

December Menu

	Lunch	3:30 Snack
Monday, December 1	Tex Mex Chicken w/ Rice & Black Beans, Peaches & Milk	Graham Crackers & Craisins
Tuesday, December 2	Spaghetti w/ Meatballs, Green Beans, Mandarin Oranges & Milk	Strawberry Go-Gurt & Goldfish
Wednesday, December 3	BBQ Chicken Sliders, Mashed Potatoes, Pears & Milk	Whole Wheat Crackers & Sliced Cheese
Thursday, December 4	Chedder Broccoli Rice Casserole, Pineapple & Milk	Whole Wheat Crackers & Pepperoni
Friday, December 5	Chicken Spaghetti, Purple Hull Peas, Applesauce & Milk	Cheerios & Banana
Monday, December 8	Turkey Pot Roast Stroganoff, Lima Beans, Pears & Milk	Animal Crackers & Raisins
Tuesday, December 9	Ground Turkey Tacos, Black Beans, Pineapple & Milk	Graham Crackers & Vanilla Pudding
Wednesday, December 10	Broccoli Alfredo, Peaches & Milk	Veggie Straws & Pepperoni
Thursday, December 11	Brown Gravy Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes, Mandarin Oranges & Milk	Whole Wheat Crackers & Sliced Cheese
Friday, December 12	Turkey & Cheese Sliders, Veggie Straws, Applesauce & Milk	Strawberry Go-Gurt & Goldfish
Monday, December 15	Turkey Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Pineapple & Milk	Graham Crackers & Craisins
Tuesday, December 16	Brunch for Lunch: Cheesy Hashbrown Casserole w/ Sausage, Pears & Milk	Whole Wheat Crackers & Sliced Cheese
Wednesday, December 17	Chicken w/ Yellow Rice & Black Beans, Peaches & Milk	Vanilla Wafers & Banana Pudding
Thursday, December 18	Macaroni & Cheese, Lima Beans, Mandarin Oranges & Milk	Veggie Straws & Pepperoni
Friday, December 19	Hamburger Sliders, Baked Beans, Applesauce & Milk	Cheerios & Banana
Monday, December 22	Tex Mex Chicken w/ Rice & Black Beans, Peaches & Milk	Whole Wheat Crackers & Sliced Cheese
Tuesday, December 23	Cheese Tortellini Bake, Green Beans, Pears & Milk	Veggie Straws & Pepperoni
Wednesday, December 24	CLOSED	HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Thursday, December 25	CLOSED	HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Friday, December 26	CLOSED	HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Monday, December 29	BBQ Chicken w/ Brown Rice, Lima Beans, Mandarin Oranges & Milk	Strawberry Go-Gurt & Goldfish
Tuesday, December 30	Sloppy Joe Sliders, Mashed Potatoes, Pineapple & Milk	Graham Crackers & Craisins
Wednesday, December 31	Cheesy Chicken Noodle Casserole Bake, Green Beans, Pears & Milk	CLOSE @ 3:00 PM

*Items in green are vegetarian meals.



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

Santa Claus is making a special visit to Growing Room this month. The children will have the opportunity to say hello, share their Christmas wishes, and experience a little holiday magic.

We can't wait to welcome Santa and celebrate this joyful season together!



Santa Visit Dates
Welaunee- December 5th
Bradfordville- December 8th
Metro- December 12th



Holiday Closures

December 24-26
All Centers Closed

December 31
All Centers Close @ 3 pm

January 1
All Centers Closed



As we approach the holiday season, we want to take a moment to share our heartfelt gratitude for allowing us to be a part of your child's learning journey this year. It has been such a joy to watch them learn, grow, explore, and shine each day in our classroom!

We hope your family enjoys this special time together filled with laughter, love, and cherished memories that make the season truly magical.

As we look ahead to the new year, we're excited to continue creating meaningful experiences and joyful learning moments with your little one.

From all of us at Growing Room, we wish you a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a wonderful holiday season filled with warmth and joy!



With love and gratitude,
Your Growing Room Family

December Parent Reminders

- 4th COME TO SCHOOL WEARING GREEN
- 15th COME TO SCHOOL DRESSED LIKE A CHRISTMAS CHARACTER
- 16th COME TO SCHOOL WEARING CHRISTMAS ACCESSORIES
- 17th COME TO SCHOOL WEARING A CHRISTMAS HAT
- 18th COME TO SCHOOL WEARING A TACKY CHRISTMAS SWEATER
- 19th COME TO SCHOOL WEARING YOUR CHRISTMAS PAJAMAS
- 23rd COME TO SCHOOL WEARING CHRISTMAS COLORS

"The best of all gifts around
any Christmas tree: the presence of a
happy family all wrapped up in each other."
~ Burton Hills



