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## Growing Highlights

MAY 2023

Dear Parents,

Well, that was a nice little summer tease! Nothing like 80+ degrees one week, and then snow the next.

Week of the Young Child was so fun! We appreciate your help sending over music and family pictures, bringing in food, and doing whatever else was asked of you. Thanks to everyone who participated in Parent-Teacher Conferences as well-if you have any ideas on how to make it run more smoothly, please let me know!

May brings ***Teacher Appreciation Week May 8th-12th***, which is a fabulous time to show the teachers just how much you appreciate them. A Signup Genius went out the last week in April as a way to show our staff how thankful you are for them by bringing in different treats each day. We will also have a card making station on a table by the kitchen-feel free to have your little one make and deliver their creation. Teachers have also listed some of their favorite things on their Get to Know Me posters which are just inside our back door-there are plenty of ways to spoil them if you check that out!

The Tosa and Highland Centers will be hosting a ***Mom's Night Out*** at the Little Village Play Café on 65<sup>th</sup> and North Ave on Wednesday, ***May 24th*** from 6-8 pm. Save the date-more information to follow!

As always, please see me with questions!

*Christie Dapelo, Director*



Teacher Appreciation Week - May 8-12, 2023

**\*Visit the CARD STATION located by back entrance to have your child(ren) make a card & deliver it to their teacher(s).**

**\*Check the GET TO KNOW ME posters by the back door to find out what your teacher(s) like.**

**\*TREATS for the day can be dropped off on tables by the back door the morning they are needed (SignUp Genius was sent 4/24).**

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

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



- 2 Ms. Kailie
- 3 Ms. Esther
- 5 Nikhila S.
- 6 Jonathan N.
- 8 Noah C.
- 9 Keller O.
- 11 Makenna J.
- 13 Wyatt H.
- 13 Ms. Courtney
- 14 Claire M.
- 15 Carter F.
- 17 Henry G.
- 18 Avianna R.
- 21 Caleb R.
- 21 Olive C.
- 22 Fiona W.
- 24 Parker S.
- 27 Nora R.
- 29 Ms. Annissa
- 30 Alex W.

## CONGRATULATIONS

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

*Ms. Amy 23 Years*

*Ms. Joan 12 Years*



*Infants*

*Young 2's*

Hello May! These months are just flying by! We are so happy that Spring is in full swing. We sure had a busy month of April with amazing themes and welcoming our new friends, Levi, Molly, Ezra and Elouise. This month we will celebrate our amazing Moms! We are looking forward to the warmer weather and spending more time outside. During the month we will be working on sitting, crawling and of course, tummy time! Have an amazing month.

*Ms. Ana and Ms. Sanja*

### ***2nd Infants***

May can be tricky with weather appropriate clothing! Sometimes we need jackets and hats and sometimes we need sunhats and sunscreen! If you happen to have any of these at home, please bring them in labeled. We want to make sure your little one has all they need to safely enjoy the outdoors. Grandma's House provides sunscreen that we can use, or you can bring in your own (labeled please). Yay for outside time! So many uses of our senses while we are on walks or on the infant/toddler playground.

*Ms. Cassie and Ms. Kailie*

### ***3rd Infants***

***Quote of the Month:*** "Surround yourself with people who are only going to lift you HIGHER."

April showers bring May flowers! From

Warmer weather, sun and rain bring flowers, bees and bugs! We are learning to match 2 similar objects, playing together, following 2 step instructions and being more independent. We are also working hard on and encouraging good listening ears and being kind friends to each other. Please remember to bring weather appropriate clothing for your child. We look forward to spending a lot more time outside!

*Ms. Steph and Ms. Kim*

### ***2's***

Welcome May! It's pleasant, it's refreshing, and it's a whole lot better than April. Hopefully warmer temps are coming our way! To start the month, we will finish exploring the deep ocean. Then, we will have 2 weeks of nothing but FUN! We will finish the month by making and trying healthy foods. During these lessons, we will be working on lacing, matching 3 to 4 colors, and following simple directions. An example of simple directions would be 2 to 3 words such as "get your diaper", "sit down", or "put toys away". Working on this skill at home will help us in the classroom. Have a great month!

*Ms. Courtney and Ms. Esther*

### ***2.5's***

our window and from playing outside, we enjoy watching the trees bud and flowers bloom. So many of us are cruising and it won't be long before we take our first steps. Most of us like reading books, playing with pop up toys, and pushing toys around the room. We always have fun! Please remember to check your child's cubby for weather appropriate clothing and replenish items as needed.

*Ms. Sherry and Ms. Finesse*

### ***Toddlers***

We are so happy that the sun has been shining and our kiddos have been able to enjoy a lot more outside time! With that being said, please be sure to check your child's cubby and switch out winter extra clothes for summer clothes. With summer quickly approaching, please feel free to send in a water bottle for them to take along when we go outside each day. Also, as a reminder, we use the children's cubbies to get out important information such as paperwork and artwork as well. Please check your child's cubby at pick up to collect these items each evening.

