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Growing Highlights

JANUARY 2025



Hello Families!

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed some time off during the holidays; it's such a special time of year. I wanted to thank all the families that were able to help with the Giving Tree this year. It certainly put a smile on the faces of all the kiddos that received your gifts.

It's that time of year again when we are trekking in lots of slush. Just a reminder to families that are entering our baby rooms...please put on shoe covers so our little friends are not crawling around in the wetness and salt.

Please be on the lookout for your child's evaluation. In January, the teachers will be following up with you via email with your child's progress in the classroom. I look forward to seeing what this year brings and to watch all of the children learn and grow.

Lastly, we're kicking off the new year with a shoutout to our 2-year-old teachers, Ms. Amanda and Ms. Bree! These two teachers work wonderfully together and always bring a fun and inviting atmosphere to their classroom. If you were to visit their classroom during the day, you would always hear them laughing with the children and trying any trick up

their sleeve to get the children's energy out! They do an excellent job with transition activities to help make the classroom run more smoothly while still having lots of fun! Ms. Amanda and Ms. Bree always have a variety of activities out at the tables to keep the children engaged. From sensory play to bubbles or painting to fine motor activities, these two always have something to keep the children busy. This past month, Ms. Amanda and Ms. Bree took the children on a walk around the center on a "bear hunt" and they went caroling inside the center singing holiday songs to each classroom. They always have unique and exciting new ideas to play and learn with their children! Keep up the good work!

Thanks,
Jess Strick, Director

jess@grandmashouse.org

Year End Expense Statement Request

**Year End requests will be sent via email once they are available at the end of January.*



| | |
|----|------------|
| 3 | Rowan S. |
| 10 | Bridget R. |
| 11 | Sawyer F. |
| 14 | Ms. Aimee |
| 15 | Declan H. |
| 16 | Jack Y. |
| 17 | Elliot D. |
| 28 | Thomas C. |

CONGRATULATIONS

on celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Cassidy 9 Years

Ms. Madison 2 Years

Look What We Did!

Brown Bear

Our Brown Bears hope everyone is having a wonderful start to the new year! The babies are working on many new developmental milestones through our Arctic Animals and Holiday lesson plans. We focused on hand to mouth coordination by placing infants' hands on their bottles during feeding times. We also began to explore teethers and rattles for infants to reach for, hold, and grasp. During our Arctic Animals lesson, we focused on offering different kinds of books for the children to reach for and explore. At home, you and your family can enjoy different types of books such as touch and feel books, board books, soft cover, and wordless books. You will notice your child making different facial expressions while exploring these books. Help them by imitating these different expressions during different parts of the story. Act it out and be silly! These are the best ways to foster a lifelong love of books!

Infants, Ms. Cassidy and Mr. Jared

Very Hungry Caterpillars

Happy New Year! Colder weather is approaching. Please layer my floor friends with warm slippers and socks, long sleeves and warmer pants. We had lots of explorations playing in snow for the first time, yea! We hope you enjoyed the photos! Some of our friends have started crawling on their hands and

Jungle Book

Happy New Year! This past month has been filled with lots of fun, including the first snowfall of the season! We kicked off the month with our Pet unit. Everyone enjoyed seeing their pets posted on the wall and telling their friends the names of their animals. We then got into the holiday spirit with our Holiday 5 Senses unit. We did a lot of dancing to Christmas music; Jingle Bells was a big hit in our classroom! We even walked around the center with our Santa hats, reindeer antlers, and jingle bells caroling for all the other classes. We will continue working on getting ourselves dressed to go outside. We are excited for a lot more winter fun!

2's, Ms. Amanda and Ms. Bree

Little Superpigs

Welcome to the colder weather and even colder wind. This month, we have worked a lot on our self-help skills and patience/waiting our turn when we are getting ready to go outside. Everyone is doing well with flipping their own coats. We have

knees. We will continue to assist with building arm strength by placing our friends on their hands and knees, so they can practice rocking back and forth. We are now using spoons with our meals. The class has been exposed to repetitive counting 1-5 when clapping our hands, stacking blocks, and shaking jingle bells. Since our classroom had some winter blues, we did a whole lot of snuggling, cuddling, and hugging along with lots of close singing and rocking. So, this month we are focusing on staying healthy, continuing to give spoons with meals, walking with assistance, and singing a lot of fingerplay songs. Stay toasty warm!

Older Infants, Ms. Denise and Ms. Savannah

Wild Things

Happy New Year, Wild Things families! During the month of December, we brought the colors Silver and Gold into the classroom by exploring silver and gold ornaments and tinsel. We danced with jingle bells and worked on using our spoons at mealtimes to scoop our food. We also worked on putting items into a container, such as shapes into shape sorters. We brought in Christmas lights and flashlights to explore On vs. Off. We painted with holiday stampers and dressed up in holiday hats and headbands. To end our holiday fun, we put together a holiday trail mix. We are looking forward to a brand new year with your child.

Toddlers, Ms Lori and Ms. Jenny

Puddle Ducks

also started to work on taking our shoes on and off by ourselves. Another focus we worked on this month was a table activity where we matched the shape cutouts to the correct dinosaur. Our final focus again this month goes along with the turn-taking/patience by asking a friend for a toy when they are done playing with it. Just a few reminders...please make sure your child has a water bottle AND hat and mittens for outside; we go out at 0° and above.

