapelo, Director

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- 3 Felicity G.
- 3 Murray W.
- 6 Harrison S.
- 6 Joseph S.
- 6 Rory B.
- 11 Quinn L.
- 13 Samuel H.
- 13 Sophie R.
- 17 Vanessa S.
- 18 Gabriel S.
- 19 Eero M.
- 19 Lucia H.
- 22 Lincoln W.
- 22 Ms. Ana
- 23 Ms. Kari
- 26 Beau L.
- 26 Callie M.
- 26 Noa H.
- 27 Mason K.
- 28 Sophia S.
- 28 Lily H.
- 29 Margaret M.

CONGRATULATIONS

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Nancy 10 Years

Ms. Virginia 8 Years

Ms. Ana 7 Years



Infants

Almost Two's

Here we are entering the month of March! How time flies as we have lots to learn. We will start off this month celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday as well as learning about him through his awesome books and rhymes. We will also talk about the wonderful world of Ireland as we explore the weather changes of the upcoming season of Spring! Our portfolio focuses are self-regulation, mobility, and very basic communication. Please provide appropriate outdoor clothing so we may enjoy going on walks (weather permitting). We are excited to see what this month brings us.

Ms. Ana and Ms. Sanja

2nd Infants

Out of all the babies being hatched and born this spring in nature, I have to say that GH kiddos are still the CUTEST!!! Gross motor skills (crawling/cruising) have been close to mastered by everyone so this month we are focusing on the opposite, small motor (pincer grasp, putting items in/taking out, and manipulating objects). At GH we do an activity that is easy to do at home: take a bucket and fill with a handful of toys. Then take masking or painter's tape to tape up in random crisscross patterns on the top of the box. The babies have to maneuver their hands/fingers to get the toys out which is great practice for small motor skills because their brain and body need to cooperate together. Giving infants, who are eating table food, a few

Another month gone...wow! Spring is around the corner. That brings a whole new batch of lessons for our shining stars. We will continue to work on our vocabulary which is coming along beautifully! We love learning about colors, shapes, and matching. As the weather turns nicer, we will be spending more time outdoors. We would eventually like to take our stars on a nature walk around the center, so we will be working hard on our "good listening ears!" Have a great month!

Ms. Steph and Ms. Kim

2's

May the early spring
Awaken your sail and
Remind you to
Celebrate the season with the
Hope of joy it brings
We are all hoping that Spring comes early;
fingers crossed! This month we will be exploring the wonderful and strange world of Dr. Seuss. We will also learn the meaning of Slainte, while celebrating St. Patrick's Day. During these exciting lessons, we will be making fun snacks and we might meet a special friend from Ireland. Not only will we have fun, but we will work on self-help skills, recognize emotions, and string large beads.

Ms. Courtney and Ms. Esther

2.5's

small pieces of cereal or other foods instead of a small "pile" is great practice, too! If they want the few pieces presented they have to work on body control. Once they've had some practice, the remaining serving can be offered :) We can do hard things! Hope your Spring is full of blossoms!

Ms. Cassie and Ms. Kailie

3rd Infants

Quote of the Month: *History has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own. - Michelle Obama*

We are looking forward to all the fun we will have as we search our room for shamrocks and gold coins that the leprechauns like to hide. Most of us are really cruising the room and the push toys really encourage us to get up and walk. One of our favorite things to do is drop popsicle sticks into containers. We will learn about our bodies and practice where our eyes, ears, nose, and mouths are. Learning is so much fun in our room! We are looking forward to warmer weather and spending more time outside. Have a good month!

Ms. Sherry and Ms. Finesse

Toddlers

Hey there Passport Pals! We have had a fabulous February while traveling through Switzerland and Japan. In Switzerland we tried fondue and Swiss cheese. The children really enjoyed the chocolate fondue but were not fond of the cheese. However, we did find some cool new songs while in Switzerland. The favorite is "Funf Kleine Fische" that is sung in the Swiss-German language. Another one is a yodeling one called "Swiss Cheese Yodeling Song," by Ezra Noelle.

After stuffing ourselves with all the chocolate, we jetted off to Japan. We learned to say hello, goodbye and thank you in Japanese. The Pals also got to try seaweed and (candy) sushi. Yum! They worked on identifying shapes and colors with kimonos, fans, and Hello Kitty's bows. The Passport Pals really liked playing in the "snow cave" we built to celebrate the Kamakura Snow Cave Festival. This celebrates the beauty of winter and marks the end of the New Year holiday. It has the underlying tone of sharing and respect, which is something we work on with the children every day. The children are learning to use their manner words and share the toys in the room by taking one or two instead of the whole bucket. Please help remind your child to use their manner words by having them say "no thank you" or "yes please". This encourages putting multiple words together while being respectful of the person they are talking to.

