



Message from the Management team

Welcome to our latest newsletter. We have had a very busy month in February with lots of different celebrations, activities and visits into our local community. Firstly, we celebrated children's mental health week. We carried out a range of activities to spoil our little ones that little bit more. This included mini foot spa's. Yoga, relaxation sessions and movie days. Our children enjoyed celebrating Valentine's Day, as they made their own cards, exploring valentine's tuff trays. celebrated Chinese New Year experiencing food tasting, a variety of tuff trays and sunflower room had a trip to Liverpool China town's famous arch. Daisy room enjoyed a visit to the library and Snowdrop took a trip to a local garden Centre 'Dobbie's' to buy plants and seeds in preparation for spring.

Thank you so much to parents who have increased the amount of information and observations of what your children are interested in and getting up to at home. Our children love seeing these pictures and it is supporting their speech and emotional well-being. These are also becoming more of a focus in our daily circle times.

Training continues to be a priority; Kellie has completed level 3 Language and literacy for 2-4's provided by Elklan. The staff team attended an Early Years webinar looking at brain development and looking at child's first 1000 days. Kellie, Joanne and Sophia took part in fire training.

We said a fond farewell to Kerrie from Sunflower room who had to leave us to complete her final journey in becoming a social worker. She will be replaced by Megan who is a level 3, she will be starting shortly as we are just await her recruitment checks to be completed. We also welcome Clair who is our new lunchtime assistant. Finally, a huge congratulation to Leanne who has been promoted to Baby room manager. She has also completed Safeguarding level 2 and is soon to enroll in L3 leadership and management.

We are still recruiting for practitioner's full time and part time, a unit leader for over 2's and lunchtime assistants. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Thank you

Kellie

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My name is Naailia Peacock. I am an Early Years Apprentice in Daisy room. I have a degree in Applied Psychology and a passion for working with children. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I also enjoy reading and like to go out for meals.

Important messages

- St David's day Mon 1st Feb 2021
- World book day 3rd March
- Mother's Day activities w/c 8th/12th March
- Chicks arrive 15th March
- Comic Relief Fri 18th March (Dress in red or spots)
- St Patricks Day 17th March
- Holi festival of colour Mon 29th March

Buttercups

This month we have had so much fun exploring a range of activities such as, foam messy play, trips to the park, sensory play with lights and bubbles and lots fun in our garden. We have also managed to rearrange the room to make way for new areas and resources. We welcomed lots of new friends to the room in February and are expected to make some more new friends in March too. In March we will be exploring the song "Head, shoulders, Knees and Toes" supporting some of our babies new found skill of walking! As we have gained some new friends, we'll be exploring the story "Love makes a Family" to welcome all of our new babies. We'll see you in March for another fun-filled month!

Daisy

This month Daisy room have been exploring a range of activities to support their song and story "Rabbits Nap" and "Baa Baa Woolly Sheep". We have explored different creative activities such as making sheep and rabbit masks. Gluing and sticking baa baa and creating rabbits using hand prints. We have also explored a range of activities for Chinese New Year, exploring tuff trays, filling and emptying laisee packets with lucky money. We have developed the children's understanding of their local environment through continuous outings to the park.

Bluebell

This month we have had lots of fun. Our song 5 cheeky monkeys and our book the 'farm', we enjoyed so many creative activities, making our own animals by gluing and sticking, painting, using crayons, chalk etc. We became more familiar with animals through repeatedly naming animals and the noises they made, we also went on a trip to the park to see the animals. We engaged in lots of animal tuff trays exploring different textures as well as animals. We celebrated Chinese New year, the children loved using chopsticks in different activities working out how to pick big and small objects up. We also done food tasting eating lots of lovely tasty food. Valentine's day by making pictures for people we love using pasta, gluing and sticking textures. We celebrated winter Olympics by making an assault course in the garden which the children loved working out how to get over. We had children's mental health week, during this week we enjoyed baby yoga, had a visit to the spa where we had foot soaks, hand and food massages. We also watched a film with lots of treats.

Snowdrop

This month we have had so much fun and have learned lots of new things. We have loved our song "Five Little Men in a Flying Saucer" and our story "The Wheels on the Bus", we are extremely good at singing these songs now! We have welcomed some new friends into our room from the Daisy Room and have said goodbye to some friends who have moved to the Sunflower room. We have had lots of fun celebrating Chinese New Year, we particularly enjoyed learning about the story of the dragons and even used a range of materials to create our very own. Valentine's day was lots of fun to celebrate, our children explored different materials such as heart shaped pasta to create our own pictures. We also used paints and had a stomp around in it with our feet to make beautiful decorations for our families. We have also enjoyed a trip to Dobbie's this month to buy seeds and plants for us to begin to grow in time for Spring. It was such fun and we even sang "The Wheels on the Bus" while riding on the bus.

