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## Growing Highlights

DECEMBER 2024

*Happy Holidays*

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

Dear Parents,

Thank you to everyone who came to our Friendsgiving Family Night Fest last month! Hope you all had as much fun as I did seeing families connecting, playing, and getting messy!

Only a few more weeks of 2024; seems like it flew by. I know how busy the holiday season can be so if you plan on taking vacation days over the holiday breaks, please get those requests in before *December 16<sup>th</sup>* so you are within the 7-day notice window and you can receive tuition credit.

All those snowpants/hats/mittens/coats will be our best friends from now until springtime comes. Please make sure you bring **all** those items in AND label them. Our classrooms go outside twice a day every day and we only have a small supply of extras. At the end of each week, please take items home to wash and bring them back on Monday like you do for the bedding.

Stay warm and cozy!

Thanks,

*Cassie Makinen, Director*

[cassie@grandmashouse.org](mailto:cassie@grandmashouse.org)

*"The best gift you can give someone is your time, love and attention."* - Unknown

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



- 4 Zoë F.
- 4 Casey K.
- 5 Ms. Steph
- 9 Conor S.
- 10 Luca A.
- 11 Eleanor S.
- 13 Maren W.
- 15 Ms. Kayleigh
- 19 Charlie S.

21	Winnie G.
21	Sasha R.
30	Penelope E.
30	Julian F.
31	Burke G.

## CONGRATULATIONS

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

*Ms. Laura 14 Years*

*Ms. Ashley 4 Years*

*Ms. Kailie 2 Years*

*Ms. Elise 2 Years*

*Ms. Alaini 1 Year*



### *Infants*

Happy Holidays to Everyone! For the month of December, we are going to be working hard on tummy time and rolling playtime. This is something that can be fun at home, too. Go for tummy blanket rides, pull your little one around the house on a blanket. To add language, describe the rooms that you're exploring or play silly music. If you have pets, I have found that the best way to do this is with the dog/cat in another room or outside for a few minutes. You can also play peek-a-boo while on tummy time, using a towel or colorful blanket. Also, start on their back

### *3rd Toddlers*

Why did the scarecrow win an award? Because he was outstanding in his field! So are our little tater-tots as we finished November with our harvest and family lesson units. We have been so grateful for all our thyme spent learning about the season and growing foods with an un-beet-able mix of songs, stories, and activities. Lettuce not forget the bountiful excitement and adoration these sprouts have for celebrating their love for their families of all shapes and sizes! Even without the words to say it (although we have learned some new vocabulary), it is

and while they track a toy or face, you will help them roll to tummy time. Have fun building their core with these tummy time games.

*Ms. Virginia*

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

We have had the most wonderful month spending time with your littles! Ending the month of November with a Turkey lesson plan, we had the best time crafting with feathers and creating Turkey artwork. Our nursery rhymes lesson plan was a big hit as well, as the children love when we sing as a group. We also decided to rearrange the classroom to promote a fresh new environment and to provide new cognitive stimulation. In the upcoming month, we will be focusing on winter, snowmen, and winter holidays. We are so excited to head from one holiday season into the next and teaching the children about it along the way.

*Ms. Kayleigh and Ms. Brianna*

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

This past month we have been working on our pincer grasp using multiple tools around the classroom. We have been using Velcro images of art on the wall, pulling and putting back together our food items, playing with pop up toys, as well as beading on our activity cubes. This will all help us work on holding our utensils as we move closer to the toddler schedule. We

clear we are all thankful for our families and friends this holiday season. Not to mention how good our class has gotten with our concepts of taking turns and sharing as well as preparing for the cold weather by putting on their own hats and gloves with dress-up play. Keep up the good work exploring these skills at home. Sowing ideas and planting smiles as we roll into December.

*Ms. Elise and Ms. Kailie*

### ***Older Toddlers***

We have had lots of fun learning about all things Fall! In November, we wrapped up our lesson on “a day at the farm” and then all things Thanksgiving! The children made some really cute Fall art projects and were able to do some fun sensory activities. We are continuing to work on putting on and taking off warm clothing so please continue to work on this skill at home as the weather gets chillier. Don’t forget to check your child’s mailbox for anything that needs to be taken home. Pictures are always posted on the bulletin board for you to stay updated on all the fun things we do in the class as well. Hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Stay warm and have a great month!

*Ms. Kim and Ms. Alaini*

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

De.cem.ber: The month of joy, happiness and to finish what you started. How is it

also have been working on sharing and trading with friends as we play roll the ball to one another and use items that have multiples to have a group setting in play. Our friends are doing a great job with this and at home you can ask your child to bring you something and say thank you or play back and forth games, such as rolling the ball back and forth. The children have been amazing at showing correct affection towards one another as we work on hugging and gentle touches. As we are learning to use our words and gestures, we want to continue to ask for hugs as your child might put their arms out towards you. You can use the wording "gentle touches" as you imitate that action for them if a touch doesn't seem so kind. This month we talked about what we are grateful for, and we are so grateful for the loving and caring children we get to watch grow. We are grateful for you amazing parents and for all your help in assisting us with your child's learning

