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## Growing Highlights

DECEMBER 2024

*Happy Holidays*

SPECIAL HOURS				
Monday Dec 23	Tuesday Dec 24	Wednesday Dec 25	Thursday Dec 26	Friday Dec 27
6:30AM - 5:30PM	CLOSED	CLOSED	6:30AM - 5:30PM	6:30AM - 5:30PM
Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 1	Jan 2	Jan 3
6:30AM - 5:30PM	6:30AM - 5:30PM	CLOSED	6:00AM - 6:00PM	6:00AM - 6:00PM

Dear Parents,

There has been a lot of activity at the Highland Center! Thank you for your patience and understanding while our exterior is under construction. There is more to come, and I will do my best to update you with any changes that may interfere with drop off and pick up.

I wanted to take a moment to reflect on this past year. I am so grateful to be given this opportunity to serve all the wonderful families at the center. My family is the most important thing in my life and I know you all feel the same about yours. So it's been my pleasure getting to know you all better this past year. I'm looking forward to continuing to build on these relationships in the new year, as I see you all as part of the Grandma's House family!

Please watch your email for our Family surveys. These are so important to help us better understand how we can serve you.

This year we will be collecting toys and other items for Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Take a tag (or two) from the *Giving Tree*, purchase the item(s) and return new, unwrapped items by the front and back doors from *Monday, 12/2 - Friday, 12/13*. You can see their full list here: [Target Wish List](#) if you prefer to purchase items online.

Thanks,  
Claire Cramton, Director  
[claire@grandmashouse.org](mailto:claire@grandmashouse.org)

Tosa Village  
Tree Lighting  
*Wednesday, December 4th*  
Starting at 5:00 pm

Holiday Train  
*Sunday, December 8th*  
Harwood Ave Crossing  
Arrival 4:00 pm  
Show 4:15 - 4:45 pm



- 5 Gianna H.
- 6 Xander L.
- 11 Bryn M.
- 12 Nolan S.
- 13 Liam I.
- 13 Jane N.
- 19 Natalie M.
- 21 Amelia B.
- 21 Joseph O.

22 James L.

28 Jack D.



### *Young Infants*

Hello infant families! We can't believe how fast this past year has flown by! We hope that everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving, and we're excited for the upcoming holidays. This past November, our lesson plans focused on the Fall "Harvest" and the "Trees" that are changing with the seasons. The children have been very busy working on their developmental milestones! They've been learning how to play with friends and toys on the mat, as well as learning how to roll, sit up, and even crawl. We've also been focusing on fine motor skills by encouraging your babies to reach, grasp, and shake toys.

With the Holidays coming up, we're planning to do some fun winter crafts that they'll be able to take home! One of our lesson plans for December will be all about the "Cold" and the different activities we can do in the snow. Due to the dropping temperatures, please check your child's cubbies for appropriate outdoor clothing. While we may not be able to go for walks as often due to the weather, we will still try to go for a few stroller rides if we can!

### *Middle Toddlers*

November was filled with lots of outdoor play when possible and a variety of activities that we did as a class! We love cooking in our classroom and our children have loved assisting in doing so. One thing we've been focusing on this month has been learning the sign for help. The upcoming month we will be doing many fun and engaging winter activities. Just an extra reminder to make sure your children have proper winter attire, hats, gloves, and warm coats for outside. Soon enough we'll be asking you to bring winter boots and snow pants for your children as well! Look out for messages in the app regarding that. Have a warm and healthy December!

*Ms. Kam and Ms. Aliyah*

### *Older Toddlers*

It's hard to believe another month of fun and learning has gone by since our last newsletter! We continue to work on building independence with hand washing and drinking from an open cup. We also practice using utensils at mealtimes, and

As always, we're happy to answer any questions you may have about this upcoming month. We hope that everyone has a wonderful holiday season, and we look forward to spending this special time with your babies!

*Ms. Liz and Ms. Netzy*

### ***Infants***

The brisk weather has arrived which means it is time to check those cubbies and bring in winter gear. This past month our lesson plan themes were Fall and transportation. In our Fall lesson plan, we engaged in Fall-based activities like painting with leaves and Fall colors. We explored various Fall related things like spooky season pictures, number books, and even looked at celebratory photos of Dia De Los Muertos. In our transportation lesson plan, we explored different modes of transportation through photos and physical objects like our trucks. We encourage families to sit in during some of our story times to see how much our kiddos learn through stories, songs, and play. As always, stay happy and healthy.

