



## Message from the Management team

February is upon us already and our children have enjoyed a wide range of activities and celebrations throughout January, such as Chinese New Year (the year of the rat) and Burns Night. As explained previously one of our ongoing objectives is to ensure we have a highly trained and skilled staff team. This month they have attended training around Math's and have looked at the ways in which we can promote this during children's play. We looked at ways to enhance the environment and how the practitioners could support this through planned activities. Please look out for some information that I will provide you of ideas how you can further support Math's at home. I have attended a meeting with the local authority and had the opportunity of networking with other managers and owners in Liverpool. The quality of literacy and the importance of children having opportunities to read and using books was a hot topic. This fitted in nicely with the vision we have had recently with our new nursery lending library that is 'NOW OPEN'. This is situated in the nursery reception and has been really nice to receive feedback on how some parents have taken advantage of this. Once again, thank you all for your kind donations of books. A big congratulation to Lyndsey who gave birth to a baby girl, Esme, over the Christmas break we recently had a visit from her and managed to squeeze in a few cuddles. We have recently purchased a new triple pram. Alongside with the Buggy bus, this gives even greater opportunities for us to take children out about in their community and for them to experience such beautiful places we are lucky to have on our doorstep. This also promotes their 'cultural capital' as children have visited Sefton Park, or local shops for fruit and Sunflower room children visited the fire station and enjoyed a trip on the bus to the city Centre. Furthermore, in the next few months two outdoor sheds will be purchased to help with the storage. We welcome Anisha and Jenny to our Auckland team, who both will be working in the Daisy room and Caitlyn who is our new bank staff member. We say farewell to Kayleigh from Buttercup room. Who has been with us for a short while but the distance of travel to work became problematic. We wish her all the luck wherever she goes as she has great potential. We are currently recruiting for her replacement. We finally have a date for the Quality counts visit. It will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February. This is a national quality accreditation designed to explore all aspects of children's care and education and to ensure the best possible service for young children is delivered. We are aiming for the platinum award. At the moment there are only 43 nurseries in the whole country who have achieved this award and none of these are in Liverpool – we are not competitive, but it would be great to be the first.

### Contents

#### Page 1

Management  
Message  
Staff  
Introduction  
Important  
Messages

#### Page 2

What have your  
children been  
up to?

#### Page 3

Policy of the  
month

#### Page 4

Recipe of the  
month  
Photographs



My name is **Danielle Egerton** and I am a Lunchtime assistant in the Daisy Room. I have joined Auckland House Team in September 2019. My role as a lunchtime assistant is to assist the children with their lunch time meal, make up the beds for after they have eaten and carry out hygiene routines to ensure the room is clean and tidy for the children when they wake up from their nap. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my little girl and my family and friends.

### **Important messages**

- Valentine's day 14<sup>th</sup> February
- Shrove Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February
- St David's day 28<sup>th</sup> February
- Retinoblastoma charity day has been changed to May.
- Quality Count visit – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February

## Buttercups

This month in Buttercup our song of the month was I am a firefighter. The children enjoyed learning about people who help us and became creative in making their own firefighter helmets. They also loved engaging in water play and explored different wet and cold textures such as custard, baked beans, jelly and gloop. Their understanding of single words and simple phrases is gradually developing, and this is shown in their responses within their interactions. Our story of the month was "that's not my kitten". The children participated in a variety of sensory experiences and engaged in their play as they discovered different textures. They used a range of single words gradually developing their vocabulary. The younger children loved engaging in sensory exploration discovering gloop, water, soil, leaves and other natural materials. **Our song and story for next month will be 'Were going on a bear hunt' and 'Incy Wincy spider'**

## Daisy

Our song and story of the month was 'Old McDonald had a farm' and 'In the night garden'. Children engaged in a range of creative activities to create old McDonald and the farm. Children developed their knowledge of animals and sounds through a range of animal tuff tray activities. Children decorated their own farm animals developing their fine motor skills. Children enjoyed creating there in the night garden, children developed their interest in schemas creating boats with crates developing their imagination. Children engaged in a range of creative activities to celebrate burns night and Chinese New Year. We have also enjoyed trips out in the community. **Our song and story for next month will be 'Dear zoo' and 'Leo the Lion'.**

## Bluebell

We have had lots of fun this month. Our song and story of the month was 'Incy wincy spider' and 'wheels on the bus'. Children engaged in a range of creative activities through making spiders with paper plates and enjoyed creative tuff tray activities making marks. Children enjoyed singing "incy wincy" and children are beginning to follow the rhythms and actions for songs, the children also created their own spiders using hand prints. When in the garden children were encouraged to find some spiders. Children enjoyed a range of creative and messy play activities creating buses and children created their own buses and used crates to develop schemas. Through activities children was able to count and recognize shapes. Children developed their interest in marks and are beginning to distinguish between marks. **Our song and story of the month for next month are 'Elmer' and '5 little ducks'**

