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Growing Highlights

MAY 2023

Dear Families,

Happy May everyone! Let's hope this warm weather is here to stay. With this weather hopefully will come lots of sunshine. Remember to bring in sunscreen for your child if you do not want the Grandma's House brand used on them. We will all be spending lots of time outdoors.

May is a special month because we get to celebrate with our teachers! Teacher Appreciation Week is **May 8th - May 12th**. This year we will be doing something special each day for our amazing teachers!! A SignUp Genius link for these events was sent out in a previous e-mail. See me if you have any questions.

Our **Spring Fling** is coming up on **Friday, May 19th**. We are excited to invite all our families to this event. This will be a great time to mingle with other families that attend the center. The teachers thought it would be fun for everyone to wear their tie dye t-shirts we made during Week of the Young Child. Dinner will be provided along with activities for the children.

This month I want to give a shout-out to Ms. Cat. She campaigned to get easels on the playground for the toddlers to do art outside. Her wish was granted, her toddlers are enjoying the new equipment, and we are looking forward to seeing more friends using them.

Thanks,
Jess Strick, Director

jess@grandmashouse.org



May 8-12, 2023

Our teachers and staff are
SUN-SATIONAL

MON
Special Notes from Families
Apple Bar
Our teachers and staff
make each day Brighter

TUE
Breakfast
Together we create
a Better Tomorrow

WED
Veggies, Fruits,
Chips & Dips
Together we
Inspire, Engage, & Encourage

THU
Parent Volunteers During Naptime
Luncheon
Together we ALL Shine!

FRI
Live 2 Play Day
Candy Bar



Together we plant the seeds of knowledge that
will last a lifetime

***Please see SignUp Genius email if you would like to contribute.**

CLOSING EARLY - Friday, 6/9 - 6:00 am - 3:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE - Saturday, 8/19 - Family Picnic



- 1 Parker M.
- 3 Brooks M.
- 5 Ms. Beth
- 8 Liam L.
- 10 Ms. Cassidy
- 12 Natalie P.
- 13 Olivia B.
- 14 Ms. Rina
- 15 Logan K.
- 20 Franklin L.
- 20 Mason F.
- 24 Hudson S.
- 24 George G.
- 31 Claire W.
- 31 Ms. Ashley

CONGRATULATIONS

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Jess 24 Years

Ms. Jade 1 Year

Ms. Bree 1 Year

Scholastic Book Orders ~ Now Online!

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. You will set up an account in which they will ask for our Center Code: **JC8WF**. 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 **Monday, 5/15***

Reminder, our center earns books each time you order.



Babyland

Those dreary April showers are going to make those May flowers beautiful! We look forward to flowers and babies blossoming! This month we will continue to work on many age-appropriate developmental skills. Lots of tummy time is at the top of our list as it helps develop head and neck control to assist in rolling and core strength. We're also working on sitting up with and without support. Offer your lap or a boppy pillow for support. We've had several new friends join us, so we will be assisting in the developmental skill of becoming aware of ourselves and others. We will be placing your child in front of a mirror and close to others. The teachers will get down on the children's level and talk to them to

Creative Colors

We made it to Spring! The flowers are starting to poke through the dirt and trees are budding. Since we were able to spend a little more time outside, we brought some of our classroom activities outside with us. We have also ventured to the park a few times. The children have been working hard at mastering their colors and shapes this past month for one of their portfolio focuses. Please continue to work on independent skills such as dressing and undressing themselves. Set time aside each day and make a game of it. These skills are so important in becoming more independent.

2 1/2's, Ms. Jennie & Ms. Janell

encourage language development. As always, with the changing weather, please be sure your child has seasonal and size appropriate clothing and outerwear. Thank you!

Infants, Ms. Holly & Ms. Nikki

DJ's

We really enjoyed the taste of summer we had this Spring! Thank you again for responding and supplying the items needed. Last month, we did an activity with our friends by having them open and close books. We sit down on the floor with our friends and "stand" books around them! We are also working on standing without assistance by placing the children in the middle of the floor in the standing position after washing their hands. Some of our friends are already able to pull up to the standing position! Our next focuses will be simple sign language, "eat", "more" and "all done" and also holding their own bottles during feedings.

Older Infants, Ms. Denise & Mr. Jared

Busy Bees

It finally feels like Spring! We waited so patiently! During our "Pete the Cat and His Groovy Buttons" unit, we increased our vocabulary by exploring flannel pieces while Ms. Tasha read the book. We also learned through our senses by exploring in our sensory table filled with buttons, feathers, cotton balls, and dried

Clever Cacti

Hello Families! It's almost summer and we couldn't be more excited! We have been enjoying more outside time lately, but we also have been enjoying our time inside learning! This past month we had Community Helpers and Spring & Flowers Units. During our Community Helpers unit, we practiced counting and matching the correct tools to each community helper. At home, you could have your child count each bag of groceries you bring home, how many crackers they get for snack, etc. The options are endless! Then during our Spring & Flowers unit, we worked on following simple instructions and we practiced cutting on a straight line. Our children love exploring with scissors so bringing them out at home could really help them improve their cutting skills. They love to cut pictures out of old magazines! Summer is just around the corner and we are looking forward to it!

