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Growing Highlights

JANUARY 2025



Dear Parents,

New Year, New Goals! Thank you to everyone who filled out the family surveys. You are all an intricate part of Grandmas House and your ideas/opinions help us shape the care for your little ones. Taking what you have shared, through the daily conversations and the survey, we can add/change things to help your family continue to feel even more connected to Grandma's House and the care of your family.

From the toddler classrooms to 4K, we have been working hard on the self-help skills of getting on snow pants, coat, hat, boots, and mittens! It would help our wonderful teachers if, at home, you can encourage your child to "flip" their coats on and/or laying the tag portion of their snow pants face up on floor to help get them on the correct way. Teamwork makes the dream work; we couldn't ask for better families to partner with for the care for their child(ren)!

This month we have informal conferences. You will receive a copy of your child's portfolio to look over and a goal sheet to sign. If you have any questions, please ask at pick up/drop off. Our staff wants to make sure you are in the loop about all the wonderful things your

little one is working so hard on!

It's never too late if you would like to join the GH Parent Group! We are having our first meeting this month. Please e-mail me at cassie@grandmashouse.org if you like to be a part of it for future meetings.

Thanks,

Cassie Makinen, Director

cassie@grandmashouse.org

"Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they can do when they stick together!" – Vista M. Kelly

Year End Expense Statement Request

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



2	Madelyn M.
4	Ms. Abi
5	Ms. Hannah
9	Noa C.
9	Ms. Anisa
10	Molly B.
10	Ms. Brianna
14	Maeve R.
16	Kate G.
20	Ms. Nikki
21	Arthur S.
22	Maximilian G.
24	Ellison P.
24	Amelia R.
28	Dorothy J.
30	Ms. Emily

CONGRATULATIONS

On celebrating anniversaries with Grandma's House

Ms. Taylor 3 Years



Infants

Hello New Year! This past year we worked really hard on developing our sense of self and tummy muscle strength. We did everything from art to blanket rides on our tummy to help build those muscles. This month we will be working on our sitting skills with and without support. At home you can do this by placing your child in-between your legs. You can play patty cake with them or shake a rattle at their eye level. Bonus: if you have a dog at home, have them do some moves (sit/catch a ball) in front of your baby or have an older sibling dance and be silly while your baby practices sitting up. Have fun!

Ms. Virginia

2nd Infants

Happy New Year! Let's ring in the new year with a bang! We say goodbye to our big friends but welcome some new ones to the happiest classroom on earth! Last

Older Toddlers

We hope you had a wonderful holiday! We started talking about winter weather, just in time for the snow to fall. We have been working on colors and shapes and the children have been doing great! We use simple puzzles, stacking blocks, and shape sorters at school. The children also enjoyed the fun and sparkly projects (sorry about all the glitter). We will continue working on these skills as well as working on taking on and off our outdoor winter clothes, hand washing, and using gentle touches. Thank you for all your work and help in encouraging these things at home.

Ms. Kim and Ms. Alaini

2's

We are welcoming in the New Year, and we hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. To start the new year off, we are having a fun week to ease back into the school days. We do table choices each

month we had so much fun celebrating the holidays, we stamped with cookie cutters (they are not just for baking!) and we looked at pictures of how different cultures celebrate the holidays. This month we are learning about the Chinese New Year and working on building self-concepts by looking at pictures in our photo cubes as well as rolling a ball with a small group of friends. You can practice your baby's eye/hand coordination by playing the rolling ball game with them at home, too! Best wishes and warmest regards.

Ms. Kayleigh and Ms. Brianna

3rd Infants

This past month we worked hard on getting the children to work on their walking and now we have a classroom full of walkers! Not only have we been working on walking, but we have also been working on problem solving when it comes to getting out of difficult situations. We like to ask the children if they are "stuck" and need "help" to foster communication skills. Consistent cheering from friends and teachers and independently figuring out how to maneuver out of said sticky situations has been helping our friends independently roam the classroom with great confidence! We are also focusing on hand/finger strength as well by utilizing Velcro around the classroom and working on placing items on the wall and learning how to pull them off. The children have been doing wonders and we can really see

day which happens during free play; we provide matching games, practicing pincer grip and putting into a small container, art projects, and sensory play. Some activities that can be recreated at home are; sensory play could be dry rice with cups/spoons in a cake pan, and for the pincer grip, you can take any object that would fit into the top of an empty juice/milk container. The possibilities are endless!

If you are new to our room, please read the welcome letter. If you have questions or concerns, we are here to answer them. Please make sure your child has warm clothes and all their outside winter gear! Please label everything!

Ms. Courtney and Ms. Esther

2.5's

It's a brand new year!! We have new friends, and we have said goodbye to some other friends! However, the Gnome Schoolers are ready for all new adventures! We had a fabulous time making sweet treats for the end of the year. The gingerbread people and nutcrackers that your families decorated were awesome. We are now off to Fairytale Land! The class will be talking about a lot of safety rules that they and their fairytale friends need to follow. Respecting others' personal space is a big rule we are working on in this room. We are learning that we need to ask permission to give hugs or touch hair, and that it is okay to say, "no thank you". We are also learning to say, "sorry"

their hand movements grow with simple things like stacking and eating since we have been working with Velcro. With winter rolling in, we appreciate everyone being cooperative when it comes to illnesses being spread and doing their part in helping to keep the classroom germ free. It is amazing to see such wonderful parents doing their part! If you haven't already, please check cubbies and make sure your child has clothing suitable for the chilly weather.

