

Message from the Management Team

Welcome to our October Newsletter! This month has been brimming with exciting and enriching activities. Below is a recap of the highlights from October as well as what is on the horizon:

- **Enriching Halloween Activities:** Our little ones celebrated Halloween in style, engaging in thrilling activities such as pumpkin carving and sensory tuff trays. The excitement and creativity were in full bloom.
- **Connecting with Families at Pumpkin Patch Hightown Farm:** We cherished the delightful moments spent with our families at the 'Pumpkin Patch Hightown' Farm for a fun-filled pumpkin-picking adventure. Your presence made it truly special, and we can't wait to organize more such gatherings in the future.
- **Upcoming Parents' Evening:** Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, 15th November and Thursday, 16th November as we will be hosting Parents' Evenings, providing a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's development, celebrate their achievements, and address any concerns you may have. Please keep a close look out on our EYLOG messages for details regarding your allocated time and date.

We are excited about the continued growth, exploration and development of our children, and we look forward to sharing many more enriching experiences in the months ahead. Stay tuned for more updates and engaging activities!

Auckland Management Team

Introducing Members of our Team –



My Name is Lydia Riding, I have Level 2 qualification in early years and in the future I hope to work towards my level 3. I joined Auckland House day Nursery in June 2022 and currently working in the Buttercup room. I have two years' previous experience in childcare and am excited for my journey at Auckland Nursery.

In my spare time I enjoy spending time with family and socialising with friends.

Important Messages and Key Dates for Diary

-5th November Bonfire night activities to be carried out Wednesday 1st – Friday 3rd November.

-11th – Remembrance Sunday activities to be carried out W/C 6TH November.

-15th & 16th November 2023 Parents evening

-Children in need 17th November – children to come into nursery wearing spotty tops.

-30th November St. Andrews Day children can dress in white or blue.

Contact Aucklandhouseadmin@aucklandcollege.com

Phone: 0151 727 0083

Email: aucklandhouseadmin@aucklandcollege.com

Buttercups

In the Buttercup Room, we had a spectacular start to the Autumn season, with our children engaging in a wide range of activities that not only celebrated Halloween but also nurtured their development in various ways.

Our Song of the Month, 'Incy Wincy Spider,' provided a fantastic opportunity for fine motor skill development. The children created hanging spider handprints, sunshines, and run pictures using a variety of materials and crafts. Their exploration of new textures in a hidden spider web tuff tray further honed their fine motor skills.

'Room on the Broom' was our chosen story for October, and it beautifully complemented our Halloween and autumn-themed crafts. The children engaged in a range of activities, from making glitter witches' cauldrons to creating pumpkin pictures. They also practiced mark-making to craft witches' hats and enjoyed the thrill of finding hidden spiders in red jelly. These activities not only encouraged storytelling but also artistic expression.

Our Halloween celebrations included a dress-up competition and a delightful range of spooky tuff trays and activities. These not only sparked creativity but also promoted imaginative play.

Daisy

In Daisy room, this month has been a lot of excitement, creativity, and skill development for our children.

Our Song of the Month, 'Incy Wincy Spider,' inspired the children to unleash their creativity. They used a variety of creative tools to craft their own spiders, fostering artistic expression and fine motor skills. Furthermore, as they explored messy play textures for their spider webs, they discovered the sensory world, enhancing their tactile sensitivity.

Our Story of the Month, 'The Gruffalo,' opened up a world of imagination and language development. Through this captivating story, the children not only enjoyed the narrative but also learned about different animals. Using various creative tools and textures, they recreated these animals, strengthening their storytelling abilities and artistic talents.

Halloween-themed activities added a touch of spooky fun. The children explored various textures in our tuff trays, promoting sensory development and tactile awareness. Trips to the park provided opportunities for physical exploration, developing gross motor skills and fostering a connection with nature.

Snowdrop

In Snowdrop Room this month, our focus has been on the tale of the Gingerbread Man. Through a variety of engaging activities, our children have not only had a blast but have also developed essential skills such as physical skills, creativity, fine motor skills and language development.

Our little ones have been on exciting adventures, chasing each other around the garden in a playful reenactment of the Gingerbread Man's escape. To make it even more exciting, we set up obstacle courses that challenged their agility and coordination.

The children's artistic talents shone as they decorated gingerbread pumpkins and a charming gingerbread house. These hands-on crafts not only sparked creativity but also allowed them to savor the delicious results of their work.

