

### Message from the Management Team

Welcome to our November 2023 Newsletter! This month has been filled with excitement and sparkle as we engaged in a variety of enriching activities with your little ones.

Throughout November, we have celebrated Bonfire Night, Remembrance Day and Children in Need. The children explored a range of thrilling and explosive activities, immersing themselves in mark-making and messy play. These experiences not only brought joy but also contributed to their sensory development and creative expression.

We would like to thank all the parents who participated in our bi-annual Parents Evening. It was a pleasure to see so many familiar faces, and our staff team enjoyed sharing updates on your children's progress and development. Your involvement is crucial to our collaborative efforts in nurturing each child's journey. Following the Parents Evening, we shared a Parents Survey to gather your valuable feedback. Thank you for taking the time to provide us with insights that contribute to our ongoing commitment to continuous improvement. Based on your feedback, we have already implemented new initiatives, and we will provide you with a full overall analysis in the next couple of days. Your positive remarks about our dedicated staff members have been noted, and we will share these commendations with the team to acknowledge their vital role in your children's development.

As we transition into December, we are pleased to announce a lineup of exciting events and activities to celebrate the festive season, summarised below in the Important Messages section. We will keep you regularly updated through Eylog emails, along with observations of your little ones actively participating in these joyous activities.

#### Introducing Members of our Team –



My Name is Rachel, I have Level 3 qualification in early years. I joined Auckland House day Nursery in July 2022 and currently working in the Sunflower room. I have 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

- **Christmas Jumper day** – We will be raising money for save the children for the national Christmas jumper day Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023, we are excited to see all our festive jumpers.
- **Christmas Dinner** – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December, mmm its going to be delicious!
- **Christmas Party** – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023 lets gets festive and have a dance!
- **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – nursery closes for Christmas
- **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023-** nursery re-opens for 2024.

### **Buttercup**

November has been a delightful month in the Buttercup room! Our activities this month were inspired from the story 'The Colour Monster' and the song 'Zoom Zoom Zoom.'

The children have immersed in a rainbow of colours through hands-on experiences with sensory-based tuff trays. The sparkly silver tuff tray with glistening tinsel was the favourite tuff tray for our little ones, sparking their curiosity and allowing them to engage in tactile experiences. Additionally, our space-themed tuff trays transported the children to the cosmos, where they had a 'blast' whilst we were moulding planets from playdough.

There is no space left on our display board after a month filled with space crafts. We have painted stars, UFO's and planets, made paper plate aliens and footprint rockets. We have also played with sensory bags filled with paint and glitter to make some fantastic intergalactic pictures.

November has also been a month of many other celebrations and events such as Remembrance Day where we made our own poppies. We then experimented with mark making to create bonfire night firework pictures and had great fun in a cornflake Pudsey tuff tray to support Children in Need.

We look forward to sharing our exciting activities linked to the festive season.

### **Daisy**

It has been an exciting and educational month in Daisy Room, filled with laughter, learning, and creativity! Our featured story of the month, 'Rainbow Fish,' has not only captivated the children's imaginations but also provided valuable opportunities for skill development. The children loved looking at different coloured fish and learning colours. We have used a variety of different creative tools and materials to make our own fish, and the children loved exploring the different textures and colours. Additionally, we have engaged in lots of water play with toy fish in which the children really enjoyed.

Our song of the month was 'Zoom Zoom' and the children really love this song and get so excited when we sing it. We used lots of different recycled materials to make our own rockets. We have also loved looking at stars and the moon and learning about them. We even made our own stars using different textures. Our exploration of textures extended to gluing and sticking activities, painting and mark making, enhancing fine motor skills and encouraging tactile discovery.

In addition to these enriching activities, Daisy Room children engaged in other various celebrations, including Remembrance Day, Bonfire Night and Children in Need. We can't wait to share with you the fun activities we have planned for the month of December.

### **Snowdrop**

December has been a month of exploration and skill-building in Snowdrop! Our song of the month "One, Two, Buckle My Shoe," set the tone for our activities. Throughout the month, threading became a focus, offering valuable opportunities for the children to enhance their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination. As the children engaged in this tactile activity, they not only strengthened their fingers but also practiced counting, reinforcing early numeracy concepts. The creativity continued as we cut out templates of shoes and invited the children to design their own footwear. This activity not only promoted artistic expression but also supported shape recognition and fine motor skills.

Our story of the month, "Room on the Broom," sparked imaginative play in our home corner and dressing-up area. The children delighted in dressing up, not only exploring different roles but also refining their social skills through imaginative play. To bring the story to life, we crafted our own brooms using sticks, adding a tangible and creative element to our learning. We have ventured outdoors where we have enjoyed nature-inspired adventures, looking for leaves and sticks in the garden. This hands-on experience not only connected the children with the natural world but also provided material for creative activities we engaged in indoors. Painting with natural resources such as leaves encouraged the children to talk about the colours they were using, supporting language development and colour recognition. Additionally, we have also engaged in an obstacle course in the garden. This activity promoted physical development, coordination, and teamwork as the children navigated various challenges.

