



Message from the Management team

Welcome to this month's newsletter. I hope you have all had a great summer, making memories with you little ones. As the new term begins, we have many exciting things planned. Our new management structure is myself; Amy Gregory (deputy manager) Amy McHugh (Snowdrop, Daffodil Unit leader) Kim Hall (Bluebell and Daisy unit leader) Charlie Bird (Babies Room leader) and Becky Shaw (2-3 Unit leader). I would like to say a huge thank you to the staff and parents for a successful Parents evening. This month we have been focusing on developing our children's independence such as self-serving breakfast and pouring their own drinks. We look to continuing this in the coming months with introducing self-serving dinner and promoting self-dressing. We are looking forward to welcoming our children back in September and we are really excited about the opening of our new room Tulip next month. Our recruitment is still continuing we have welcomed Danielle back from her maternity leave and sadly Megan (Previous 1-2 Unit leader) has left us to pursue her career as a primary school teacher. We wish her best of luck with her future career. Once again we would like to thank you all for your continued support throughout the last few months and look forward to welcoming you all back as our new term begins.

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My name is **Amy McHugh** and I will be your child's key worker. I am an Early Years practitioner. I work in the Snowdrop room. I have joined Auckland Team in September 2017. I have a Level 3 qualification Childcare. I have also recently become Unit leader over Snowdrop and Daffodil.

Monday 5th September new term starts

Sunday 25th September – 27th September **Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) Rosh Hashanah (Jewish new year) Mon 26th Sept, a range of activities will take place.**

September – Opening of our new room Tulip.

Nappies & wipes – Please ensure nappies and wipes are provided daily.

Buttercups

Over the last few weeks in Buttercup room we have been reading "Dear zoo" and singing "zoom zoom zoom", The children have been involved in a range of different activities, we have done a farm animal tuff tray that had a range of different textures. Children also enjoyed exploring different edible textures that were in the tuff tray. We also done water play and enjoyed leaving marks with different animals. For "zoom zoom zoom" we made rockets using our foot prints and made our own moons to allow the children to explore the different textures. We have had lots of new friends joining us this month and we are looking forward to welcoming them into our nursery next month.

Daisy

We have had such an exciting month in Daisy room, each week we have done a different theme, this week was camping week. We celebrated by making campfires, toasting marshmallows, making a tent and singing campfire songs. We celebrated beach week by visiting the 'beach' and dressing up for summer. We had fruit and veg week where we made lots of lovely marks using different fruit and veg, we also tasted lots of different fruit and veg. This month we have spoken about feelings when we are happy, sad, scared etc. We looked in the mirror and drew pictures of ourselves. We have also been doing 'wellbeing Fridays' to encourage the children's wellbeing, we have had a spa day, baby yoga, movie day and eat tasty healthy treats. Our song was once I caught a fish alive, we sing this often and used different creative tools and textures to make fish. This month we were so happy to win room of the month.

Bluebell

We have had so much fun over the summer in Bluebell room! We had a new summer theme each week and planned and enjoyed lots of exciting activities. During fruit and vegetable week we tasted lots of different fruits and created our own prints using peppers. For our Beach week we decorated our own ice lollies, seashells and played in the sand. During Ocean week, we explored sea creatures and made our own sea creatures come to life. We painted a big whale with all of our friends and did lots of messy play with water. For holiday week we packed and unpacked our own suitcases and explored different holiday items. Finally, during safari week, we enjoyed exploring different animals and their environments. We have had so much fun this month and are looking forward to our new adventures in September.

Snowdrop

This month we have had lots of trips to the park making the most of this glorious weather. We also enjoyed a trip to the library choosing our own books to take back to nursery and read. We have enjoyed lots of messy play activities such as; beach tuff trays, and making beach pictures with our friends. Children also enjoyed making their own ice creams using ice cream cones and whipped cream, they were soo tasty! We also had Jeep safari week when children enjoyed exploring a range of animal themed activities throughout different messy play activities. Children also enjoyed different vehicles making tracks and exploring different marks. We also enjoyed reading the tiger who came for tea this month, we created our own tigers using tissue paper and paint and enjoyed a tea party.