In the weeks to come, we will be having a unit on Transportation and also a unit on Earth Day! Some things our kiddos have been very interested in as of late are action songs (as always) and art projects! They have also enjoyed listening to different instruments as a group, especially drums! We have played drum line performances aloud for them and seeing

Passport Pal Families, we have been to so many places and have learned so much! We had a lot of fun on World Marbles Day: marble painting, playing marbles, and using marble tracks! We also enjoyed "riding" on the double-decker bus and seeing all the landmarks of England. We practiced our dressing skills by donning our finest outfits in the dramatic play area. We listened to music from Wales and painted with some cool copper paint. We had fun celebrating Week of the Young Child with some great activities. Thank you to everyone who helped us donate goods to HAWS of Waukesha! They were grateful for all the donations. After all the excitement of England and Wales, we decided to do a month long safari to Africa! The children were really excited to find out that our own Mr. Randy had lived there for two years (their whole lives). Mr. Randy has provided us with some neat pictures, and we have made him into a flannel! Watch out for all the wild animals--- or maybe they should be watching out for our silly almost three year olds! After Africa, we will be returning to North America and celebrating Mexico!

*Ms. Amy R. and Ms. Emma*

### ***3's***

*"I've been chased by a ram,  
and chased by a bull!  
I slipped, and I tripped.  
Banged my head in a fall.  
I've got cuts on my elbows,*

them smile and dance to the beat is just the cutest thing ever. We can't wait for our kiddos to participate in all of the fun summer activities we have planned and look forward to sharing videos and pictures with you all. As always, feel free to contact Ms. MaiLee or Ms. Taylor with any questions or concerns. Talk to you soon!

*Ms. Mai Lee and Ms. Taylor*

## ***2nd Toddlers***

Spring is in the air! With warmer weather approaching, we think it is finally safe to say, winter gear will no longer be needed! Please bring a labeled water bottle for your child. Water bottles will be kept in the left most cubby in the pink basket. The shelf to the left of the cubbies has folders containing artwork and photos. Don't forget to check the folder each week. April was very active! Thank you to every family that contributed to the Week of the Young Child. The class had so much fun creating a veggie pizza. They were more willing to try the ingredients separately instead of on the pizza when it was put together. The class also enjoyed making playdough out of old peeps. All we needed was a 5-piece package of peeps, oil, cornstarch or powdered sugar, spatula, and a microwave safe bowl! The toddlers loved to pull apart, taste and squish the dough. As they approach the age of two, we encourage drinking out of an open cup. We recommend you try this at home and start with a tiny bit of water. More

*and scrapes on my knees.  
I've been stung by some nettles,  
some wasps, and some bees.  
As a result, I'm now wondering  
why some people I like  
suggested this morning  
that I go take a hike!"  
--Take a Hike*

That's right, friends and families, with the warm weather rapidly approaching (and hopefully staying!), that means we'll be getting our fill of the sun and lots of outdoor play! You may also come to find that your little one(s) may be getting a little messier this time of year, but have no fear; Mud and dirt play is something we encourage as it fosters imagination (food creations), motor skills (digging, pouring, stirring, making), and discovery (worms, bugs, rocks, seeds, roots). Thus far, we have taken some nature hikes in our "forest" where we left our mark by painting some rocks and trees, and have done our part in becoming environmental-stewards by cleaning up the earth through our talks and actions of recycling. We have also been busy learning about Indigenous Tribes and People in Wisconsin (and different parts of the world), and have been reading different legends, looking at different forms of art (quilts, sculptures, cave paintings), listening to music, and are excited to be planting our very own garden in the coming weeks.

*Ms. Abbie and Mr. Randy*

## ***3-4's***

water can be added gradually as they become more confident. With all this in mind, we look forward to seeing the class blossom!

*Ms. Hannah and Ms. Emily*

### ***3rd Toddlers***

The weather continues to heat up as we see the trees bud and flowers bloom! With this we ask all families to begin preparations to switch from cold to hot weather. Please bring water bottles, hats, water play gear, etc. This will be the start of our sun bags as well as the water bottle bucket. This month the children are celebrating all the amazing mothers out there. As we give thanks to the moms, we will learn about families, big and small.

*Ms. Laura and Ms. Elise*

Spring in Wisconsin really brings out the weird weather. Hopefully the last bit of snow is behind us now. Without jinxing it, we would like to cordially invite you to take home the bulk of the winter gear: snow pants and boots. If you want to bring rain boots to keep here and keep on the boot rack, you are more than welcome. Please bring a water bottle for your child as we spend a lot of time outside. We have finally gotten through our show and tell letter of the week, so from now until the end of the year we will be reviewing our letters and letter sounds. We will be diving into all things Spring and learning about the life cycle of plants and bugs. After that, we will be talking about helpers in the community and what they do for us.

*Ms. Kayleigh and Ms. Virginia*