

THE MONTHLY BRANCH

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

September 1, 2020

Dear families:

Welcome to the Branch room! Let us start off by saying how excited we are for this upcoming year! What makes the Branch room so special is that you will see your children grow and flourish in so many developmental domains. At this age, the children are really picking up language, physical and social skills! It is truly amazing to see the amount of growth that occurs in the children from their first day, all the way to their last in the Branch room. We cannot wait for you all to witness it for yourselves!

One of our main priorities in the classroom is to help create and develop our social-emotional skills. Such as problem-solving, emotional and self-regulation, as well as encouraging a sense of independence. It is our belief that once these skills are established, the children will be much more receptive to learning!

We would like to introduce ourselves to you. The Branch room happily includes Ms. Heather and Ms. Kenzie as the Branch teachers. We have been together in the Branch room going on four years now. Over the past years, we have really honed our skills as Branch teachers and are eager to show you all the tricks we have up our sleeves. So, stay tuned!

Ms. Kenzie was introduced to Growing Tree from a family-friend who thought she would be a perfect match for Growing Tree. After graduating from Oregon State University with a B.S. in Human Development & Family Science and a focus on Child Development, she headed back to Bend where she was raised. She is beyond thankful that Growing Tree has brought her back home!

Ms. Heather has been working with and teaching children for nearly 20 years! She has worked in both middle schools and elementary schools, but believes preschool is where it's at! She is no stranger to Growing Tree. Heather has previously worked as a Blossom and Treehouse teacher before moving away

to California. Although her time away brought many new adventures and opportunities, she was beyond thrilled to make her way back to Growing Tree.

We cannot wait to get to know each of you, and your families, better. We hope you feel the same towards us! If you ever have any questions or comments to make, please feel free to ask! We would love to give you any clarity you might be seeking. We are dedicated to the development of your children and want to provide a welcoming, fun and safe environment for your families!

In September, our study will be all about getting to know each other and our classroom. Coming into a new class can be a total mix of emotions. It can be exciting and fun, but also intimidating and nerve-racking. That is why it is so important to us that we make this transition as smooth as possible for the children. By taking the time to learn the ropes of the Branch room, we believe we will accomplish just that! We will be focusing on classroom procedures and expectations, as well as incorporating fun and engaging activities that help us get to know each other's personalities better! We also plan on tackling a Germ study in the month of September to help the children learn more about their bodies and the importance of keeping them clean!

Cheers to a great year ahead!

- Ms. Kenzie & Ms. Heather



Reminders:

In a labeled bag that will fit in your child's cubby:

- Please bring ONLY one small blanket, and one lovey for our nap times. Our cubbies are a space we use to not only store each children's items, but it is also a space we utilize during daily transitions. So, having space in the cubbies is essential to making this as easy as possible.
- Please ensure that your child has a change of clothing in their cubby basket. Accidents happen and we want to make sure that your child is comfortable throughout the day!
- We do not allow any outside toys in the classroom, so please make sure to keep these at home. We would greatly appreciate it! We do, however, allow children to bring in books if it pertains to the study of the month.
- Please bring in pictures of your family for our classroom Family Board! You may bring however many you wish. The children love to show off their pictures and it makes our classroom a little bit brighter! :)