Ms. Amy E. and Ms. Cherish

Toddlers

Happy New Year Families! We hope you had a wonderful time celebrating the Holidays. First, thank you for participating in our Christmas cookie exchange. It was so much fun to try all the yummy cookies and we hope you all loved them, too. In addition to the cookies, we worked on our fine motor skills by ripping up wrapping paper, using utensils during mealtimes, and smashing up candy canes with hammers. Our toddlers are always working hard even when we are playing. This month's themes are New Year's and Music. We will celebrate the New Year with our toddlers by doing fun art projects and dressing up in festive attire. For music week, we will listen to different music types, try out many dances, and play various instruments. Our toddlers love listening to all types of music, but their all-time favorites are shake your sillies out, freeze dance and of course, baby shark.

or "excuse me" if we bump into each other. Reminding your little gnomie of these simple rules will help reinforce these common courtesies. The Gnome Schoolers are doing really great with their dressing skills as well as their utensil usage. Keep up the great work at home! If you have any questions, please feel free to let us know via the app or in person!

Ms. Amy R. and Ms. Stephanie

3's

WOW! Did time fly! Happy New year to all of our amazing families! This past December, the 3's worked on their alphabet and letter recognition. Our Snow Animal unit was a blast... Speaking of snow; boy, did the 3's have fun making different types of "snow". We used cotton balls, shaving cream, and their "fan favorite" expanding snow powder. We even had a paper snowball fight! Any recycled paper at your house can be used for this activity at home, it was *snow* much fun.

We also learned about different types of holidays and had the opportunity to explore familiar traditions and even partake in some new and unique ones. There's just so much to talk about and so many exciting things to celebrate from 2024! But the three's welcome 2025 with open arms and are ready to learn and explore!

Ms. Abi and Ms. Emily S.

Anything they can groove to is always a hit. When your child is a little rambunctious, just blast those three songs and it will surely help them to get all their wiggles out.

We hope this new year brings you nothing but an abundance of whatever you may need and want. We are truly grateful for all of you and being able to teach your little ones every day. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns. Have a warm month.

Ms. Mai Lee and Ms. Zoe

2nd Toddlers

Happy New Year from the Rolling Scones! The toddlers have been experiencing a holly jolly winter season so far. As our toddlers grow to become almost two, they have been interested in gaining more independence. One of the ways we have encouraged more independence this past month is introducing the use of open cups during snack times. We start with water poured into the cup about a half inch or so. This allows them to learn how to hold the cup and tip it back without a lot of water splashing into their faces. The little scones have been making amazing progress with this! Another focus was implementing new learning experiences through flannel time. Flannel time is their favorite activity to do! Lately, we have been singing songs with actions to help them learn their peers' names as well as identifying colors and encouraging the use

3-4's

Happy New Year! We started out December learning about arctic animals. We now know about polar bears, narwhals, arctic foxes, beluga whales, orca 'killer' whales, and arctic seals. We talked about penguins in the South Pole as well. This unit we practiced cutting with scissors. We have cut on straight lines, curved lines, zig zags and now we are cutting out details, too! Polar bears were cut out and glued, cotton balls were ripped and torn and pasted on to be like fur. We painted with colors like the northern lights and we cut out the arctic sky behind the arctic animals in detail. We also made snowflake slime from scratch! We had lots of fun practicing our holiday songs, singing and rehearsing for our holiday concert! We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! We finished the month with a gingerbread unit. Ask me about the recipe for the slime to make at home. It can be messy but it's a fun science experiment.

Ms. Allie

of words. Their favorites are Crazy Color Creatures, A Peanut Stopped on the Railroad Track, and Wheels on the Bus. If you have any questions about open cups, flannels, or anything else, feel free to ask in person or via the app.

Ms. Hannah and Ms. Emily

3rd Toddlers

If January started a parade, would February March? No, but April May! As we drift further into winter, it has been *un-brr-lievably* cold, but it has been “snow” difference to our chill tots! We started off December with *sense-sational* experiments and activities as we learned about our 5 senses. We played with a variety of different instruments, tried out new tastes with our final Friday snack sampler and it was a sight to behold! Then it was a flurry of excitement seeking out the fun of our cold season with our winter unit, familiarizing ourselves with concepts of temperature and weather changes, seasonal images and activities, some new vocabulary, and tactile exploration. Our tots are getting so good with learning how to dress themselves for the cold with hats, mittens, and helping with jackets, so keep the fun going with home practice. They will continue to learn concepts of sharing, taking turns, and waiting even as they are *ice-solated* from the frosty outdoor weather. Hopefully even as the temperatures cool, our hearts will stay warm and we can unwrap our growing

potential! Happy New Year!

Ms. Elise and Ms. Kailie

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

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: Families may only register at one Grandma's House Center	\$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
3150 N. Brookfield Road | Brookfield, WI 53045 | O: (262) 790-9262 | F: (262) 790-9269
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