



Growing Highlights

December 2018

Dear Parents,

December is when winter officially begins. Just a reminder that children go outside twice daily depending on the weather. Children under two years of age go out as long as the wind chill is above 20 degrees and the older children as long as the wind chill is above 0 degrees. Please remember to bundle up your children in hats, gloves, snow pants, and boots. Make sure to label everything with your child's name too!

We have the "Giving Tree" in which we invite you take a tag to help a child in need to receive a special gift. If you choose to take a tag, all you have to do is purchase the gift, and bring it back (**unwrapped**) with the tag on it. Thank you in advance for helping several families this holiday season!

With the holidays coming up please note that we are closed December 24th and 25th as well as the 31st and January 1st. If you are planning to take vacation time during those weeks, please submit a Vacation Notice sooner rather than later. You will receive vacation credit in accordance with our Vacation Policy. This also allows for our staff to enjoy extra time off!

Also, please note new tuition rates starting at the beginning of the year. If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask.

Jess Donohue, Director

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Price Listing 2019

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, 12/21 ~ Holiday Pajama Day

Grandma's House CLOSED:

Monday & Tuesday, 12/24 - 12/25

Monday & Tuesday, 12/31 - 1/1/19

NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Lil Cheeseheads

It's that time of year we all get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the holidays. But there are still lots of things we can do to promote development. We are working on rolling over by offering toys to the side to encourage rolling. Also, we are talking and singing to the children to encourage responding

Woodland Creatures

Happy Holidays! With colder weather on its way, we would like to remind you to bring hats and mittens. A helpful tip for what to do if every child has the same color snowpants...add a colorful button or stitch to the snowpants and let the teacher know. Please label the tags, also! Some of our key focuses this month have been

positively. Tummy time is equally important as it helps develop head/neck control as well as promoting rolling and crawling for our older children. While on their tummy, we offer toys just out of reach to encourage reaching. With the holidays right around the corner, here are a few sensory ideas to try at home:

**Baking? Offer different textured ingredients to touch and feel*

**Wrapping gifts? Let them explore ribbons, bows & wrapping paper*

**Holiday dinner? Let them explore food textures*

Ms. Holly S. & Ms. Jenna, Infants

Cream Puffs

We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas! It's also that time of year that we tend to get lost in the hustle and bustle, remember to stop and smell the season. For our child portfolio focuses, we will be working on understanding toys and people by discussing the decorations and naming the different toys that the children explore. We will also be working on vocalizing Ma and Da sounds. You can do this by doing the la la la with your tongue when changing diapers or during one on one time.

Ms. Denise & Ms. Bekah, Older Infants

putting on our jackets and hats by ourselves and hand washing, it's the key to keeping the germs at bay. We enjoy using different materials for creating our art projects such as feather duster, empty spools of thread, and even plastic forks.

Ms. Jennie & Ms. Diane, 2 1/2's

Door County Cherries

Last month, the children really enjoyed our trip to the Zoo. During our Zoo unit, we viewed different animal prints and textures. We also viewed and practiced different shapes. We used our fine motor skills by peeling stickers and placing them on shape outlines. At home you can practice fine motor skills by practicing scissor skills and peeling stickers. We then turned our attention to Pets. We painted with toy dogs and feathers. We also practiced following 2-3 step directions by making Puppy Chow for snack. We hope you and your family have a safe and fun holiday season!

Ms. Cassidy & Ms. Ashley, 3's

The Cabin Kids

Polka Tots

Happy Holidays, Polka Tots Families! Your children spent their fall learning lots and practicing new skills. During our Pumpkin unit, the children worked on fitting objects into openings, like putting pom poms into plastic bottles. They also practiced their scribbling skills by using oil pastels on paper. For our Transportation unit, the toddlers pushed and pulled toys, such as toy trucks, buses, and airplanes. We also worked on flipping pages of books while reading stories about things that go. We're looking forward to exploring new skills during our Farm & Pet units. We hope you and your family have a wonderful holiday season!

