



Message from the Management team

November has been and gone very quickly and we have carried out a wide range of activities. Our children enjoyed learning about Poppies and remembering all those that fought for their country many years ago. The children enjoyed creating some amazing artwork connected to bonfire night and Diwali. Our children and staff enjoyed dressing up for children in need, thank you to all parents and staff for being so generous in helping us raise money for this. Also thank you to staff and parents for also being so generous in donating towards our Christmas raffle, we have received so many generous prizes that are really appreciated.

Staff have had termly supervisions, giving staff the opportunity to discuss their wellbeing and have had discussions around their role and responsibilities, future training and key children's development. Staff also done training on wellbeing carried out during our monthly training sessions.

Staff and children and getting in the Christmas spirit ready for a fun filled December, we have lots of exciting dates planned we will keep you up to date on. The last week of term we will be encouraging staff to come to nursery in festive jumpers, pyjamas and dress up. We will be having a Christmas party and visits from Santa.

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My name is Amy McHugh I am a Level 3 Early Years practitioner. I work in the Snowdrop room as senior practitioner.



I have joined Auckland Team in September 2017. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. I live with my parents and my brother and my sister. I love visiting my nan and spending time together.

Important messages

- Nursery closes for Christmas on the 23rd December and reopen on the 5th January
- Can I just remind all parents to please arrive before 5.55pm to ensure staff can give you a proper handover on how your child has been

Christmas celebration week

- 1st December Christmas dinner
- 3rd December Christmas fayre
- 19th December Christmas jumpers
- 20th December Christmas pyjamas
- 21st December Christmas dress up
- 23rd December Christmas jumpers

Buttercups

This month in Buttercup room we chose our song and story thinking of the children and their interests. Our song this month was 'Incy Wincy spider' and our story was 'room on the broom'. He chose to do these as they also tie in with Halloween, the children loved being involved in all the different activities, they loved painting the broomstick and getting their hands painted into spiders.

Daisy

We have had so much fun in Daisy room this month. We have loved exploring a variety of different textures, the children have loved exploring the different textures and using tools to make marks. We celebrated bonfire night by making firework pictures and edible sparklers, we had so much fun. We have begun lots of fun Christmas activities such as making paper chains, decorating wreaths etc. We have been focusing on colors and shapes this month, the children have loved becoming more familiar with their colors and shapes through lots of exciting activities.

Bluebell

Bluebell have had a fun and exciting month, we have done lots of exciting activities based on bonfire night, we used these activities to explore marks and colors. We have begun doing lots of fun activities for Christmas and are very excited to do the rest of our creative activities. We have enjoyed lots of mark making activities developing our gross motor skills using a variety of different creative tools.

Snowdrop

This month in snowdrop we have still been enjoying our trips to the park whilst the weather is still nice. The children have loved exploring what we can see and especially enjoying saying hello to the people walking their dogs. We have celebrated bonfire night using lots of glitter and colorful tissues and crayons. We have been focus on identifying colors. We have been doing this through questioning the children when painting and using the Lego blocks. We have also celebrated Halloween where some of the children dressed up. We done some spooky activities using black card and white chalk to make skeletons. We also liked looking for spiders in jelly and foam.

Daffodil

This month in daffodil room the children have made focus on a range of events and celebrations such as bonfire night, Halloween, harvest etc. The children enjoyed making pictures to celebrate these events and used a range of loose and natural materials to support these celebrations. We enjoyed talking about the solar system for space day and enjoyed making a solar system. Daffodil are beginning to get ready for Christmas and have begun singing familiar Christmas songs and reading stories and making Christmas crafts.

Sunflower & Tulip

This month tulip room has had so much fun! Our song this month has been Dingle Dangle Scarecrow where we made our own shape scarecrows and learnt our shapes. We also enjoyed singing this song at our daily circle time. Our story of the month has been funny bones where we made our own towns and skeletons.

We've also started on our Christmas celebrations by making our own decorations and enjoying our festive Christmas lunch. And practicing our Christmas songs for our Christmas Carol show. We all love 'Rudolph the red nose reindeer'! We have also enjoyed events such as world jellyfish day where we made our own jellyfish, bonfire night where we made lots of colorful pictures and children in need where we dressed up in spots and yellow. As we continue into the festive season, we are looking forward to many exciting crafts and activities for Christmas and the New year celebrations.

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 – Home made Lasagne



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.



Photos