Daffodil

This month in daffodil we have enjoyed lots of trips out in the community and enjoyed exploring the outdoors and nature, children enjoyed collecting sticks and leaves. We have explored lots of exciting activities this month in our tuff trays to link with our themes. We used a range of materials such as water, sand animals and dinosaurs. The children used a lot of painting/ hand painting for activities to create their own sea animals and mermaid tails. Our story this term is the little mermaid and our song is old McDonald. The children enjoyed making the animals come to life. We have also done lots of mark making activities to continue to develop out fine motor skills.

Sunflower

This month in sunflower we have had so much fun, our song of the term has been "five little flowers" and the children enjoyed exploring different materials to create their own flowers and flower beds. We also explored a planting activity, we planted our own seeds and enjoyed looking after them and watching them grow every day. Our story of the term has been "supertato", we created our own supertato kites, painted with vegetables and made our own supertato vegetables! We have explored different themes over the summer such as the beach, under the sea, safari and camping. Children enjoyed exploring different activities to link with these themes' and had so much fun.

Use of dummy in nursery policy

At Auckland House Day Nursery, we recognise that a dummy can be a source of comfort for a child who is settling and/or upset, and that it may often form part of a child's sleep routine.

We also recognise that overuse of dummies may affect a child's language development as it may restrict the mouth movements needed for speech. As babies get older, they need to learn to move their mouths in different ways, to smile, to blow bubbles, to make sounds, to chew food and eventually to talk. As babies move their mouths and experiment with babbling sounds, they are learning to make the quick mouth movements needed for speech. The more practice they get the better their awareness of their mouths and the better their speech will be.

Our nursery will:

- Discuss the use of dummies with parents as part of babies' individual care plans
- Only allow dummies for comfort if a child is really upset (for example, if they are new to the setting or going through a transition) and/or as part of their sleep routine
- Store dummies in individual hygienic dummy pots labelled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children
- Immediately clean or sterilise any dummy or bottle that falls on the floor or is picked up by another child.
- In Buttercups they will also use 'on the go' Sanitising water.

When discouraging the dummy staff will:

- Make each child aware of a designated place where the dummy is stored
- Comfort the child and, if age/stage appropriate, explain in a sensitive and appropriate manner **why they do not** need their dummy
- Distract the child with other activities and ensure they are settled before leaving them to play
- Offer other methods of comfort such as a toy, teddy or blanket
- Explain to the child they can have their dummy when they go home or at sleep time.

We will also offer support and advice to parents to discourage dummy use during waking hours at home and suggest ways which the child can be weaned off their dummy through books and stories.

Recipe of the month – Beef Hot Pot



Cooked by our
Chef Claire

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- , plus a little for the dish
- 750g lean beef mince
- 90g pack prosciutto
- half quantity of our tomato sauce (see the recipe), or 800g passata
- 200ml hot beef stock
- a little grated nutmeg
- 300g pack fresh lasagne sheets
- half quantity of our white sauce (see the recipe), or 520g ready-made sauce
- 125g ball mozzarella, torn into thin strips

Method

1. To make the meat sauce, heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a frying pan and cook 750g lean beef mince in two batches for about 10 mins until browned all over.
2. Finely chop 4 slices of prosciutto from a 90g pack, then stir through the meat mixture.
3. Pour over 800g passata or half our basic tomato sauce recipe and 200ml hot beef stock. Add a little grated nutmeg, then season.
4. Bring up to the boil, then simmer for 30 mins until the sauce looks rich.
5. Heat oven to 180C/fan/160C/gas 4 and lightly oil an ovenproof dish (about 30 x 20cm).
6. Spoon one third of the meat sauce into the dish, then cover with some fresh lasagne sheets from a 300g pack. Drizzle over roughly 130g ready-made or homemade white sauce.
7. Repeat until you have 3 layers of pasta. Cover with the remaining 390g white sauce, making sure you can't see any pasta poking through.
8. Scatter 125g torn mozzarella over the top.
9. Arrange the rest of the prosciutto on top. Bake for 45 mins until the top is bubbling and lightly browned.

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