We have continued to develop our children's fine motor skills through playdough cuttings, perfect for crafting their very own Gingerbread Man. This activity promoted precision and control in their little fingers.

As we painted our gingerbread men, the children had opportunities to discuss and name the colors they used, fostering language and communication skills.

For our Song of the Month, we explored 'Hey Diddle Diddle,' inspiring imagination and conversation about the universe. We engaged the children in crafting a moon from tin foil and vibrant stars with paint, all while encouraging discussions about the wonders of the night sky.

We also set up a captivating black and white tuff tray to represent the cow from the nursery rhyme. This gave us a chance to explore contrasting colours and engage in conversations about patterns and contrasts.

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Daffodil

In the Daffodil room, this month has been a lot of fun and learning. With 'Incy Wincy Spider' as our Song of the Month, the children engaged in crafting handprint spiders. This creative learning opportunity not only sparked imagination but also improved children's fine motor skills. Additionally, the children created a waterspout for the spiders to climb up, enhancing their hand-eye coordination and problem-solving abilities.

Our exploration of 'Room on The Broom' involved a captivating journey through various textures, including sand, foam, gloop, and water. This sensory adventure allowed the children to develop tactile awareness and expand their sensory vocabulary. As we explored 'Room on The Broom,' we read the book multiple times and enjoyed exclaiming "whooooosh" as the Witch flew away. This repetition enriched their language skills and storytelling abilities. Creating broomsticks, magic wands, and exploring the animals in the book further fostered their imaginative play and language development.

Our children actively observed the changes in nature as we transitioned into Autumn. Their nature hunts for items like orange leaves and pine cones not only connected them to the natural world but also supported their observation skills and encouraged an appreciation for the environment.

The children's artistic talents flourished as they crafted Halloween decorations for our room. These creative projects allowed them to express themselves and develop their artistic skills.

Sunflower

In the Sunflower room, October has been a fantastic month filled with engaging activities that have helped our children develop a variety of valuable skills such as fine motor skills and creativity; imaginative play and artistic expression; language development; rhythm and coordination.

Through crafting pumpkins, spiders, ghosts, and bats, our children have honed their fine motor skills. These activities encouraged precision and dexterity while fostering creativity.

Our Story of the Month, "Room On The Broom," sparked imaginative play. Using various media and materials, the children brought the characters to life, crafting their own witch, dragon, dog, broomsticks, and cauldrons. This process not only encouraged storytelling but also artistic expression.

With "Incy Wincy Spider" as our Song of the Month, the children explored language through the song's lyrics and actions. Crafting spiders, sunshines, water spouts, spider webs, and rain clouds further enhanced their fine motor skills.

Dancing to spooky songs whilst learning about Halloween provided an opportunity for rhythm and coordination, promoting physical development and a sense of rhythm.

Tulip

In Tulip this month, we embarked on a Halloween adventure filled with exciting activities that not only entertained but also enriched our children's development in various ways.

Our exploration of pumpkins allowed our children to experience different textures, especially when cutting them to examine the seeds. As they counted the seeds, they improved their maths skills as well as their fine motor skills.

We got creative with finger-painted ghosts, crafting our own witch hats, and building haunted houses. These activities encouraged artistic expression, fine motor skill development, and imaginative play.

Our story, '10 Little Pumpkins,' inspired the creation of pumpkins and cats. This hands-on approach to storytelling not only deepened their understanding of narratives but also enhanced fine motor skills.

Through our song 'I Can Sing a Rainbow,' we focused on color recognition. Our children explored different colored activities and sorting exercises, contributing to their cognitive development and understanding of the world around them.

Looking ahead to next month, we have even more exciting opportunities for learning and growth, with 'Let It Go' as our song and 'Betty and the Yeti' as our story.

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Buttercup



Daisy



Snowdrop



Daffodil



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Sunflower



Tulip



Auckland House Lasagne Recipe

Ingredients:

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- 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

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.

Finely chop 4 slices of prosciutto from a 90g pack, then stir through the meat mixture.

Pour over 800g passata or half our basic tomato sauce recipe and 200ml hot beef stock. Add a little grated nutmeg, then season. Bring up to the boil, then simmer for 30 mins until the sauce looks rich. Heat oven to 180C/fan/160C/gas 4 and lightly oil an ovenproof dish (about 30 x 20cm).

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. 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. Scatter 125g torn mozzarella over the top.

Arrange the rest of the prosciutto on top. Bake for 45 mins until the top is bubbling and lightly browned.

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