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### Daffodil

It has been a busy and creative month in Daffodil Room as we engaged in lots of activities based on the "5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer" and "Romp in the Swamp," our song and story of the month. The children enjoyed the variety of activities we have planned for them to enhance their skills and knowledge.

Exploring the song of "5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer," our little ones practiced their mark making skills using paint pens to decorate their own saucers. Furthermore, we engaged in crafting rockets, supporting children's fine motor skills and imaginative play. Engaging in gluing and sticking activities to create stars not only produced lovely decorations but also provided opportunities for the children to recognise and explore different numbers.

For our book of the month "Romp in the Swamp" dinosaurs were the focus. Using dinosaurs and paint, the children explored mark-making and left footprints, learning through sensory experiences and artistic expression. The creation of big dinosaur feet added excitement to our children's imaginative play. Dinosaur-themed tuff trays further enriched their tactile experiences, fostering a deeper understanding of textures and shapes.

We look forward to engaging the children in festive activities during December.

### Sunflower

We have had another fulfilled month in Sunflower room. Our story of the month was "The Hungry Caterpillar" . The children have taken a large liking to our story and we read it everyday. We have explored a range of tuff trays and activities based on our story of the month. The children enjoyed getting creative and using different resources and materials to make cocoons, caterpillars, butterflies and lots of different foods that the caterpillar ate. We have also talked about healthy eating linked to this story.

Our song of the month was "Old McDonald had a farm". This is a favorite in Sunflower room and we sang it daily at circle time. The children enjoyed a variety of tuff trays with different textures and lots of farm animal games. Again, the children enjoyed being creative making tractors, farm houses, ponds, muddy roads and so many farm animals!

As a room we have been focusing on phonics and letter recognition. The children have enjoyed engaging in lots of activities such as letter puzzles, phonics boards, letter bingo, phonics song with flash cards, letter tracing and name tracing.

Next month, we will be planning lots of fun Christmas activities and we are excited to share these with you!

### Tulip

Welcome to our November update from Tulip Room! This month has been filled with activities inspired by our song and story of the month. Our song of the month has been "Let it go". The children have engaged in making snowflakes using glue and sprinkles, enhancing their fine motor skills and fostering creativity. Additionally, we have created our very own castles with paint, providing a hands-on experience that encourages imagination and colour recognition.

As we danced and sang to the tunes of "Let It Go," the children not only enjoyed the music but also improved their coordination and rhythm through movement. The song has brought lots of smiles to the faces of our little ones.

Our story of the month "Betty and the Yeti" captivated the children's imaginations. Listening to this tale inspired us to create our very own Yeti using cotton wool balls. This tactile activity encouraged sensory exploration and fine motor development. The story also created opportunities for discussions with our children about winter clothing and the importance of staying warm.

Through these activities, the children have not only immersed themselves in the magic of storytelling and music but have also developed essential skills such as fine motor co-ordination, creativity and an understanding of seasonal changes.

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## Buttercup



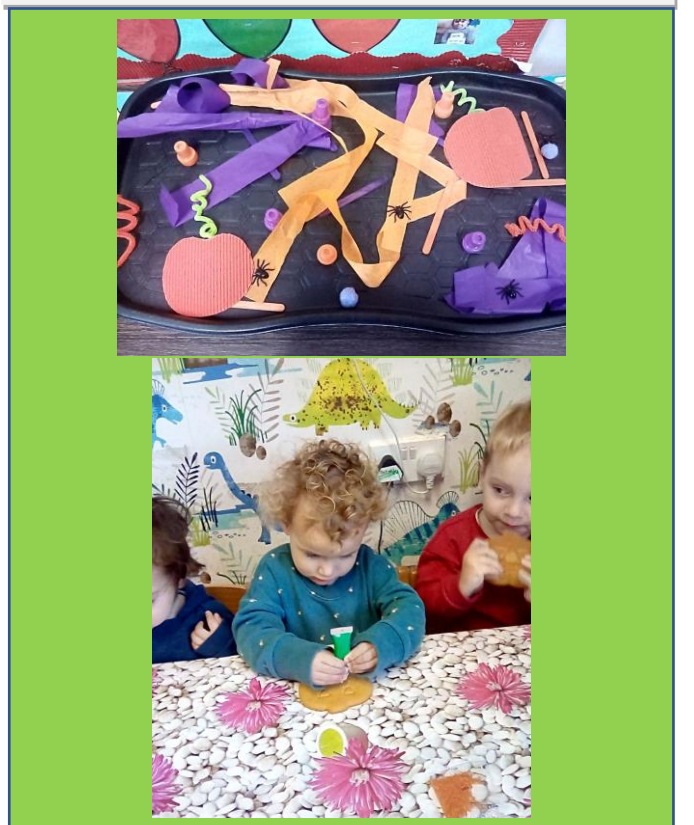
## Daisy



## Snowdrop



## Daffodil



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## Sunflower



## Tulip



## Recipe: Vegetable soup

### Ingredients

#### 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.

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