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Growing Highlights

MAY 2024

OUR Staff is Akhh-mazing

Staff Appreciation Week
MAY 6 - 10, 2024



<u>All Week</u> *Appreciation Station Back Entryway	<u>Monday 5/6</u> Bring your teachers a Flower	<u>Tuesday 5/7</u> Draw your teachers a Picture
<u>Wednesday 5/8</u> Bring your teachers a Sweet Treat	<u>Thursday 5/9</u> Give your teachers a Hug	<u>Friday 5/10</u> Pajama Day
<u>To Do:</u> *Visit the Appreciation Station during the week to create a Special Note for teachers.	<u>Notes</u> Special Notes will be delivered to staff on Friday.	

Dear Parents,

Hope all is well with everyone! I wanted to thank everyone who came to the Art Gallery/Family Night. What a great success for a wonderful cause. All the proceeds are going to Bri Jr.'s father's nonprofit organization that he started to honor her memory and help children. In total we raised \$1,060! It is always nice to have time to just mingle with families, not just at drop offs and pickups!

May will bring the field trip calendars, probably towards mid-May. Please get them back to us on or before the due date so we can plan accordingly. Families that use the ACH to pay tuition can pay for trips that way. If you do not use the ACH to pay, then a check or cash can be submitted with the completed calendar. Field trips are so fun and we are all excited for summer to come!

Each class painted a special pot during the Week of the Young Child. Those will be displayed soon around the outside of the center.

Here's to a warm Spring!

Jane Sweet

Director

jsweet@grandmashouse.org

New Guidance
[Respiratory Virus Guidance](#)

Nutrition Corner
[Reducing Added Sugars](#)

Walks for Cancer
Join us this *Saturday, May 4, 2024*
LAKEWALK - Fowler Park, Oconomowoc
Check in 8:00 - 9:30 am - Walk starts 10:00 am



- 2 Reagan S.
- 4 Ainsley W.
- 5 Eleonore L.
- 8 Ms. Ashley
- 16 Aria S.
- 19 Paul G.
- 20 Paige-Marie S.
- 21 Aalayiah R.
- 21 Ms. Kristine
- 25 Adler L.
- 30 Ms. Kim

Congratulations

on celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Shannon 27 Years

Ms. Donna 16 Years

Ms. Taylor 1 Year

Look What We Did!

Little Cuties Infants

Thank you to all our families for taking the time to have conferences with us. We truly enjoyed taking a moment to share with you the growth and accomplishments your child has made this far and hearing the goals you have for your baby. During conference time, the development

Mini Muffins Almost 2's

Spring has sprung! Hopefully the snow is gone for the season and we can pack up the snow gear. Please leave boots for the really wet days. We have been enjoying spending time outside with special songs, flannel stories, digging and scooping sand, and building balance beams with

of gross motor skills came up with many parents. When will my baby crawl? Should I be worried that he/she is not rolling yet? Why do they hate tummy time? Gross motor skills are the abilities required to control the muscles of the body for large movements such as crawling, walking, jumping, running, and more. Examples of Gross motor skills for your baby are holding their head steady, looking side to side, tolerating tummy time, reaching for toys while on the floor, kicking their legs and moving their arms while laying on their back. These types of movements are important for young children to practice as they develop because they help children learn how to coordinate and control their body movements. Gross motor skills also help lay the foundation to be able to complete fine motor skill movement such as pinching or grasping.

Young children need time to practice using their gross motor skills in everyday situations. In our classroom and outside on a playmat, we give babies opportunities to participate and practice their large motor skills daily. Giving children the time each day (even 10 minutes while they cry on their tummy) helps build these important skills that are the foundation to skills later in life. What your baby does today is a building block for what they can do tomorrow! Children also learn and do things at their own pace. Seeing another child master a skill does not mean there is something wrong with your baby. Give them time and opportunity to try, fail, get angry and try again. "Madness makes movement" is the phrase we use in our

blocks. In our classroom, we have been painting on various items creating items of spring color. We also enjoy sorting Fruit Loop colors and, of course, eating them. Some other fun activities we worked on were the concepts of sinking and floating objects in buckets of water and exploring with colors of water with absorbent towels to make the colors transfer.

Ms. Tricia & Ms. Jessica

Donuts 2's

Hello families- April was a busy month! Our little ones enjoyed some wonderful weather, various art activities, math, stories, and songs. The children had a lot of fun doing their projects for Family Night. We used fake flowers and shower loofahs to create our beautiful and cute art. They are easy projects to do at home as well. They love art whether it is using an object, food, or fingers. They are all in. They also enjoy using markers whether it be on their paper, table, or hands. The children really enjoyed patterning, color recognition, and counting when using Fruit Loops. They viewed it as, one for the pipe cleaner and one for their belly. Yummm!! What can really get their attention is our story/group time. The children have a lot of stories, songs, and flannel stories memorized. They can sing it ALL for us!! They can all do our "who's here today." This activity also marks one of our evaluation milestones. As we sing their name, they jump up and down off

classroom and something that we see over and over.

