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Growing Highlights

MARCH 2024

Dear Parents,

February caused a little bit of chaos and confusion-a bunch of days without snow pants and boots, a couple of days where we didn't need hats or gloves, and even a day that we took our jackets off outside! And then a few days where it decided to snow and we had to try to remember how to put all that gear on again.

March is a pretty uneventful month for us, which is nice because April will be busy! We will celebrate ***Week of the Young Child***, which is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The purpose of the Week of the Young Child® is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs. Most of the events will happen during the day, and will be done by the teachers, but on ***Friday, April 12th***, we will host an Open House. From 5:30-6:00 pm you can enjoy pizza in your child's classroom and get to meet the families of other kiddos in the room, and then from 6-7 pm you can wander through the building and see what kinds of activities your children like to do. Each room will have a different activity-from books to movement to flannels to sensory play-some of our favorite things- and you and your child can play! The week of April 22nd we will once again host in-person conferences-more information will be coming out in April about that.

Many of you know this already, but Mr. Randy took a job related to his degree in early February and Ms. Sherry is taking some time away to focus on her health (she is already

talking about coming back to visit us soon). We wish them both the best and lots of success.

As always, please see me with questions!

Christie Dapelo, Director

cdapelo@grandmashouse.org

***Year End Tuition Requests** *can be submitted online .*



3	Felicity G.
6	Joseph S.
6	Rory B.
11	Quinn L.
13	Sophie R.
13	Samuel H.
13	Sophie S.
17	Vanessa S.
18	Gabriel S.
19	Eero M.
19	Ali K.
20	Aimee R.
22	Ms. Ana
26	Beau L.
27	Mason K.
28	Lily H.
29	Margaret M.

CONGRATULATIONS

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Virginia 9 Years

Ms. Ana 8 Years

Look What We Did!

Infants

Here we are entering the month of March! How time flies as we have lots to learn. "Spring Time" is a time for change and will soon be here as we too encounter changes. 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 "Clovers/Green, St. Patrick's Day". Then ending our month, we will explore "Baby Animals/Spring" and the weather changes of the upcoming season. Our portfolio focuses are rolling from tummy to back, sitting with support, tummy time (neck strength), and working on observing people. Child's interests will be instruments, mirrors, rattles, and visual toys. Please make sure your baby has appropriate outdoor clothing so we may be able to go on walks. We are excited to see what this month brings us through all our interactions. We also want to wish Ms. Virginia the best as she will soon be on maternity leave as she starts her adventure as a new mom with her very own bundle of joy. Wishing ALL our families great health and joy!

Ms. Ana and Ms. Virginia

2nd Infants

3rd Toddlers

We are getting to the heart of the matter and warming up to each other as we Spring into another month. This past month, we celebrated Valentine's Day and learned about feelings like love, friendship, and sharing. We also learned that our friends are passionate about farms and farm animals. The children got to know the shape of a heart, recognized mad, sad, and a few things to turn them into happy! We also worked on developing our fine motor skills with some fun new toys and activities like making cards for our parents and passing out Valentine treats to our friends. We showed empathy and caring to each other and our classroom environment as we practiced our listening skills and safety warnings. Each new day increases our familiarity with the people and world around us with routines and communication. As the weather continues to improve and blossom, it will only grow more exciting to see how the children do as well.

Ms. Elise and Ms. Kailie

Older Toddlers

Love and treats were in the air! We ended January and began February with a unit on LOVE, as an introduction to Valentine's

We are so LUCKY to have each kiddo with us each week! All of our friends are busy practicing and doing new skills every day. This month we are focusing on our language and literacy. We read books each week with your little lucky charm. The more language they are exposed to, the more they can absorb. At home, if your little one is babbling, squealing, or giggling, mimicking them exactly will help to encourage more. If books are not a favorite or your little one won't sit long enough for a story, you may want to try singing a lullaby, a silly song, or even try a radio jam party! In the Owl About Infants room, we will be "do-re-mi-ing" until forever!

Ms. Cassie and Ms. Katherine

3rd Infants

We hope this newsletter finds you well. As we enter March, we wanted to share some of the exciting achievements and experiences from our classroom over the past month. First, a warm welcome to our new friends Ellowyn, Charlie, and Kate. We are thrilled to have them join our classroom and look forward to getting to know them better as they begin their journey with us! We wish them all the best as they continue to grow and embark on new adventures. In terms of development, our little ones have been making great progress in learning to walk, sit, and stand independently. It is truly heartwarming to see their confidence grow as they explore their newfound

Day. We have been working on learning our colors, pre-writing skills, and a lot of fun art projects. Another very important skill we work on every day is following directions when doing things such as cleaning up, flannel/carpet time, and going outside. Please continue to work on this skill at home. We enjoyed our unit on baking and the children had lots of fun decorating yummy treats. Thank you to everyone who sent in baking pictures from home, we really appreciate it. The children really enjoyed looking at the pictures and making connections to the baking activities we have been doing in the classroom. Have a great month and enjoy this great weather we have been having lately!

Ms. Kim and Ms. Alaini

2's

When is an Irish potato not an Irish potato?

"When it is a French fry!"