MAKING A DIFFERENCE EMPLOYEE FOR DECEMBER

Growing Room Welaunee
Ms. Valerie Harden
PreK Para Pro

Ms. Valerie joined our Growing Room team in October 2025, and it already feels like she has been part of the Growing Room Family for much longer. Her joyful approach to teaching makes a meaningful difference in each child's day. Every morning, Ms. Valerie arrives with a positive attitude and a smile, ready to embrace whatever the day may bring. She is always willing to step in and support other classrooms and teachers when needed. In her classroom, Ms. Valerie creates a warm, loving atmosphere where children feel safe, cared for, and excited to learn and explore. Her gentle presence and dedication shine through in everything she does. Thank you, Ms. Valerie, for your hard work, your heart, and the beautiful impact you make on our children every day.

Growing Room Bradfordville
Ms. Jaide Manning
K3B Lead Teacher

Ms. Jaide joined our team in August 2023, and she has been an incredible asset from the very beginning. She is consistently flexible, dependable, and always willing to jump in wherever she's needed, often doing so with a smile and a positive attitude that lifts the entire team. In the classroom, Ms. Jaide's creative spirit truly shines. Her students enjoy a wide variety of hands-on art projects, imaginative activities, and bright, cheerful decorations that make her classroom feel welcoming and fun. She naturally brings out creativity in her students and helps them feel excited to learn and explore. Beyond her work with the children, Ms. Jaide is a supportive and uplifting teammate. She encourages others to have fun, stay positive, and make each day a great one. Her energy and enthusiasm help create a warm, collaborative environment that benefits both staff and students alike.

Growing Room Metropolitan
Ms. Kailah Leon
Infant 2A Para Pro

Ms. Kailah joined our team in October 2025. As a dedicated teacher in our one-year-old classroom, she brings patience, warmth, and a nurturing spirit to even the smallest moments of the day. Ms. Kailah has a remarkable ability to make our little ones feel safe, supported, and deeply loved. She understands the unique needs of toddlers—their curiosity, their big feelings, and their growing independence—and she meets each child right where they are with compassion and positivity. Her calm presence helps guide children through routines, transitions, and new experiences, all while making learning feel joyful and fun. She is also a wonderful teammate, always willing to step in, offer a helping hand, and bring encouragement to those around her. Her reliability, creativity, and genuine care for both children and coworkers make her an invaluable part of our Growing Room Family.

We appreciate all you do for our Growing Room Families!



Growing Room's Christmas Bucket List

Simple, joyful ways to make holiday memories with your little one!

- Bake Christmas cookies together – Let your child pour, stir, and sprinkle!
- Have a family pajama day – Cozy up in matching PJs and watch a holiday movie.
- Make homemade ornaments – Use salt dough, popsicle sticks, or paper to craft keepsakes.
- Go on a Christmas light walk or drive – Take cocoa along and count how many reindeer you can spot!
- Read a Christmas story each night – Build a tradition of bedtime holiday tales.
- Write or draw a letter to Santa – Encourage your child to share their wishes and kind thoughts for others.
- Donate a toy or canned good – Teach the joy of giving by helping a family in need.
- Build a blanket fort "North Pole" – Pretend you're elves in Santa's workshop!
- Make reindeer food – Mix oats and sprinkles to sprinkle outside on Christmas Eve.
- Sing Christmas carols together – Whether in the car or around the tree, let your child's voice shine.
- Do a holiday craft day – Make snowflakes, wreaths, or handprint art for loved ones.
- Enjoy a hot chocolate bar – Add marshmallows, whipped cream, and candy canes for fun toppings!
- Have a "kindness countdown" – Each day, do one kind thing for someone else.
- Take a family photo by the tree – Capture the joy and laughter of the season.
- Watch for Santa on Christmas Eve – Look out the window, read The Night Before Christmas, and make magical memories.

No matter which activities you choose, the best part is spending time together. May your holiday season be filled with laughter, love, and wonder!



December Character Education Sharing & Patience

This month, our Character Education program is centered on two very important values, sharing and patience. Through engaging stories, our Character Critter stories, thoughtful teacher modeling, and plenty of positive encouragement, the children will discover what it means to take turns, wait patiently, and show generosity in their daily interactions.

Through meaningful classroom discussions, group activities, and hands-on learning experiences, your child will have opportunities to practice waiting their turn, showing respect for others' feelings and needs, and finding joy in helping and giving. These lessons help the children build strong social-emotional skills that support friendship, empathy, and cooperation both in and out of the classroom.

As we move through this season of togetherness and giving, we are excited to see our children grow in patience, kindness, and understanding, learning that even small acts of sharing and waiting can make a big difference in showing love and care for others.