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## Growing Highlights

NOVEMBER 2023

Thursday & Friday, 11/23 & 11/24  
Grandma's House CLOSED

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all of our families who attended Parent Teacher Conferences last month! While we try to touch base with you throughout the week, we recognize that drop off and pick up times are busy for our families and teachers. We appreciate you taking the time to conference with us about your child's development and to set goals. As a reminder, please let us know if your child is receiving services such as speech therapy, OT, Birth to Three, PT or if they have an IEP/IFSP. We welcome therapists on site for evaluation and services. In fact, it is extremely helpful for the teachers to give input during the initial evaluation as children often have varying needs here and act differently than they do one on one for you at home. Additionally, when a plan is set, please provide us with a copy for your child's file. While our teachers are not licensed therapists, we can certainly reinforce and support skills that are being worked on during sessions.

Coming up this month, on **Tuesday, November 21st** we will host our **Annual Thanks for Giving Luncheon**. This luncheon is a wonderful opportunity for families to show their appreciation to our dedicated staff. Please [SIGN UP HERE](#) if you would like to contribute to the luncheon.

Thanks,  
*Kristie Potter*, Director  
[kpotter@grandmashouse.org](mailto:kpotter@grandmashouse.org)

**Mark Your  
Calendars!**

**Grandma's House CLOSED**

**Monday, December 25  
Monday, January 1, 2024**

**SPECIAL HOURS**

**Tuesday, 12/26 - Friday, 12/29**

**Hours:**

**6:30 am - 5:30 pm**



- 1 Ms. Lia
- 3 Ms. Jenny
- 4 Scarlett H.
- 5 Hannah F.
- 5 Will G.
- 6 Merrick S.
- 7 Hazel W.

8	Harrison L.
8	Joseph B.
9	Ms. Judeen
10	Sammy G.
11	Clarke M.
12	Theo R.
18	Aya M.
20	Ren G.
22	Geila H.
25	Gabriel T.
25	Riya S.
26	Emma M.
28	Ella A.
28	Ms. Celeste
30	Oscar B.

## CONGRATULATIONS

*On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House*

<i>Mr. Scott</i>	<i>31 Years</i>
<i>Ms. Jenny</i>	<i>2 Years</i>
<i>Mr. Matt</i>	<i>2 Years</i>
<i>Ms. Jaz</i>	<i>1 Year</i>



### *Young Infants*

October was a fun month, but now the babies are getting ready for Thanksgiving. We have so much to be grateful for! We are very excited to start another month in the infant room with your babies. In

### *Older Toddlers*

It is getting chilly outside! Please make sure you are leaving heavier jackets, hats, and mittens in cubbies. We have been focusing on matching and sorting by colors and size. We are working with puzzles and

October, we had so much fun painting pumpkins, using fall colors, as well as read books about autumn, like "Mouse's First Fall" by Lauren Thomson, and more. Our Theme of the month is "Trees", and we will read books about all kinds of trees. "Leaf Baby", by Mary Barrett, "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein, "Tap the magic tree" by Christie Matheson, and flannel story: "Five little pumpkins" by Marybeth Butler. We will have some fun projects planned for your children throughout the month. This is a great time of year to be taking walks watching the leaves fall and change colors. This month we will continue learning about fall colors, weather changes, and everything that is associated with autumn! Children will focus on images of apples, green, red, black and white, and fall leaves which can encourage their vision development, and look at the two different high contrast baby books: "My First Autumn". Children will work on their fine motor skills and practice grasping. Some babies will strengthen their crawling skills while having interactions with their classmates. We are always happy to answer any questions you may have. Have a great month!

*Ms. Alex & Ms. Liz*

### ***Infants***

Cold weather is here, holidays are coming and it is going to be a busy time. If you haven't already, please go through your child's cubby and switch out those sun hats for winter hats and coats, as we still

color matching activities, which the toddlers really seem to love. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask, call, or send a message through the app. We are always here to help in any way. Stay safe and healthy.

*Ms. Jennifer & Ms. Alyssa*

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

The children have been enjoying this Fall weather and playing with all the leaves on the playground. Some fun things we did last month included cutting open a pumpkin, making oatmeal pumpkin cookies, and doing waterplay while cleaning pumpkins. We have also been working on the concept of big and small by comparing pumpkins and searching for different sized leaves outside. As most of the children are 2 years old or nearing 2, we have been encouraging more independence. In the classroom, this may be serving themselves food during lunch, grabbing their jackets from their hooks, or unzipping/zipping their own jackets. It is amazing how quickly the children learn and then want to continue trying new tasks on their own. This month, our themes will be "All About Fall" and "Friendship". We can't wait to tell you about all our growth in November.