*Ms. Judeen and Ms. Sam*

### ***Older Infants***

Now that we are in the thick of the Fall season, we decided to do a few fun Fall activities. First, we hung up mobiles made of leaves which made the room look like there were falling leaves everywhere. We

now with the colder weather, putting on coats, hats, and mittens. We go outside twice a day, anywhere from 30 to 60 minutes when the temperature is above 20, so please bring snowpants, boots, and a warm coat for your child. Our last lesson plan theme was "Gratitude". We did fun activities like painting rocks, dancing with maracas, conducting science experiments like color mixing and making raisins "dance". We read books about gratitude for our friends, family, and community. We are certainly grateful for all of our wonderful families here at Grandma's House!

*Ms. Pakou and Ms. Jackie*

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

Hello Families! We had such a great month in November. We celebrated a lot of our friends turning the Big 2!! We welcomed some new friends and had a lot of fun learning about matching numbers and colors. This month we will be celebrating the winter season with a PJ Day, so please be on the lookout for more information on that. We will talk about how things dissolve as we experiment by making hot cocoa. Please continue to bring winter coats, hats, and mittens so we can stay nice and warm outside.

*Ms. Justine and Ms. Becca*

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

painted using Fall colors like brown, orange, and yellow and we also did a sensory experiment where we filled Ziploc bags with applesauce and let the children explore them. Lastly, we had a shaker bottle for small motor that was filled with tiny pumpkins, and we tried to count the pumpkins. Next up, we learned about the pond. We got to splash in the water of our makeshift pond for a sensory activity and we also did a science experiment to see which items would sink or float when placed in water. We looked at hexagon shapes found on turtle shells, and we practiced putting objects in and out of our frog hamper. Just a reminder, since the weather is getting cooler to make sure your child has cool weather clothes in their cubbies in case we need to do an outfit change during the day.

*Ms. Christie and Ms. Dawn*

## **1's**

December is almost here and we are so happy to celebrate the holidays with all of you! I can't believe how quickly this year is flying by! I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your children and family. In November we did so much! We read books about all kinds of forest /wildlife animals, *A Little Squirrel* by Rosalee, *Owl Babies*, and many more. We went on nature walks to find the prettiest Fall leaves to look at and used a sense of touch to feel the texture. We did lots of painting animal prints and turkey hands. Children were working on their fine motor

This month the children explored and created with technology. We explored gears through the use of wind-up toys and gear boards. On the gear boards, the children were able to see how the gears touch each other to create movement. Then we used the wind-up toys to show how they could work. Next, we explored the concept of expanding and contracting as well as big and small with the popping tubes. The children learned how to stretch the tubes longer and squish them smaller again. Along with the popping tubes, the children explored magnets. They created structures, stuck them on the magnet wall and experimented with what they would stick to in the classroom. The last technology we explored was ramps. We rolled cars and balls down the slide. In addition to technology, the children explored colors. We sorted colors, sang songs about colors, and practiced naming colors. With the weather getting colder, please check your child's cubby for season appropriate clothing as well as winter outside clothing: boots, coat, hat, mittens, and snowpants. Please label everything with your child's name. Thank you!

*Ms. Diana and Ms. Kourtney*

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

Wow, can you believe that this is the last month of the year? In December we will be focusing on self-help skills such as dressing ourselves, so that when it snows, we will be able to put our snow gear on by

skills. The children have been very busy learning how to walk without support and wiggle, wiggle to our Fall song, Boom Chicka Boom Autumn. This month we will be learning about the different celebrations that happen around the world during wintertime. We will be busy with winter crafts. This month we have lots of fun winter projects, which will help the children with motor skills. We will also continue to work on language development through songs, stories, and conversations. We will focus on talking with the children all day. Talking to the children regularly helps them build vocabulary. December will bring snowmen, stars, new songs like: "Holidays Around the World", "Wintertime is Here", and new stories including Penguin Irvin and Friends First Snow by Nancy Viau. I hope everyone has a happy and healthy holiday season!