Ms. Amanda & Ms. Lori, Toddlers

Fish Fry's

We have been very busy this fall! We have explored units of Colors and Giving Thanks. During our Colors unit, we focused on cause and effect relationships by playing with pop up toys. We discussed the colors of each of the different toys. We also focused on pretend play by pretending we were on the beach. We used different props

I cannot believe it is already December! Time has been flying by as we continue to work on our skills. We had so much fun on our field trips so far. We are excited to be going to Pump It Up soon so we can jump around. We are also busy at work figuring out the order of putting on winter clothes. To help at home you can lay your child's clothes out in a pile in the order they should be, example: snowpants, boots, coat, hat, and mittens. We are also working on drawing simple shapes using different materials such as rice on a plate, shaving cream or paint in a bag. Next, we are working on season differentials such as knowing what happens in spring, summer, fall and winter. A good way to help at home is to show your child pictures such as sunglasses or leaves falling off trees and ask them what season they belong to. We are also continuing to work on our names and starting lowercase letters. Lastly, we are working on using words to solve conflicts. A way to help at home is to ask your child questions when they are upset, such as "why are you upset?, Did something happen?".

Ms. Brittnee, 4's

Rockin' Robins

including towels, sunglasses, hats, and play food. During our Giving Thanks unit, we refined our small motor muscles by manipulating puzzle pieces together. This is a great activity to practice at home with your child using any simple puzzle. We also worked on recognizing big and small by matching big and small shapes to file folder games. We enjoyed talking about what each child is thankful for by sharing each of their thankful triangles. As a reminder, please keep your child's cubby stocked with extra clothes for the changing weather.

Ms. Olivia O. & Ms. Emma, Older Toddlers

Maple Leaves

I would like to welcome you to the Maple Leaves. I'm having so much fun working, playing and learning with your child. We have been working on drinking out of open cups and pointing to body parts. In December, we will continue working on pointing to our body parts and responding to "where" questions. December is a magical month full of mystery and surprise. It is also a busy month, take some time to enjoy the sights, smells and sounds of the wonderful month.

Ms. Julie, Toddlers

The month of November was filled with a lot of games. In 4K, we practice playing games by following directions and taking turns. We work on understanding the game's flow, how to structure and set up with friends. Playing games with other children helps some to be leaders and others to follow politely with their peers. My goal for you is to play a game with your child, play fairly and teach them how to congratulate the winner. After your child gets the hang of the game, test them and let them lead the game. When you go out of turn or play incorrectly, how do they respond? This month the students transformed, not into goblins and ghosts, but into "adults." We pretended to be scientists at work for the day. The "workers" were introduced to some scientific tools like magnifying glasses and tweezers. They had to observe seasonal changes and record their findings. It was so funny when I told them they could take a "break" at snack time. When back at "work" they used the tools and documented or reported their findings. They discussed how the tree has a brown trunk and branches and yellow leaves.

Ms. Holly L., 4K

Puddle Ducks

We are having so many adventures – the pumpkin farm and making bread, to name just two! When we made bread, we used skills such as counting, measuring, mixing, kneading, screaming (the children said it was Scream Bread), taking turns, waiting (for dough to rise and bake), noticing changes (as we mixed the ingredients), and reading/language (we read the recipe together and learned the words “recipe” and “knead”). We explored and manipulated art materials when we painted with brushes and played with play dough. When we explored pom poms and toys we talked about big and small and labeled colors. When we danced to music, we pointed to body parts while jumping to songs and The Hokey Pokey.

Ms. Cat & Mr. Mark, 2's

Scholastic Book Orders

*Please Help Us Earn New Books For
The Bedtime Book Corner*

It's book order time! You are welcome to order as much or as little as you would like. Books can be ordered and paid for online at www.scholastic.com/bookclubs and will arrive at the center 1-2 weeks after the due date. You will set up an account in which they will ask for our center code: P6N7H.

***Book Orders are due:
Monday, December 10th***

6	<i>Madeline Gallagher</i>
7	<i>Austin Bartolotta</i>
7	<i>Kylee Volkmann</i>
7	<i>Gretchen Hamm</i>
8	<i>Austin Walker</i>
13	<i>Mason Armstrong</i>
18	<i>Elise Ackerman</i>
19	<i>Ms. Holly S.</i>
20	<i>Bennett Schaeren</i>
23	<i>Cadence Valdovinos</i>
26	<i>Ella Baker</i>
28	<i>Louisa Glick-Johnson</i>
29	<i>Sophia Qualler</i>