Did that get you in to the Irish spirit? To start the month, we will be finishing traveling from the world of Dr. Seuss to Ireland to explore leprechauns, rainbows, and four-leaf clovers. As always, we will continue to work on our self-help skills which include pushing down pants, getting our outside gear on, and cleaning up after ourselves. Along with these skills, we encourage the use of the word "help". Sometimes the children get upset if they can't do something right away. We always have them try and then ask for help

abilities. We have been incorporating outdoor activities into our curriculum to enhance their understanding of the world around them. Through these experiences, our toddlers have been able to engage their senses and truly appreciate the wonders of their surroundings. The recent snowfall allowed them to connect with nature through the sense of touch as they felt the texture of snowflakes in their hands. Additionally, we are excited to share that we are helping our children transition from bottles to sippy cups. This milestone promotes their independence and lays the foundation for healthy drinking habits. We are committed to supporting each child's unique journey and ensuring a smooth transition. Lastly, please note that we are gradually adjusting our nap schedule to a single nap as our little ones grow and develop. This change will provide them with more consistent and restful sleep, contributing to their overall well-being and energy levels throughout the day. As we continue into March, we are eager to build upon the progress we have made and create new adventures with your children. Thank you for your ongoing support and trust in our classroom. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Ms. Laura and Ms. Angie

Toddlers

We want to start off by thanking you all for a successful Valentine's Day class

if they need it. When a task is completed, they say "yay, I did it!" Please remember to encourage this at home, too!

Ms. Courtney and Ms. Esther

2.5's

We are so excited about all the new things our little gnomes have been learning. They have been working on sorting objects by 1-2 attributes-- sorting the candy Dots was a huge hit! They also worked on one-to-one correspondence by making shapes with popcorn! We really enjoyed seeing all our friends on our "Tosa Walk of Fame"!

We have since moved on to the Authors unit. Your gnomie is learning about emotions, problem solving, math concepts, and social expectations. Emotions, self-regulation and social expectations are big concepts to learn at this age and we will be working on them throughout the year. As a family, you can also work with your little one by reading some of these books as well. We are studying Mo Willems, Karen Katz, Anna Dewdney, Donald Crews, and Tana Hoban. We're sure some of these authors are already in your home libraries, but if not, your local library is a great place to visit! In April, we will be having sit-down conferences with you, so watch for the sign up. Any questions/suggestions, please let us know.

Ms. Amy R. and Ms. Stephanie

3's

celebration! Our kiddos had a lot of fun with it. This month we had fun learning about AB patterns using our hands and feet to make a simple beat. The children loved watching Ms. Taylor clap her hands and stomp her feet in a rhythmic pattern. Some of them even tried to follow along; it was very cute. We also had fun getting our hands messy with process art and throwing aluminum foil balls into the big black hole Ms. Mai Lee made from a cardboard box! This month we will be starting off with a shapes and colors lesson plan, which will be lots of fun. There will be some fun sensory, as well as counting the sides of different shapes. We will also sing lots of fun color songs and flannel stories. We have a couple of holidays this month, so we will also talk about St. Patty's Day, and Easter. We will be planning an Easter party, so look out for information in regard to that towards the end of the month. As a reminder, please look through your child's cubby and make sure they have clothes that still fit them, as well as socks. Sometimes the children's socks get wet outside or mysteriously come up missing, so it's nice to have a backup pair. As always, feel free to reach out via the app or at drop off/pick up with any questions or concerns, or to simply check in on your child's progress. Happy March!

Ms. Mai Lee and Ms. Taylor

2nd Toddlers

Who's excited for Spring?! We are getting so restless in anticipation for the warm weather. But with the Spring comes the rain and with the rain comes the mud. If you haven't already, let's swap out the winter boots for rain boots because we're 3 and we love to play in the mud and dig for worms! This is also a great opportunity to go through your child's cubby and do some "Spring cleaning". Please take home any art, extra clothes that don't actually fit, odds and ends...etc.

We have some fun things planned for this month...like hatching chickens! If you haven't already heard all about it from your kiddo, we are anticipating some new friends very soon! From hatching to caring for baby chicks, we can't wait to experience nature in a totally new, hands-on way. So much fun and learning to be had!

Ms. Abbie and Ms. Kari

3-4's

We've been hard at work in the preschool room getting ready for kindergarten; which is hard to believe is right around the corner. We wrapped up our lesson on superheroes, talking about what it means to be kind to others. An important skill we've been working on is our cutting skills, which we used to cut out superhero capes. We also had fun working on pattern skills and creating lots of fun art. After that we took a dive into all things rhyming with our Dr. Seuss unit. Our friends really got to put their rhyming skills to the test with

Thank you all for participating in our Valentine's Day celebration. You all helped make the day become so special for the toddlers. Not only were the Valentines fun to pass out, but the activity also encourages kindness, a sense of self and others, and an opportunity to take turns. Our main focuses this February have been encouraging language and social interactions with adults and classmates. In particular, we have been learning classmates' names, greeting/saying goodbye to others and identifying familiar objects verbally. Often our toddlers will use basic sign language and the beginning vocalizations. They are the most vocal during mealtimes, when getting ready for outside, and during circle/flannel time. If you have any questions about signs your child does, words they are beginning to say and more, we are happy to answer in person or on the app!

Songs of the month: *"Old McDonald", "I Like to Move It",* by the Madagascar movie, and *"5 Hungry Ants"*.
Ms. Hannah and Ms. Emily

identifying rhyming words in our books throughout this unit. If you want to take some school home with you, try looking for rhyming words in your house or in the books you read at home.

Ms. Kayleigh and Ms. Alyssa