2 1/2's, Ms. Jennie and Ms. Janell

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie

Happy New Year! Hope you all enjoyed the holidays! We enjoyed doing all sorts of holiday activities. During our Gingerbread unit, we enjoyed building gingerbread houses and having our hot cocoa party. We are still constantly singing our Hot Cocoa song. We also enjoyed building with toothpicks and gumdrops. During our Kindness unit, we enjoyed bead stringing snowflakes and practicing our cutting skills by making our own snowflakes out of paper. At home, you could practice building with toothpicks and marshmallows to create different shapes. You could also practice cutting skills by making

Discovery! Exploration! Experimentation! These words describe an average Puddle Duck day. The children are busy discovering who they are, what is this world all about, and how they can make things happen. They have been exploring what fits and doesn't as they play with the basket of loose parts, boxes, tubes, and big Legos. This requires focus, concentration, persistence, and fine motor coordination. They have been experimenting with noise – how can we make the loudest noise? The wooden blocks on the wooden shelves won that experiment! And every surface was explored with banging – shelves, windows, tile floor, carpeted floor, and plastic step stools. This experimentation is likely to continue for quite a while! Puddle Ducks also love to dance; especially when we read *Five Little Ducks* and any other book we sing. Hats off to a Happy New Year and we know toddlers love to take off their hats!

Toddlers, Ms. Cat and Ms. Olivia

Panda Bears

Happy New Year! We hope this new year finds you happy and well! We had a fun-filled December by trying gingerbread cookies, decorating potholders, and painting with cookie cutters. As the weather has gotten colder, we have been practicing taking off our shoes to put on our snow pants and boots. You can do this at home by encouraging your child to take their shoes off before putting their boots on. We also have been working on our matching skills with file folders. You can do this at home with a puzzle and ask your child to put the pieces back into the correct spot. We will continue to

your own snowflakes to hang around your house for the winter months. We look forward to what the new year brings us!

3's, Ms. Rina and Ms. Madison

The Crayons

We were so happy to play in the snow! We enjoyed going on field trips to Betty Brinn Children's Museum and explored the different playrooms which were a store front, a vet clinic, a bank, Harley Museum, and an automotive shop. We also enjoyed running around the Big Backyard and playing on the climber. Our class gift exchange was fun and we were excited to get a gift from our friend. We learned about Snow and Holidays for our lessons. One of our favorite activities was making ugly sweaters and decorating with lots of materials. Another activity we have been really into doing is puzzles. We are getting good at 24 pieces; next we will start working on 48 pieces. I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a great New Year!

4's, Ms. Brittnee

Pigeons - 4K

This class has been working on reading skills. They first learned that

encourage utensil use during mealtimes as well. We look forward to a fun filled January and seeing what the new year has in store for us!

Toddlers, Ms. Makenzie and Ms. Ashley S.

letters make a word and how words tell us stories. The 4K class practices pointing to words as they read and tracking from left to right. We have made a lot of class books where each student adds their own picture or idea to complete the story. It is so amazing how their face lights up when I read their page in the story. Don't forget, reading is not just adults reading to children but children to be a part of all the reading processes.

In the month of December, we read tons of stories. We started with the Gingerbread Man. This story is told with many variations. The class looked at 2 variations and we documented the similarities and differences. Then we read a lot of spinoffs like The Gingerbread Kid, The Gingerbread Pirates, and much more. These stories are so much fun because they usually add a rhyme that the children can read along with. Lastly, we made a class story where each child can say the rhyme when their picture appears in the book.

We also learned about Winter Holidays. We learned about how different places around the world celebrate Christmas and Hanukkah. This also feeds into their interest in different places on a map.

Enjoy reading WITH your child every day!

4K, Ms. Holly

Grandma's House Price Listing Effective January 6, 2025

| Daily Rates | | Under 2 | 2 Year Olds | 3-4 Year Olds | 5+ |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------|---------------|----|
| Full Day | Youngest/Single Child | 88 | 79 | 71 | 62 |
| | Older Child(ren) | 75 | 67 | 60 | 53 |
| Half Day (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 | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-----|--|
| | Before | After | Before & After | | |
| Full Time-Weekly | 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).

| | Before | After | Before & After | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------|----------------|----|--|
| Part Time-Daily | 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: | \$50 / child |

- 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:
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.
 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.

Corporate Office
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Website: www.grandmashouse.org | Email: info@grandmashouse.org



2025
Grandma's House

will be **CLOSED** the following holidays:

New Year's

Wednesday, January 1

Memorial Day

Monday, May 26

4th of July

Friday, July 4

Labor Day

Monday, September 1

Thanksgiving

Thursday & Friday,
November 27 & 28

Christmas

Wednesday & Thursday,
December 24 & 25

Grandma's House

will be **CLOSING EARLY**

the following days for
Staff Development &
Classroom Changeover:

Fridays,
June 6, 2025
August 22, 2025

Hours:
6:00 am - 3:00 pm