

THE MONTHLY

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

SEEDS

February 1, 2020

Dear Families,

As we start the month of February, we want to give a big send off to **Easton**. He is now a Big Seed.

Easton has visited the Big Seeds often since December. He has made friends and is learning the routines. We in turn, want to welcome all our new friends. **Iris** started the beginning of January. **Cash** in the Branch room is her big brother. She has the sweetest disposition and the cutest baby cheeks.

Nora who has been attending since the beginning of January is a delight. She enjoys her crib gym, snuggle time and watching all the other babies as they play. **Mackson** started the end of January and has already won our hearts with his adorable little self. We also welcomed **Autumn**, **Aspen** in "Sprouts Too" is her big sister. She is rivaling **Iris** for the cutest baby cheeks contest. We are looking forward to getting to know **Bella**. She started at the end of January.



We welcomed Sheree, a long-term volunteer to The Growing Tree. She is visiting from Australia and is enjoying helping in several classrooms.

School Closure: The Growing Tree will be closed on February 17, 2020 in honor of President's Day.

Family Pictures: As our babies move up to the Big Seeds, they take their family photos with routines. Our "My Family Board" is looking empty. Please bring us a family photo to place on our board.



Updates, updates, updates... **Easton** has been welcoming of all our new friends and loves to be involved with each child in the classroom. **Finley**, **Mason**, and **Kate** have moved on to eating mostly finger foods. They are really enjoying taking charge of that. **Finley** is also rolling all around the classroom. **Mason** had mastered commando crawling. **Kate** is now crawling on her hands and knees. **Tula** is getting good at rolling around the classroom and is working on trying to move forward. **Nora** and **Iris** have both been able to put themselves to sleep and are getting good at self-soothing. **Autumn** is growing quickly and falls asleep easily.

Reminder to all families: Please label your child's belongings. This includes; wipe containers, packages of diapers, extra clothes, food and medication. If you forget to do it at home, we have permanent markers available in the classroom for you to use.

Seedling Reports: We have a new Seedling Report!! Everything is still on the new reports. There is now a parent section at the top. Filling this section out helps communicate with the teachers and helps them provide the best care for your child.

What do we do all day? During our last conference we had a few families ask what we do all day with their children. Here are some of the things we do all day with our "Friends," your children.

Songs: We sing with and to the children. We work on teaching hand motions to songs. This helps with their motor development, sensory systems and works with their memory skills.

Tummy Time: We give the children lots of time to explore on the floor. We use countless methods to scaffold their learning and development. For instance, putting toys in front of them while they lay on the floor can coax them to attempt forward movement such as crawling. Tummy Time can also be a good time for children to work on fine motor skills. Children can explore with all their senses on the floor and can work on developing bigger concepts such as object permanence while playing.



PLAY
TIME



Self-Care: In the Seedling Room we look to meet the children's basic needs. We work gently with the children to help them develop their own self-care skills. Such as putting themselves to sleep, encourage them to first learn to receive spoon food, and then finger foods. We provide opportunities for them to assist us as we dress and undress them as well.



Language development: In our classroom, you can always hear language modeling. We talk with and to the children, we narrate what the children are doing, songs and story time are added throughout the day. These different examples of language add vocabulary, articulation rules and sentence structure rules to their long-term memory. They store them for when they are ready to be used.

As always, thank you for sharing your children with us.

♥ Ms. Jo, Ms. Deann, Ms. Chloe