We will be starting to celebrate the coming of Spring with voyages to Greece(Carnival) and Ireland(St. Patrick's Day). Hope you will join us and remember

Hello 004 families! Spring is right around the corner and we could not be happier! February was an action-packed month for us. We did lots of fun taste testing, had a Valentine's Day party, and a spirit week! March will be a great month in 004 as well. This month, we will start off with our Fairy tale unit, followed by a unit on Fruits and Vegetables (more food, yay!). Our class has been very interested in fine motor activities, so we will continue to introduce fun fine motor activities to keep them busy. When our friends get a little over-stimulated or begin to play a bit too rough, we like to use fine motor activities to distract them and bring them back to baseline. Please feel free to ask us for activity suggestions to use at home. Our current classmates are music and dance fanatics! We have a few action songs we play each day to help them get the wiggles out. "Shake Your Sillies Out," "Party Freeze Dance," and "Animal Action" can all be found on YouTube if you'd like to see them in action at home! It is loads of fun dancing with these little dancing machines! St. Patrick's Day is coming up, so please be on the lookout for information about our classroom party we will have to celebrate. As always, feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns!

Ms. Mai Lee and Ms. Taylor

2nd Toddlers

if you have any pictures from these countries (or any of the other ones), we would love to see them. This provides our Pals more of a concrete connection to the country.

Ms. Amy R.

Young 3's

Is it Spring yet? While the snow has been so much fun to play in, I think we are all looking forward to longer days and sunshine! We had a blast during our friendship unit, sharing our valentines, and our snack mix was such a treat. Thank you to all who made that possible. As you probably already know, we said goodbye to Ms. Melissa as she is home with her new baby. We will really miss her and are so grateful for the time we had together. We are so excited to welcome a familiar face...Mr. Randy! We know he can handle our energy! This month we will be learning all about music and the farm. We will also play outside every chance we get!

Ms. Abbie and Mr. Randy

3-4's

How are we already into the month of March?! Crazy how time flies so fast when you're having fun. The preschoolers have been very hard at work. In every lesson plan, we work on the main basics to get us ready for kindergarten. We're busy working on recognizing our upper and lower case letters, our numbers 1-10, and

We had a busy February. As you may have noticed, we had a Space and Star Wars themed month! Thank you to all of the families that contributed an item for our Star Wars snack mix. Our galaxy-inspired projects included painting on wax paper and coloring on black paper using chalk. We had so much fun dressing up as astronauts and wearing space helmets. Another fun way to dress up was using aluminum foil. This is something you can do at home, too! We made hats, arm guards, leg shields, etc. The toddlers also had fun exploring technology. They had fun pushing the buttons on the remote control to make the robots BB8 and R2-D2 move around the room! Also, just a reminder that to the left of our cubbies are art folders. Please check these about once a week to take home artwork, projects, and/or photos. We look forward to the warmer weather ahead and can't wait to share more activities with you next month.

Ms. Hannah and Ms. Emily

3rd Toddlers

Luck O' the Irish to ya! Th lads and lassies of 006 have been hard at work learning their colors and how to drink out of an open cup. We see colors every day, everywhere and being able to name them is so helpful. March seems to overwhelm us with the color green. We dye our milk green, our pancakes, even some rivers! Parents, try putting a drop or two of green food coloring in your little ones milk and ask them if they know the

lots of fine motor skills to build up our hand strength. We just wrapped up our units on our body, learning a lot about the different parts of our body, and how to keep them safe. We also talked about how to stay healthy and keep the germs away. After that we talked about Valentine's Day and what that means to us and how to be kind to one another and spread kindness. After that we will dive into Dr. Seuss as we celebrate his birthday and begin to focus a lot on our rhyming words. Our friends have gotten really good at writing their names the more they sign in each day. Keep up the good work!

Ms. Kayleigh and Ms. Virginia

color. Make sure to use an open cup so they can see the colored milk and get some at home practice. Until we meet again..."May the roof about you never fall in and may the friends and family below it never fall out". Slainte! (Cheers!)

Ms. Laura and Ms. Elise