



Learn

Enjoy Flourish

Auckland House Day Nursery

Monthly Newsletter

January 2023

Message from the Management team

Welcome to this month's newsletter. What a fun filled; jam packed month our children have had. Some fantastic activities have taken place this month. This month we are continuing with our recruitment and would like to welcome Emily our new apprentice to the team, Emily is currently based in the Snowdrop Room. Also our Deputy Manager Amy has returned from maternity leave and is completing her keep in touch days. We would like to wish Sophia all the best in the future with her career as she is leaving us to start a new adventure this month. She will be returning full time from 6th March. We would like to say a big thank you to all the parents that give up their free time to join in with our story telling week! Our children enjoyed listening to all the lovely stories and we always Appreciate our parents joining in with any activities that we have scheduled.

We are looking to enhance our areas within our rooms and we would welcome any donated resources such as hats, bags, scarfs, gloves and costume Jewellery. Also we are looking to incorporate recycled resources into our activities and would welcome recycled materials such as kitchen rolls, cardboard boxes, newspapers and plastic bottles.

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My name is **Kim Hall** and I will be your child's key person. I am an Early Years Practitioner in Bluebell Room.

I am a fully qualified practitioner. I have a Level 3 qualification in Children's Learning and Development. I have joined Auckland House team in May 2010 and really enjoy working with the children.

Important messages

- Children's Mental health week 6th January 2023
- Valentine's day Tuesday 14th February 2023
- Shrove Tuesday 21st February 2023
- Ash Wednesday 22nd February 2023

Buttercups

This month in Buttercup room we have been singing 'baby shark'. The children have loved getting involved in so many different activities for baby shark, they have done water play, under water tuff tray and done our handprints to make them into fish. For Elmer we have painted the elephants, done different coloured ice, used different coloured resources and made colourful sensory bags. All the children have loved being involved in all the activities. The children have welcomed some new friends and are loving getting familiar with them. Children have enjoyed celebrating Chinese new year and burns night with a range of different creative activities.

Daisy

We have had so much fun in Daisy room this month, we have been focusing on Elmer as our story. We have been learning colours and animals through this book. The children have loved using recycled materials and coloured textures to make their own Elmer's.

Our song was Incy Wincy spider which is one of the children's favourite songs, they love doing the actions along with the song. We painted our hands to make spiders and done gluing and sticking to make the webs. We loved hunting for spiders in the garden and spider Web activities.

We celebrated Chinese New year by tasting Chinese food and making lanterns. We celebrated burns night making Scottish flags, we painted the flags and done gluing and sticking to decorate them. We have read lots of stories for story week using props.

Bluebell

This month in Bluebell, we have had lots of fun and engaged with many different activities. Our song for this month was Leo the Lion, we practiced our loud roars, created some lion faces with paper plates and different coloured paper, and discovered different jungle animals and plants. Our story for this month was 'Dear Zoo', we have enjoyed reading this book and have had lots of fun exploring zoo themed tuff trays with different sensory areas. We have been practicing naming zoo animals and making zoo animal sounds!

This month we celebrated Burns Night, we listened to a short poem, decorated the Scottish flag with mark making materials and had a Scottish themed tuff tray with lots of different blue and white textures.

We also celebrated Chinese New Year, we had a colour rice tuff tray, we explored Chinese pictures and symbols, and for snack we tried some tasty Chinese food!

Snowdrop

This month Snowdrop have enjoyed exploring a range of messy play and creative activities. Children enjoyed celebrating Chinese new year through a range of creative and food tasting activities they had lots of fun! Children also enjoyed celebrating Burns night exploring different sensory activities. We have also enjoyed lots of trips to the park exploring their environment and developing their knowledge of animals. Our story of the month was 'Elmer' We have been learning colours and animals through this book. The children have loved using recycled materials and coloured textures to make their own Elmer's.

We enjoyed exploring Incy Wincy Spider, we enjoyed creating spiders and this helped us with our knowledge of numbers.