We are so thankful for the warmer weather! We are taking advantage of it when we can with walks through the neighborhood and time spent on the playground. The babies, as well as the teachers, love the fresh air and the scenery. We're looking forward to getting out more as we inch closer and closer to Springtime. Please take a moment to go through your child's spare clothes in their cubby. Many have outgrown the size, and the clothing may not be weather appropriate. Keeping a lightweight jacket at Grandma's House is also a good idea as the weather is always changing in Wisconsin!

Ms. Kristine & Ms. Mo

Sliders Older Infants

We have been having a lot of fun with the new toys in our room. In April, our lesson plans were ABC, 123, and Balloons. We did lots of exploring with numbers and letters around our room. When we sit and play on the floor, we are also doing a lot of learning. Building blocks, for example, is a great time to count. It's also a fun activity for cause and effect. Our friends love to knock down the tower after it has been built. We also brought in a few balloons to have fun with. We've been making it a goal to get outside as much as we can. Our outside time is usually right after lunch. Outside play really encourages our friends to move around. Whether you are already

two feet. What makes us laugh is that some of our friends jump forward as they are jumping. We have to clear the way when some of them jump. If your child is singing a song at home and you want to know the words, feel free to ask us. We can write it down for you. Have a wonderful May!

Ms. Shannon and Ms. Bry

Little Veggies 2.5's

YAY! Spring is finally here! Last month we had a blast dying Easter eggs, watching flowers turn from white to different colors after being put in water we colored with food coloring. Our fun continued as we became bunnies and danced to the Bunny Hop around the classroom. We then used Peeps to pattern and paint with and lastly placed them into a bowl of water to watch them grow in size from small to large. Quick reminder to please check the app for updates on what your child may need and for daily highlights of what we are doing in class!

Ms. Andrea G.

Fruity Pebbles 3's

We hope that everyone is enjoying the nice weather we have been getting. The kiddos sure have been enjoying much more time outside. Please remember to check your child's cubby to ensure they have weather-appropriate clothing. Last month, our lesson plans were about

walking or still needing to master crawling, everyone gets around because it's so fun and different outside. Something really important to work on at home and at school is drinking water out of a sippy cup. Our friends that are one or getting very close to one need all the sippy cup practice they can get. We offer everyone sippy cups of water at lunch and snacks. It's all about learning the skill right now!

Ms. Ruth & Ms. Kelly

Lil' Nuggies Toddlers

April showers will bring May flowers! The Week of the Young Child was an absolute blast and it was great to see everyone at Art Gallery Night. We made our street art inspired self-portraits. We mixed colors and used our fingers to create beautiful works of art. We collaborated to create our classroom flowerpot with the same inspiration. We put paint on the pot and wrapped it in cling wrap. Then each child had an opportunity to move the paint around to create artwork together. Our Tasty Tuesday was indeed tasty. We loved making Thieves Stew (like a stroganoff). We used measuring cups, mixed ingredients, smelled different ingredients, like onions and mushrooms. We put it in a crockpot and let it cook! We enjoyed our savory afternoon snack outside. We are excited for the warmer weather. That means we can spend more time outside or go on walks. We embrace the sunny days whenever we get the chance. We go on walks, eat outside, do artwork, read books,

springtime and farms. During our spring lesson plan, we worked as a team to plant grass and paint with flowers. During our farm lesson, we enjoyed making dirt cakes and learned about different life cycles like strawberries and chickens. We are continuing to work on learning our alphabet and spelling our first and last names. We are excited to see what the next months have in store.

Ms. Emily & Ms. Chantel

Rainbow Chip Cookies 4's

We have really been enjoying the beautiful weather outside and enjoying looking and listening for signs of spring while walking to and from 4K. We have also been talking a lot about how to take better care of the environment and the world around us. These talks have tied in beautifully with Earth Day. We have also been talking a lot about flowers, plants, gardens, and what it takes for them to be healthy. We will be planting our center garden Saturday, June 15, at 9 am. Jane and I will be here with donuts and juice for anyone who would like to join us. I would like to remind parents to please clean out cubbies on a weekly basis. We have a lot of friends who enjoy making and creating, their cubbies fill up quickly. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

Ms. Donna

and sing songs. While outside we are learning about the seasons and how they change from Winter to Spring. We are watching the leaves and flowers grow. We are currently watching a family of sparrows build their nest. Please make sure your child has extra clothes in case their clothes get wet from playing outside. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions!

Ms. Andrea K. & Ms. Bree