Daffodil

This month we have done a variety of activities. Our children favourite seen be one in children mental health week where we create stress balloons using flour and balloons and talked about how we can squeeze them if we are feeling bit sad or scared. We also done a pamper day where the children loved getting their nails painted not so much the yoghurt face mask. We also treated the children do a movie afternoon with popcorn and biscuits which was lovely. We also looked at colour sorting using pebbles which the children took interest in group sorting them. They also wanted take turns in teaching and asking the other children to group them giving them a colour each. We also looked at the colour flashcards and matching them up with the pebbles. We also done lovely colourful pictures to support our knowledge on colours. We also celebrate Valentines days making handprints cards to take home for our loved ones. We also decorated our own gingerbread biscuits with icing.

Sunflower

This month Sunflower room have had so much fun engaging in a variety of activities. We focused on our song "Miss Polly had a Dolly" and story "Dear Zoo". The children thoroughly enjoyed playing in our very own doctors surgery and created different play opportunities using the medical props. We have also engaged in mark making activities and created our own animals. The children have enjoyed learning all about Chinese New Year and took part in a range of activities such as creating and decorating their own lanterns, tasting some traditional Chinese food and visiting Chinatown! We also created different Valentines cards and crafts for our loved ones to take home. Sunflower have welcomed some new friends this month and we cannot wait for them to play with us and create some strong bonds!

Babysitting policy

We do not provide a babysitting service outside our normal operating hours. However, we understand that parents sometimes ask nursery staff to babysit for their children and this policy has been implemented to clarify some points regarding private arrangements between staff and parents. Please also refer to our Safeguarding Children Statement.

- The nursery is not responsible for any private arrangements or agreements that are made: such agreements are between the staff member and family. However, we do expect staff members to inform us if they are babysitting or caring for a child that attends the nursery outside of the setting.
- We require the staff member and parent to sign a copy of this policy, which we will keep on file for the child and staff member.
- We have rigorous recruitment and suitability processes in place to ensure that we employ competent and professional members of staff and uphold our duty to safeguard children whilst on our premises and in the care of our staff. This procedure includes interviews, references, full employment history and DBS checks as well as several other processes. Whilst in our employment all staff are subject to ongoing supervision, observation and assessment to ensure that standards of work and behaviour are maintained in accordance with our policies. We have no such control over the conduct of staff outside of their position of employment. Parents should make their own checks as to the suitability of a member of staff for babysitting.
- We will not take responsibility for any health and safety issues, conduct, grievances or any other claims arising out of the staff member's private arrangements outside of nursery hours. The member of staff will not be covered by the nursery's insurance whilst babysitting as a private arrangement.
- Out-of-hours work arrangements MUST NOT interfere with the staff member's employment at the nursery.
- All staff are bound by contract of the Confidentiality Policy and Data Protection Act that they are unable to discuss any issues regarding the nursery, other staff members, parents or other children.
- The nursery has a duty of care to safeguard all children attending the setting, so if a staff member has some concerns for a child following a private babysitting type arrangement they need to pass these concerns on to the Safeguarding lead within the setting.
- It will be the staff member's responsibility to ensure they have the appropriate insurance, MOT and child restraints or child safety seats if they are transporting them in a car.

Recipe of the month – Homemade Vegetable Soup



Cooked by our
Chef Claire

Ingredients

- calorie controlled cooking oil spray
- 1 medium onion, sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
- 2 celery sticks, trimmed and thinly sliced
- 2 medium carrots or 2 yellow peppers, cut into 2cm/1in chunks
- 400g/14oz tin chopped tomatoes
- 1 vegetable stock cube
- 1 tsp dried mixed herbs
- 400g/14oz tin butter beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 head young spring greens (approximately 125g/4½oz), trimmed and sliced
- sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

1. Spray a large non-stick saucepan with oil and cook the onion, garlic, celery and carrots or peppers gently for 10 minutes, stirring regularly until softened.
2. Add 750ml/26fl oz water and the chopped tomatoes. Crumble over the stock cube and stir in the dried herbs. Bring to the boil, then reduce the heat to a simmer and cook for 20 minutes.
3. Season the soup with salt and pepper and add the spring greens and butterbeans. Return to a gentle simmer and cook for a further 3-4 minutes or until the greens are softened. Season to taste and serve in deep bowls.