Sunflower

This half term we have had lots of fun in Sunflower room. Our story of the month has been 'Charlie Champ' and we have created our own animal masks, created our own monkeys and jungles! Our song of the half term has been 'Old McDonald' and we have enjoyed singing along to one of our favourite nursery rhymes learning the words, we have had an animal hunt in the garden, explored some animal tuff trays, created our own farms with different materials and painted our own animals! We have enjoyed some trips out to the park this month and had some picnics. We have celebrated some festivals and celebrations such as Chinese New Year where we tasted some food and explored a craft activity to create our own noodle bowls with wool and tissue paper! We created our own dragons and fireworks. We have also celebrated Burns Night and created our own Scottish flags. One of our lovely parents come in to read us a nice story to celebrate reading week

Daffodil

This month in Daffodil we have celebrated the first month of the year with lots of fun and exciting activities. We enjoyed many trips to the park to see different animals. This helped us incorporate our story which is 'Topsy and Tim go to the zoo'. We were able to talk about the weather and different animals we seen. We focused on '1,2,3,4,5' once I caught a fish alive song which involved lots of numeracy and arts and crafts activities. We used a range of different materials and resources which helped with colour recognition. We have celebrated Chinese new year and made our own lanterns to celebrate Chinese new year. Also we enjoyed exploring the planet creating a range of different planets, rockets and spaceships. Daffodil have enjoyed lots of dance and movement activities outside to keep them strong and healthy. We have had a fun filled month and looking forward to the new month.

Tulip

This half term Tulip room have had lots of fun in nursery. We have welcomed in some new friends to our room and said goodbye to some old friends who have now moved onto their next adventure in pre prep. Our story of the half term has been 'The Gruffalo' and this has been our favourite story of all. We have been going on gruffalo hunts in the garden with our gruffalo cut out, had breakfast with the gruffalo of a morning, created gruffalo biscuits and some Gruffalo Crumble! We have created our own forests, animals, trees and Gruffalo's with different textures and materials. Our song has been 'Leo the Lion' and we have created our own lions, lion masks, crowns and jungles as well as singing along to our song all month! We have had some trips in the local community to the park and even enjoyed playing in the play area! We have also celebrated Chinese New Year and Burns Night.

Settling in Policy and Procedure

nursery staff will work in partnership with parents/carers to settle the child into the environment. Every child will be offered a settling in period before they start at Auckland house. This gives an opportunity for the parent/carers to get to know the staff, the children, and the routines and also meet their child's key person before their child actually starts within the setting. Hopefully by the time the child starts nursery they will be quite settled and feel confident within their new environment.

During the first settling in session it is the nursery's The policy that one of the main carers spends the allocated time within the room the child is due to start, so they can talk to the staff about routines and anything that concerns their child's care (i.e. care plan, sleep, dietary needs, likes and dislikes, etc). During the first settling in session the parent is also required to complete all the relevant documents including emergency contact details, consent forms and a baseline assessment to inform the child's starting points. For the second visit we suggest that the child is left for an hour, whilst the parent can wait in the Reception area or even leave the nursery premises if they wish to do so. If the child becomes unsettled or distressed the nursery will inform the parent and allow the parent to go in the room and spend some time with their child. For the third visit we suggest leaving your child for an hour and a half. This will allow the child to join in during meal time (i.e. lunch or tea). Some children may need more than 3 visits and this arrangement can continue at manager's discretion until both the manager and the parent feel comfortable that the child has settled and is ready to start the nursery journey.

Parents/carers are invited to phone at any point during the day to check that all is well. A verbal handover will be offered by the key person when parents/carers arrive to pick up their child and also through the EYlog system where the settling in sessions are recorded and monitored.

Recipe of the month – Home made toffee

apples Method

Ingredients

- 8 Granny Smith apples
- 400g golden caster sugar
- 1 tsp vinegar
- 4 tbsp golden syrup

Cooked by our
Chef Claire

1. Place the apples in a large bowl, then cover with boiling water (you may have to do this in 2 batches). This will remove the waxy coating and help the caramel to stick. Dry thoroughly and twist off any stalks. Push a wooden skewer or lolly stick into the stalk end of each apple.
2. Lay out a sheet of baking parchment and place the apples on this, close to your stovetop. Tip the sugar into a pan along with 100ml water and set over a medium heat. Cook for 5 mins until the sugar dissolves, then stir in the vinegar and syrup. Set a sugar thermometer in the pan and boil to 150C or 'hard crack' stage. If you don't have a thermometer you can test the toffee by pouring a little into a bowl of cold water. It should harden instantly and, when removed, be brittle and easy to break. If you can still squish the toffee, continue to boil it.
3. Working quickly and carefully, dip and twist each apple in the hot toffee until covered, let any excess drip away, then place on the baking parchment to harden. You may have to heat the toffee a little if the temperature drops and it starts to feel thick and viscous. Leave the toffee to cool before eating. Can be made up to 2 days in advance, stored in a dry place.