*Ms. Amy E. and Ms. Cherish*

### ***Toddlers***

We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and was able to spend some time with loved ones. November was filled with lots of fun sensory exploration, art making, and gross/fine motor building. To kick off December, we will be learning about Winter. We will focus on what winter is all about. We will also learn to put on gloves and hats. We will explore

December already? We hope everyone got nice and full on Thanksgiving. To end 2024, we will become bakers and explore the other holidays that are celebrated during this time of year. As always, we work on our self-help skills rather it be cleaning up after ourselves, tap tap, tapping our plates, or putting on our jackets. Sometimes it is not always the easiest to have your child help clean up, especially when in a hurry. Try making a game out of it (i.e. see who cleans the fastest). As the colder weather arrives, please make sure your child has proper items such as hats, mittens, waterproof mittens, boots, and snowpants. Please remember to label everything.

*Ms. Courtney and Ms. Esther*

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

*"There are three ways to ultimate success. The first way is to be kind. The second way is to be kind. The third way is to be kind." - Mr. Rogers*

The Gnome Schoolers have been working really hard on being kind to others and making "thumbs up" (safe) choices. We are very grateful for all the donations that you lovingly donated to America's Veterans as well as to our furry friends. We hope you had a great time at our first ever "Friendsgiving"! It was great seeing all the families get to spend time with one another. We will continue to take care of furry friends as we travel to colder climates and learn all about the animals that live there. We will be

snow, pretend and real, and read many books about winter. The other theme we will be exploring is Holly Jolly. During this theme, we will focus on things related to the holiday. We will talk about different family traditions during this time and what makes them unique/special. We love learning about the various backgrounds of our families, as it helps us expand our knowledge and get to know each individual in toddler land. We will also be having a cookie exchange on Friday, December 20th. More information will be sent through the MyKidzDay app, so be on the lookout. Hope this month brings you all lots of joy, love, and peace. Thank you for letting us be a part of your child's growth. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

*Ms. Mai Lee and Ms. Zoe*

### ***2nd Toddlers***

Hello from the Rolling Scones! The last few weeks have been filled with Fall fun! With units of spooks and frights and pumpkins, the little scones experienced many new activities during the end of this pumpkin spice season. Their favorite activity to do this month has been using new materials to create art. For example, toddlers created art by stamping with discarded coffee lids. With a wider and flatter surface compared to a paint brush, it provided new ways to practice fine motor skills. Using different materials to create art is both exciting for the kiddos

practicing and "perfecting" putting on all of our outerwear as the days get colder. Phrases like "flip your coat", and "thumbs in the thumb hole" will help remind your child how to get dressed. It will also help you when getting ready in the morning and at night. Please let us know if you have any questions.

*Ms. Amy R. and Ms. Stephanie*

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

Hello! Hello! We want to thank our Threenager parents for sending in all of their cool jobs. The students loved presenting their parents' jobs and showing them off. We've redone the classroom jobs to reflect on the importance of community helpers. They've learned about how all jobs are important and gained a sense of responsibility, completing different tasks inside and outside of the classroom. During our thankfulness unit, we discussed things we are grateful for in our lives. We have brought these feelings into the classroom every day as we asked the children what they were thankful for. Each of these answers became a link on our thankfulness chain that has been steadily stretching out around our classroom. As the weather gets colder, please remember to have all of your child's winter gear labeled with their names. This will help us keep mittens matched and coats in the correct cubbies! Happy Holidays!

*Ms. Abi and Ms. Emily S.*

and is eco-friendly! Another interest they have been expressing is asking for pepper on their food during mealtimes. While asking, "would you like some pepper on your [insert food]?", the toddlers will either sign or say "yes or no." Whether it is pepper, ranch seasoning, or other spices, they get so excited for "pepper" that it has allowed them to try new foods they might pass over. We have mainly been putting it on veggies or the main entree.

Happy Holidays!

*Ms. Hannah and Ms. Emily*

### *3-4's*

The preschool All Stars class this last month learned about Fall and Wisconsin weather changes. We have enjoyed the nice weather this Fall and are still harvesting raspberries and tomatoes in the garden! We all had so much fun dressing up and pretending to be different animals and creatures. We did science experiments like making a bubble solution out of dish soap, sugar, warm water and room temperature water.

We did a Health and Wellness unit where we talked about mindfulness, physical exercise, dental hygiene, healthy foods/unhealthy foods, and germs. It will be an ongoing theme throughout the year to sort out our emotions and breathing techniques to calm ourselves. To move our bodies indoors we do a lot of yoga and dancing. If you'd like to check out the yoga we do, it is called "Cosmic Kids Yoga" on YouTube. There is always a short story that goes along with the movements. We painted with tea bags to use as a watercolor activity and then had a tea party. We learned how tea is a nice way to relieve cold symptoms. We have used all our senses and used a sense of smell this week exploring essential oils and the healing properties they can have. The All Stars are continuing to learn the Alphabet and numbers with different recognition activities every day. This month we are looking forward to learning about arctic animals. Happy Holidays!

*Ms. Allie*

## 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

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>	

**Corporate Office**  
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