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Growing Highlights

JUNE 2026



Dear Families,

I hope you are all doing well. I'm writing to share an important update with you.

I will be stepping down from my role as Director, with my final day being June 12.

While this decision wasn't made lightly, I feel confident that it is the right next step at this time. I will not be leaving Grandma's House! I will be helping out at another location this Summer.

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you. It has truly been a joy getting to know your children and watching them learn, grow, and shine in their own unique ways. Being part of your families' daily lives and early childhood experiences has been incredibly meaningful to me.

Please know that our Center remains in wonderful hands. Our dedicated team will continue to provide the nurturing, safe, and engaging environment that you trust and that your children deserve. Ms. Kari will be taking over at the start of our Summer Program!

Over the coming weeks, I am committed to ensuring a smooth and thoughtful transition. My priority is to support the children, families, and staff so that everything continues seamlessly.

Thank you for your trust, kindness, and partnership. It has been an honor to serve this community, and I will always look back on my time here with great appreciation.

Warmly,
Cassie
Director
Grandmas House

Dear Parents,

Hip-hip-hooray for summer - field trips will be zooming, water will be flowing, and the sun will be shining!

A few reminders:

*We close at 3:00pm on Friday June 12th so we can get all the classrooms ready to go for our Summer Program.

*Grandma's House provides sunscreen for our friends 6 months and older. You are welcome to bring your own as long as it's lotion (not aerosol spray). Please update your child's health form with the current brand of sunscreen you want your child to have.

*Labeled swimsuits and towels should be here each week and taken home on Fridays (like naptime bedding) and waterproof closed-toe shoes (crocs, water shoes). Our little friends do waterplay outside so some swim diapers in their cubby is a good idea!

*We are a nut free center so any breakfasts/snacks should be nut free and not processed in a facility that contains nuts.

*Closed-toe shoes are the appropriate footwear all year round, as cute as sandals/flip flops can be the toes need to be covered.

*Grown ups should be opening/closing doors and gates so we can keep everyone safe!

Cassie Makinen, Director

cassie@grandmashouse.org

"Cause a little bit of summer is what the whole year is about." John Mayer



- 1 Micah D.
- 1 Alana I.
- 3 Kalissa M.
- 6 Eila K.
- 7 Ms. Virginia
- 10 Nora R.
- 11 Ellie E.
- 14 Leah G.
- 15 Lily S.
- 19 Ryan C.
- 22 Grayson L.
- 23 Kelsey D.
- 24 Thalia M.
- 25 Cooper K.
- 29 Lucy E.
- 29 Archer R.
- 30 Ms. Sherri



*On celebrating
anniversaries with
Grandma's House*

Ms. Amy E. 13 Years

Ms. Emily S. 2 Years



Infants

We had a wonderful month in May filled with learning, exploration, and sensory fun! Our themes for May were Cinco de Mayo and Flowers. During our Cinco de Mayo activities, the babies explored red and green paint while creating art inspired by the Mexican flag. For our Flower

Older Toddlers

This month we enjoyed the May flowers and made sure to get lots of time outside. In the classroom, we learned about the Jungle, and Rocks, Dirt and Mud throughout May. Our friends really enjoyed playing with jungle animal toys and dressing up. A trip to the Zoo would

theme, the babies painted with watercolors using artificial flowers, allowing them to experience different textures and creative exploration. The babies also created special Mother's Day gifts using their footprints, which made such sweet keepsakes for our families. Throughout the month, we focused on touching and exploring different textures, toy exploration, and strengthening our muscles during tummy time by pushing up on forearms. It has been exciting watching the babies become more curious and engaged with their environment each day! As we move into June, we are excited to begin our Summer Program starting June 15th! Our June themes will be Fruits & Veggies, and Ocean Animals. Through songs, sensory play, tummy time activities, books, and art experiences, the babies will continue learning through hands-on exploration.

Our developmental goals for June include:

**Sitting with support*

**Strengthening grasping skills*

**Improving head and neck control through tummy time*

Friendly Reminder:

Please take home any Spring or Fall clothing that may still be in your child's cubby and replace it with weather-appropriate Summer clothing.

