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Growing Highlights

MAY 2026

Our Staff is...

WICKED OZ-SOME

"There's No Place Like Grandma's House!"
Celebrating Staff Appreciation Week
May 4th-8th

<p><u>Monday</u> Breakfast Buffet</p>	<p><u>Tuesday</u> Goodie Bag Bar</p>	<p><u>Wednesday</u> Lunch from Just Smokin' ? BBQ</p>
<p><u>Thursday</u> Trail Mix Bar</p>	<p><u>Friday</u> Our teachers are "Wicked Oz-Some" thank you card station</p>	

Thank you for all that you do!

The graphic is a staff appreciation week announcement for "Wicked Oz-Some". It features a dark background with a pink and black color scheme. The title "WICKED OZ-SOME" is written in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, there are illustrations of a pink witch, a black witch, a castle, and a cauldron. The text "Our Staff is..." is at the top, and "There's No Place Like Grandma's House!" is in quotes. The dates "May 4th-8th" are also included. The activities for each day are listed in a table format, with each day's activity in a separate box. The Friday activity is a thank you card station. The graphic ends with "Thank you for all that you do!"

Hello Families!

May is a special month because we get to celebrate **Staff Appreciation Week** ifrom **May 4th - May 8th**. This year we will be doing something special each day for our amazing staff!! A SignUp Genius link for these events was sent out in a previous e-mail. See me if you have any questions.

Our **3rd Annual Spring Fling** is coming up on **Friday, May 29th**. We are excited to invite all our families to this event. This will be a great time to mingle with other families that attend the center. This year we will have a giant bounce house and our new playground will be ready for everyone to enjoy! Dinner will be provided. Please be on the lookout for your invite!

Lastly, we are thrilled to partner with *Spoiled Rotten Photography*. They will be taking portraits of the children this year. This company likes to spread out picture day over a 3-day period. Please go to the link provided and sign up for a day that works best for your family.

Portrait Sessions: Tuesday, May 26th – Thursday, May 28th ~ 7:00 am – 11:00 am

Sign up before: Tuesday, May 19th at [Grandma's House Spring Mini Sessions](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Thanks,

Jess Strick, Director

jess@grandmashouse.org

Construction on Capitol Drive

April – late Fall 2026

WisDOT is scheduled to resurface WIS 190 (Capitol Drive) from just west of Brookfield Road to I-41 in Waukesha and Milwaukee counties.



4K FOOD DRIVE

*Please bring in donations by Wednesday, 5/27,
4K children will deliver to Life Church Food Bank on Thursday, 5/28.*



- 3 Brooks M.
- 8 Liam L.
- 8 Dean K.
- 9 Graham H.
- 10 Izzy G.
- 10 Piper G.
- 10 Ms. Cassidy
- 13 Olivia B.
- 14 Parker M.
- 14 Ms. Rina
- 16 Olivia K.
- 16 Emma A.
- 20 Harlow N.
- 20 Mason F.
- 20 Franklin L.
- 21 Talaya B.

24 Hudson S.
29 Isla H.
29 Bennett C.
31 Ms. Ashley Z.



*On celebrating
anniversaries with
Grandma's House*

*Ms. Jess 27 Years
Ms. Bree 4 Years*





Babyland

The weather is warming up – hooray! This means more stroller rides for Babyland. We love to get outside and feel the fresh air, look at the trees, and watch as wildlife passes by. We can't wait to watch the flowers and babies grow this month. We will be working on lots of age-appropriate developmental skills. Tummy time is at the top of our list as it helps develop head and neck control to aid in rolling and core strength. We are also working on sitting with and without support – your lap or a boppy pillow can be placed behind the child to provide such support. Our oldest babies are learning to get up on their hands and knees to crawl all over the classroom and pull up on everything from toy shelves and rocking chairs to teachers and each other. Our next lessons, Grass and Frogs, will introduce the babies to Springtime activities. As always, be sure your child has weather appropriate outerwear and extra clothes for exploring.

Infants, Mr. Jared and Ms. Ashley Z.

Hungry Hippos

Jellybean Junction

Happy May! In the month of April, we enjoyed spending a lot of time outside. We also enjoyed the many different activities we participated in during The Week of the Young Child. We specifically loved dumping in and mixing the ingredients for our Banana Chocolate Chip Muffins. This month we look forward to spending more time outside and soaking up the sun. In May we will also work on matching 2 similar objects. You can do this at home by having your child match 2 of their socks or shoes.

Toddlers, Ms. Makenzie and Ms. Ashley S.

The Cakes

We had a great and very rainy April! Our class really enjoyed going for walks and discovering new sights and sounds in nature. The children had fun during our Eggs, Chicks & Bunnies lesson. We dyed eggs with shaving cream, dressed up in Spring accessories, and played with stick puppets. We also celebrated the Week of the Young Child by having special dress-up

Finally, the warmer weather and more outside time, oh what fun!! Previously we worked on using our spoons with meals. Some of our friends needed to handle two spoons to indulge. We have used smaller bags to place plastic eggs into them. Our class really gave smiles and squawks with the sensory table using water with bubbles and edible sand (blended cheerios and shredded wheat). We even handled fresh flowers, smelling and painting with them. We will continue simple sign language with the class daily. Also, we will allow our friends to explore by using spoons, plates, and bowls with meals which helps build independence. We will be bringing more walking toys into the classroom to assist us with independent walking. We will proceed with our friends doing art with utensils (brushes, balls, scrunchies, etc.). Please remember to label all your child's items! Jenny and I are not always present during morning drop off to know what items belong to each child.