*Ms. Alex and Ms. Myeesha*

### ***Young Toddlers***

Last month, we truly enjoyed exploring the warmth of friendship and togetherness through our lesson plan. Our friends took time to learn each other's names and exchange hugs and high-fives along the way. We also worked on building our self-help skills and practicing patience, making every moment a learning experience. As we say goodbye to Fall and welcome the chill of winter, it's the perfect time to get cozy! Make sure your little ones are bundled up with their warm jackets, snug

ourselves (or with a little help). We will continue to work on following classroom instructions and routines. We will also keep working on being kind to our friends. Some of our activities will be working on snipping with scissors, lacing beads, and identifying big and small objects. We will continue to explore different types of art materials such as sponges, branches, and forks.

*Ms. Brittannie and Ms. Mia*

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

Hello families! Just a reminder to check your child's cubby for any art that may need to go home and that they have weather appropriate clothing. A heavier winter jacket, hat, and mittens to leave here is also a good idea! Please also remember to take your child's bedding home on Fridays to be washed and brought back on Mondays. This past month we have been really focusing on our motor skills, small/fine motor and eye/hand coordination. We have been doing a lot of lacing and threading activities, placing objects and a lot of pincer grasp. We have also been interested in more art and sensory activities so look for that in the next few weeks. Every day, we send out a picture of the "What We Did Today" board and update pictures underneath the clear floor mat. Be sure to check those out to see what your little one is learning.

*Ms. Alyssa and Ms. Jenn*

hats, and fuzzy mittens tucked away in their cubbies. With the days getting shorter, we can't wait to jump into an exciting array of indoor activities. Stay safe and warm!

*Ms. Theresa and Ms. Inna*

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

Can you believe we are already at the end of the year? What an eventful year we have had! Over this past month, we practiced our letter and number recognition, pre-writing and writing skills, and cutting skills, all while learning about pumpkins, turkeys, Thanksgiving, and being thankful. We also had a blast on our field trip to the zoo and looking at all the cool animals. As we move forward into December, we will continue working on 1:1 correspondence and patterning. We will also be learning about winter, winter animals, and winter holidays. At the end of the month, we will have a holiday pajama party, so keep an eye on our parent board for the sign-up sheet. As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask! Have a safe and warm December!

*Ms. Samantha and Ms. Abbie*

# Grandma's House Price Listing

## Effective January 6, 2025

Daily Rates		Under 2	2 Year Olds	3-4 Year Olds	5+
<b>Full Day</b>	Youngest/Single Child	88	79	71	62
	Older Child(ren)	75	67	60	53
<b>Half Day</b> (5 hours or less)	Youngest/Single Child	--	60	57	54
	Older Child(ren)	--	53	51	48

Full and Half day rates include lunch and snacks.

School Age Rates		Full-Day 5K through Fifth Grade	
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Full Time-Weekly	Before	After	Before & After
Youngest/Single Child	85	110	135
Older Child(ren)	75	95	120

Students attending full-time do not pay extra for single school-off days, with the exception of Winter and Spring breaks during which the Full Day Daily Rate is paid (see above).

Part Time-Daily	Before	After	Before & After
Youngest/Single Child	19	24	29
Older Child(ren)	17	21	26

Part time fees are based on a permanent or submitted schedule. School days off are charged at the Full Day Daily Rate (see above).

Please see Center Director for additional School Age Policies.

### Miscellaneous Fees

One Time Non-Refundable Family Registration Fee: <small>Families may only register at one Grandma's House Center</small>	\$150
Returned Check Fee: (Checks presented once to our bank)	\$20
Late Fee for every 15 minutes past 6:00 p.m.:	\$20 / child
No phone call for transportation needs or school age absence:	\$10
Holding Fee: <small>Grandma's House offers families the option of holding their child's spot at our centers for a short-term, temporary leave of absence by paying a holding fee. Parents must submit a Return Date with their holding fee. If children do not return to Grandma's House on the agreed-upon Return Date, parents have two options:</small>	\$50 / child
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pay tuition equivalent to 4 days of attendance for each child beginning on the Return Date for each week until they return to the center.</li> <li>2. Children are placed on our Inactive List. Parents may re-enroll their child(ren) at a future date based on availability at the center. Availability is not guaranteed.</li> </ol>	

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