Ms. Ana and Ms. Vee

2nd Infants

*"June brings the tulips, lilies, roses.
Fills the children's hands with posies."*

be a perfect way to expand on what we did at school to see many of the animals we talked about in person. When we did our Rock, Dirt and Mud theme, we focused on how to play with those natural materials safely with supervision and emphasized that it's okay to get dirty because we can wash. Many children are naturally interested in rocks and dirt so we would recommend going on a rock hunt next time you go to the park. We look forward to learning about Camping and The Farm.

Looking ahead to June, we will begin the water play season, so look forward to messages about what gear to bring. It's also sunscreen season so if you have specific sunscreen from home you would like us to use for your child, please bring it in if you haven't already.

Ms. Bekah and Ms. Anna

Almost 2's

Throughout May we had lots of fun learning about Camping and Dinosaurs. During these lessons, we have been focusing on our hand-eye coordination. Some activities we do to practice this skill are: stickers, puzzles, putting objects into containers, and holding different art tools. We have also been working on our communication skills. This will look like saying words "more please", "help please", and our colors and names. Parents can help encourage this milestone with just engaging in simple conversations,

~Sara Coleridge

Happy June Families! This past month we got hands-on with our Music theme.

Playing various instruments like drums, maracas, bells, and keyboards. Exploring rhythm, beat, volume, cause, and effect through hands-on exploration. Then we explored Underwater themes through photography, books, music, and real seashells; showcasing the fascinating diversity within our oceans.

Here are a few portfolio goals we have been practicing!

-Eating solid foods

-Drinking water out of a sippy cup

-Cruising/Crawling

-Fine motor: grasping, pincer grasp

-Simple gestures/vocalizations

Ms. Elise and Ms. Cali

Older Infants

Hello there from baby room number three! We are excited to welcome new friends to our class this coming month. Our friends are busy playing and learning how to:

~Pull up onto objects/ furniture to stand,

~“Cruising” (walking while holding onto a sturdy object),

~Eating and exploring solid foods

~Flipping pages of a book and developing a strong pincer grasp

Our previous themes have been Farm Animals and Spring Flowers. We've read many books about rain and flowers, and books all about life on a farm. Our friends have explored painting with real flowers

reinforcing “more/help please”, and transitioning from dependence to independence with hand washing and dressing or undressing.

Here comes the sun! As the weather continues to get warmer, please make sure your child has proper summer gear: hat, sunscreen, closed-toe water shoes, extra clothes, etc. We also strongly recommend labeling all items your child has so they don't get misplaced. We will send out a message in the near future when it is time to start bringing in swim/water gear.

Ms. Courtney, Ms. Alaini, and Ms. Steph

2's

It is crazy that we are halfway through 2026! Summer is finally here and the Time Travelers are going to have so much fun going on field trips to parks and splash pads. Please make sure your child has a two-piece swimsuit, swim diapers, and closed-toe water shoes; all labeled with their names. We had fun following simple directions like what ingredient comes next and when we bake. Looking forward to a fun filled summer!

Ms. Esther and Ms. Virginia

2.5's

PLAY BALL! These are the Groundbreakers' favorite words! We all had a great time learning about the Brewers, Racing Sausages, and the game of baseball! We talked about how

and exploring the sensory aspect of finger painting.

Welcome to our new friends and good luck to those moving on to room 4!

Ms. Emi, Ms. Kailie, and Ms. Allie

Young Toddlers

We had such a fun and exciting month in our toddler classroom! Our little learners explored many creative themes and activities while learning through play, music, art, and sensory experiences. The children enjoyed learning about Fairytales through story time, dramatic play, and themed crafts. We explored classic stories and encouraged imagination by pretending to be princes, princesses, animals, and storybook characters. The toddlers especially loved listening to stories and participating in interactive activities.

During our Jungle theme, the children learned about jungle animals and their habitats. We practiced animal sounds and movements, explored sensory activities, and created fun jungle artwork. The toddlers had a great time dancing, singing, and pretending to be their favorite jungle animals.