*Ms. Pakou and Ms. Julia*

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

try to go outside as much as we can. For this month, we will have lesson plans themed “All About Me” and “Food”. We will be looking at photos of ourselves and our peers, looking at photos of different types of holiday foods, and exploring food art from different countries. Our portfolio focuses include learning how to sit with and without assistance and starting to babble with repetitive consonants like “Ba, Ba, Ba”. A lot of our language development is formed by just listening to others talk and we like to teach through songs as well. If you are ever curious about what we are learning, please feel free to ask or take a look at our parent board. As always, stay happy and healthy!  
*Ms. Judeen & Ms. Sam*

### ***Older Infants***

This past month we highlighted children’s author Todd Parr. Mr. Parr focuses his books on telling children it is okay to be who you are, and his drawings are simple and use very bright colors. We painted using neon paints and we saw pictures of ourselves in Todd Parr’s books to learn about self-recognition. Mr. Parr also has a book called “The Monster Mac & Cheese Party” so we had a mac & cheese party ourselves by eating it for lunch and playing with rubbery, sticky noodles called Mac & Squeeze. We also spent some time focusing on apples. Time was spent counting apples, reading books such as “Johnny Apple Seed”, finger painting with the color red, and using our sense of touch

Wow! This year has gone by so fast. It is hard to believe that we only have 2 months left. We will still be going outside as the weather gets colder, so please make sure your child has the appropriate outdoor gear. This may include snow pants, snow boots, hats, mittens and of course a warm coat. Please remember to label everything! This month we will be focusing on some self-help skills such as putting on our socks, shoes, and coats. We will also be working on matching colors. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. Thank you and we hope you have a great month!

*Ms. Theresa & Ms. Brittannie*

### ***2 1/2's***

We have had so much fun this past month! Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who helped us out at the pumpkin patch! We also want to thank you for the yummy treats at our costume party. We had so much fun with both! We have been working so hard while practicing snipping, scribbling, stringing beads, and matching colors. We were also learning and reading about Pete the Cat, pumpkins, and the spooky season. We even got to clean out and inspect the inside of a big pumpkin! As we move forward into November, we will be focusing a lot on identifying and matching colors and shapes as well as the letters in our names. We will also be reading and learning about Fall and Turkeys. We are

as we explored Ziploc bags full of applesauce.

*Ms. Christie & Ms. Dawn*

### ***Young Toddlers***

Happy Fall Everyone! As fall is in full swing we have been doing a lot of cute pumpkin activities with the children. They have painted wooden pumpkins to send home to families. We also did a fun sensory project where we touched the outsides of pumpkins as well as getting to feel the "guts"! We have also been encouraging independence by using spoons at mealtimes and using walking toys. We are still trying to enjoy the outdoors as the weather permits. We are looking forward to watching your little ones grow this Fall.

*Ms. Celeste & Ms. Ashly*

### ***Toddlers***

In the month of October, we had the circus show up in our classroom! We experienced acrobats hanging from the ceiling, feeling cotton candy, and dressing up like circus clowns. We worked on throwing and kicking a ball to knock over cups. We saw hopping popcorn kernels and skittles turning water different colors. After the circus, we focused on the changes around us due to the autumn season. We painted pumpkins to take home and explored the insides of a pumpkin. We had a spooky fun Halloween

looking forward to our field trip to Kids in Motion! As a reminder, please make sure to have weather appropriate clothes and an extra sweater in your child's cubby. Have a great month and Happy Thanksgiving!

*Ms. Claire and Ms. Samantha*

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

This Fall, we've been able to introduce our class to a variety of engaging activities that will help our friends learn and grow while having fun. One of these activities includes the apple and leaf lacing cards. They are pictures of leaves and apples with holes in them, and the objective is to use their fine motor skills to carefully lace the strings through the holes. It also improves their hand eye coordination and improves their pincer grasp. They seem to be very intrigued with this activity and will sit quietly for it. We've also been doing yoga in the mornings! This is a great self-regulatory activity that encourages stretching, deep breathing, and calming their bodies after coming in from outdoor play and making the transition to morning snack. In addition, it's also a way to help their gross motor skills as they do each stretch. They get so excited about this and are so proud of themselves when they are done. They also tend to be a bit more relaxed and ready to focus until the next activity. We are looking forward to more exciting learning opportunities with our friends!

*Ms. Diana and Ms. Jaz*

party with yummy treats. Thank you to the families that sent in the tasty treats. With the weather getting cooler, we want to keep bodies, ears, and hands toasty warm. Please bring hats, gloves and jackets and make sure all items are labeled. The coats can be hung on your child's labeled hook. We hope you have a lovely and happy Thanksgiving!

*Ms. Rolanda and Ms. Emma*

### *3's/4's*

As things are falling into place, we are continuing to learn through play and group centered activities. We are also having so much fun learning about changes; changes in the seasons with all the beautiful colors to changes in our bodies when we grow taller. I am eager to learn and discover new things with my friends. We will continue to review sequencing and what happens next through simple and fun activities like what to do before going to bed. It is always great to hear their stories. Thank you for allowing me to play with your little one. I learn so much from them!

*Ms. Cynthia*