## Snowdrop

This month in Snowdrop we have been investigating colours and how they mix. Our story of the month was "Elmer" and our song of the month was "The rainbow song". We also learnt about Chinese New Year and looked at different foods they have at this time of the year in celebration, we also learnt about burns night. During the month we have participated in lots of sensory activities from food tasting to mark making and spent time investigating numerical concepts. We have enjoyed dressing up and trying on different outfits for people who help us and then role playing such doctors with dollies. **Our song and story next month are 'All in one piece' and 'Wheels on the bus'.**

## Daffodil

This month the children have had lots of fun taking part in a variety of different activities for our song of the month 'Zoom zoom' we used dot to dot method to create numbers from the song and we painted our own 5 space ships and made marks to create our own rocket ships. We also took part in physical activities jumping off the climbing frame pretending to be rockets. Our story of the month was 'Funny fish' the children created their own fish using their hand prints, made their own octopuses and other sea creatures. We would like to say a huge welcome to our new friends who have joined us from 1-2. **Our song and story for next month will be 'Old McDonald' and 'Hands are not for hitting'.**

## Sunflower

This month in the Sunflower room we have been looking at the song and story 'I am a fire fighter' and 'The Gruffalo'. The children have loved engaging in a range of activities related to our song and story and have loved celebrating new year. Throughout the month the children have enjoyed going on a trip to the fire station, where they enjoyed exploring the fire engine and using the fireman hose. We have also enjoyed making their own fire engine and talking about different jobs. The children have had lots of fun creating a Gruffalo this month and enjoying developing their speech while talking about how the Gruffalo looks. This month we would like to say a big good luck to our friend's Violet, Ted, Iris and Sophie as they leave to go to Pre-Prep. **Our song and story for next month will be 'Guess how much I love you' and 'I Love you'.**

## Accidents in the nursery policy

**There are at least 2 members of staff on nursery premises at all times who have a current up to date first aid certificate.** In the event of your child having a major accident only members of staff who hold a first aid certificate will deal with any minor injuries that your child may have.

All accidents will be recorded on an accident form giving details of:

- Name and address of child
- Name of the person who dealt with the accident
- How and when the accident occurred
- What the injuries were
- What first aid was given
- Name of management accident reported to.

The form will then be signed and dated by a member of staff who dealt with the accident and the manager or deputy will sign the form to state they have been informed of the accident. Parents/Carers will be informed of any accidents upon arrival and will be asked to sign the form to state they have been informed. In the event of a serious accident the nursery manager or deputy will contact the parent/carer immediately and will explain what has happened and the action that has been taken. It is policy of Auckland House Nursery to call a taxi or ambulance if your child requires hospital treatment. If your child does need such treatment, we will arrange to meet you at hospital.

**Head Injuries** - If your child has a head injury an accident head injury form will be completed giving details of;

- Name and address of child
- Name of person who dealt with the accident
- How and when the accident occurred
- What injuries where
- What first aid was given
- Name of management accident reported to

The form will then be signed and dated by the member of staff who has dealt with the accident and the manager or deputy will sign the form to state they have been informed of the accident. Parents/carers will be informed of any accidents upon arrival and will be asked to sign the form to state they have been informed and a head injury letter will be given to the parent/carer with advice on how to look after a child with a head injury.

**IT IS VITAL THAT YOU ALWAYS PROVIDE THE NURSERY WITH A CONTACT NUMBER IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES.**

In the event of a serious accident there is a requirement for the nursery manager to inform OFSTED. This should be done initially by phone on OFSTED ON 0300 123 1231

**Accidents in the home** - Where a child has had an accident in the home (outside nursery hours), please ensure that you inform staff on duty about what happened and when and where the injury was received. Any existing injuries will be recorded on an existing injury form giving details of:

- Name and address of child
- How and when the accident occurred
- What the injuries were
- What first aid was given
- Who it was reported to.

The form will then be signed and dated by the member of staff who dealt with the accident and the manager or deputy will sign the form to state they have been informed of the accident.

## Recipe of the month – Homemade Beef Hot Pot



Cooked by our  
Chef Claire

### Ingredients

- 1kg/2lb 2oz braising steak, trimmed, cut into 5cm/2in chunks
- salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 75g/3oz butter
- 150g/5oz baby onions, peeled
- 4 carrots, peeled, cut into chunks
- 1 tbsp plain flour
- 200ml/7floz red wine
- 400ml/14fl oz fresh beef stock
- 2 fresh thyme sprigs
- 1kg/2lb 2oz potatoes, cut into 5mm/¼in slices

### Method

1. Preheat the oven to 170C/325F/Gas 3.
2. Season the meat with salt and freshly ground black pepper.
3. Heat a large casserole dish until very hot then add the oil and a small knob of butter. Fry the beef until browned all over, then remove from the pan and set aside. (You may need to do this in batches.)
4. Add the onions and another knob of butter to the pan and fry for 2-3 minutes, or until lightly browned. Add the carrots and cook for a further minute.
5. Stir in the flour then gradually add the red wine, stirring until smooth. Add the browned beef and the stock, season with salt and freshly ground black pepper and bring to the boil. Stir in the fresh thyme, then arrange the potatoes on top. Dot the surface with the remaining butter.
6. Cover with a lid and cook in the oven for one hour.
7. Remove the lid and increase the heat to 200C/400F/Gas 6 for 30 minutes.