3's, Ms. Cassidy & Ms. Ashley

Flamingos

We are so happy to have warmer weather! We enjoy going outside and not having to bundle up! We have been working hard and playing even more. One of the activities we really enjoyed was Smash Art Painting. For this activity we used a piece of paper, allowed the children to pick three different colors of paint. Then they folded the piece of paper in half and

noodles. During our Eric Carle unit, we learned about simple rhymes by reading "Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?" and "Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?" We explored cause & effect relationships and colors through push lights. We really like watching the lights change colors as we press them. We are looking forward to warmer weather!

Toddlers, Ms Lori & Ms. Tasha

Puddle Ducks

We are having so much fun getting to know our new Puddle Ducks! Everyone has settled in quite nicely. So far their favorite things to do are play at the sand table, scribble with markers, and read lots and lots of books! We also started doing some exercises – their favorite one is squats! Not only are they fun to do, but the word is also fun to say! We finally had some nice weather and were able to explore new things in the playground. New trucks, new connectors, and our new easel! We paint on it and scribble on it. When we are outside, we like to watch the trees move in the breeze and the birds fly. They sound pretty, too! The big trucks are fun to watch, too, although a little scary. We are working on getting used to them. Have a Marvelous May!

Toddlers, Ms. Cat and Ms. Makenzie

Honey Hive

smooshed or smashed the paper until they were ready to open the paper back up. After they opened the piece of paper, we talked about what it looked like to them. This would be a great activity for at home because it does not have many materials. Another activity that we did was to paint with eye droppers and watercolors. They really like to do this one because it's messy and they can use a lot of watercolors or a little bit of watercolors and have to work on their fine motor skills! We finished up on the last couple of readers and the kids all still got very excited for every parent and grandparent to come in and join the classroom! We cannot wait to learn about the Weather and Superheros next! Please make sure that your child has extra clothes in their cubbies as we live in Wisconsin and the weather is very unpredictable.

4's, Ms. Brittnee & Ms. Diane

4K

With April coming to an end, it's hard to think the school year is almost over. These students have worked hard to learn so much this year and I know this class has made many wonderful memories. Here are just a few of our lessons this past year that left a lasting memory in our hearts:

1. From the beginning of the school year, 4K was a part of "Discover Dairy." We "adopted" a calf from a farm in northern Wisconsin. We received email updates as she grew and along with information about how the farm takes care of their cows. Her

We are so excited for the beautiful weather of Springtime! This past month we welcomed a whole new class to our classroom. Everyone seems to be adjusting well and adapting to a few more "big kid" responsibilities. One big difference in this classroom is mealtime cleanup. Each child takes a turn bringing their cup, plate, and utensil to the dump bucket, scraping or pouring uneaten items, and stacking their dishes in the crate. It takes a lot of patience, concentration, and coordination, but everyone is working hard at this task and making improvements! You can extend this skill at home as well – have your child clear their dishes after eating or put their spoon in the dishwasher! A "standout" activity that the children really enjoyed last month was playing with the parachute! They had tons of fun! It was also a great opportunity to discuss opposites like up/down, over/under, and fast/slow. We are hoping to do more fun outdoor activities like this over the next few months!

Young 2's, Ms. Amanda & Ms. Rina

Forest Friends

We can't believe April has already come to an end. We had so much fun this month! The Week of the Young Child was amazing! The children loved all the guest readers and had fun participating in all the activities. We did a lot with matching colors and comparing sizes. With May coming, we are looking forward to the sun and being able to spend more of our day

name is Sweet Caroline.

2. We had many special food lessons like making Stone Soup, making ice cream, and popping popcorn. We also cracked eggs for green eggs, painted toast, and dyed eggs with a variety of different foods.

3. Each student got to be the VIP for a week. Each child loved "playing teacher," bringing in a snack, picking a dress up day, and sometimes having a guest come in to read.

4. Field trips are always memorable. This year we went to plays, a farm, classes with a nature center, and even a high school band class (just to name a few).

5. As of now, we are watching the caterpillars transform into butterflies and watching how ants live.

Cheers to the Graduates!

4K, Ms. Holly L.

outside doing activities. We are excited to take more walks and to have more opportunities to explore nature. Some things we will work on are solving simple problems, sharing, and practicing our scissor skills. And let's not forget Spring Fling month!

2's, Ms. Ezzy & Ms. Bree