Older Infants, Ms. Denise and Ms. Jenny

Wild Things

The warmer weather has finally arrived and we have all been enjoying more time outside! Over the past month, we have stayed busy with our Bunnies and Eggs unit as well as our Transportation unit. During our Bunnies and Eggs unit, the children had fun placing eggs in cartons while we practiced counting and naming colors. They especially loved

days and doing class projects like making pizzas and decorating cards for community helpers. We are looking forward to our next themes, Bugs and Pond Life.

2's, Ms. Amanda and Ms. Bree

Circus Pals

With the warmer weather hopefully here to stay, we would like to remind you to take home all winter gear and please bring in rain boots, thin mittens, and a hat for the cooler mornings. This past month, we have worked on making sure that we are washing our hands properly before and after eating, being outside, and doing sensory activities. Our next focus has been self-help skills with little help from teachers. This includes putting on rain boots, shoes, coats, and asking for help politely. Other self-help skills are getting our own chairs and water bottles for mealtimes, and telling teachers when their water bottles are empty and need more water. Our fine motor focus was working on our scissor skills and holding the scissors and paper properly.

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

Under the Sea

April was a very exciting month! We really enjoyed Week of the Young Child and all the activities that were planned. During the month of April, we focused on Bunnies/Eggs and Our Healthy Body. During Bunnies/Eggs, we focused

wearing bunny ears. Our Transportation unit coincided with the Week of the Young Child, and we had so much fun celebrating with themed dress up days. One highlight was Tasty Tuesday when the children enjoyed making a snack together. We also spent time strengthening our fine motor skills through scooping and pouring activities in the sensory bin, along with creative sticker art. Looking ahead, we are excited to begin our units on Zoo Animals and Rainbows & Raindrops. The children will work on animal sounds, paint with bubble wrap and work on using our gross motor skills outside. As a class, we are also working on identifying body parts by singing *Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes* and continuing to practice using utensils during mealtimes. With warmer weather here, please be sure your child's cubby is stocked with weather appropriate clothing. Thank you!

Toddlers, Ms Lori and Ms. Michelle

Puddle Ducks

We are embracing the warmer weather! We have already eaten lunch outside and napped outside! The children helped get everything outside and bring it back in. They even got to choose their nap spots!

This year while we were outside, the children paid special attention to the sparrows who like to build their nests in our awning. They dance around like they are flying and do their version of chirping

on scissor skills and shapes. At home you can practice shapes by doing a shape hunt around the house to see what shapes you can find. During Our Healthy Body unit, we focused on patterns, following routines, and washing hands. At home you can practice making patterns with animals (bear, cat, bear, etc.) or with colors (red, blue, red, etc.). We look forward to what next month will bring us!

3's, Ms. Rina and Ms. Madison

The Travelers

Whoa! What a crazy month we had! The children did great navigating the different weather that Mother Nature threw at us. When we were able, we spent as much time outside as possible and we even took activities outside! The Week of the Young Child was a blast as always! The egg hunt was a huge success also! Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to chat with us regarding your child's development during conferences. We know it looked different with all the crazy weather so we appreciate your flexibility! We have spent a lot of time working on scissor skills this month along with our letter recognition! Please make sure to check your child's cubby for all the clothing needed! We are looking forward to an amazing May!

4's, Ms. Brittnee and Ms. Nikki

Pigeons - 4K

(aka screaming). They want to “pat” them, too, but those sparrows are too quick! The sandbox is already a favorite place to play outside. The children have put themselves in charge of opening it up – they work together to get the cover off. We are the Puddle Ducks! Capable, curious, and full of energy! Have a marvelous May!

Toddlers, Ms. Cat and Ms. Olivia

Wow—where did the time go?! We can hardly believe we only have a little over one month of 4K left before our kiddos head off to “big kid school” after summer. Time is flying and we are soaking up every moment together! This past month, we’ve been busy learning all about Springtime changes. We explored how the weather starts to shift, watched plants waking up and growing outside, and learned what causes thunder and lightning.

Understanding storms has helped some of our friends feel a little braver when the sky gets loud! With warmer days upon us, we’ve loved spending more time outdoors. Our favorite place to play is definitely the “woods”! There, we become explorers—finding bugs, making the best mud pies, climbing trees, and building amazing creations with sticks. We also kicked off something very special in April—our 4K friends started a Food Drive to support a Milwaukee food bank. The children have been learning about helping others and giving back to our community. Later this month, we’ll be delivering all the food we’ve collected, and we are so proud of their kind hearts and big efforts! We’re so proud of how much the children are learning and growing as we head into the final stretch of 4K. More fun, learning, and adventures to come!

4K, Ms. Holly

2026
Grandma's House

will be **CLOSED** the following holidays:

New Year's

Thursday, January 1

Memorial Day

Monday, May 25

4th of July

Friday, July 3

Labor Day

Monday, September 7

Thanksgiving

Thursday & Friday,
November 26 & 27

Christmas

Thursday & Friday,
December 24 & 25

Grandma's House

will be **CLOSING EARLY**

the following days for
**Staff Development &
Classroom Changeover:**

Fridays,
June 12, 2026
August 28, 2026

Hours:

6:00 am - 3:00 pm