To finish the month, we explored the Rainforest and beautiful flowers. The children learned about nature, plants, and colorful flowers through hands-on activities and art projects. We enjoyed sensory play, flower crafts, and outdoor exploration while discussing how plants grow and the importance of nature.

ANYBODY is allowed to play baseball after reading about Lizzie Murphy and Jackie Robinson. The children were very good about "working concessions" in our dramatic play area.

It has been a slow start to our garden, but we are finally seeing sprouts. Hopefully, we will have plenty of fresh fruits, veggies, and herbs to snack on all summer long! We have been working on watering the garden and not picking the sprouts out before they can fully grow. Gardening is always a wonderful way to show life cycles, understand where food comes from, and take responsibility.

Thank you for all your kind words and all the delicious treats during Teacher Appreciation Week.

We are looking forward to summer and some fun field trips.

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

Ms. Amy R. and Ms. Kim

3's

What an exciting month we have had in our three-year-old classroom! One of the highlights of May was our wonderful field trip to the farm. The Three's had such a memorable experience exploring the farm, riding ponies, and meeting many different farm animals. A favorite for many of the children, and even Ms. Lizzie, was the amazing Texas longhorn! The children loved learning about the animals up close and practicing being gentle and feeding them a treat or two! We would also like to

For Mother's Day, the toddlers worked very hard on special gift bags to give to their moms and loved ones. They enjoyed decorating and creating heartfelt surprises with lots of love. We hope all of our wonderful moms had a beautiful Mother's Day!

Thank you for your continued support and for allowing us to be part of your child's learning journey. We look forward to another month full of learning, laughter, and fun adventures!

Ms. Mai Lee and Ms. Miracle

Toddlers

Hello Families! here comes the sun! With warmer weather around the corner, we think it's finally safe to say that all winter gear can be taken home if you haven't already done so. We just ask that you please leave a light jacket. Also, please consider changing out cubby clothes to reflect current size and season.

Summertime brings a lot of water play so feel free to bring swim diapers, swimwear, summer hats, etc.

Last month was filled with lots of art as we created many projects for our bulletin board in the entryway and for Mother's Day. We explored with many different items, textures, and techniques, from painting with Legos, to finger painting, coffee filter art, and even painting with fly swatters! One of our favorite activities from May was making our own dirt cups! Our toddlers helped crush the cookies, measure, mix the pudding, and of course

give a huge thank you to our incredible chaperones who helped make the trip safe, fun, and successful. Your support and enthusiasm made the day extra special for the children, and we truly appreciate you! As we move into June, we are so excited to begin our Summer Program!

Throughout the summer, the children will explore fun and engaging themes, including Water, The Ocean, Camping, America, and many more exciting activities. We are looking forward to a summer filled with hands-on learning, creativity, and outdoor adventures. Thank you for all of your continued support. We cannot wait to make more wonderful memories together this summer!

Ms. Lizzie and Ms. Abi

3-4's

We are swinging into summer with an exciting Zoo Adventure theme. Throughout the next few weeks, the children will explore amazing zoo animals, learn about habitats, and discover fun animal facts through stories, songs, sensory play, art projects, and dramatic play activities. From roaring lions to silly monkeys, we'll be using our imaginations while practicing important preschool skills like sharing, listening, counting, letter recognition, and teamwork.

As the weather warms up, we'll also be celebrating all things summer! Our classroom days will include sunshine-inspired activities, water and beach-

the best part, tasted them!

Lastly, we are so grateful to all our families that made contributions during Teacher Appreciation week! Thank you!

"Our job as teachers is not to prepare kids for something; our job is to help kids learn to prepare themselves for anything." A.J. Juliani

Ms. Karen and Mr. Jose

themed centers, outdoor games, and colorful summer art. We love combining learning with play, and this theme gives children many opportunities to build creativity, confidence, and friendships while having fun.

We are excited for a season full of learning, laughter, and wild summer adventures together!

Ms. Kari and Ms. Emily



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