

February 2019



A very warm welcome  
to Kaden, James,  
John-Thomas, Harry  
and Harrison ☺

**Children's Mental Health Week** is between 4<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> February this year and the theme is 'Healthy: inside and out'. We will be talking to the children about what we can do to look after our bodies and minds. Please see attached sheet for ideas that you can encourage your children.

We think our Special Ladies deserve to be nurtured too! With this in mind...

We would like to invite any special ladies... Mums, Grandmas, Great Grandmas, Grannies, Nanas, Great Nanas and Aunties to come and join us for a **stay and play session (and a cuppa and a cake) on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 1pm or Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 10am**. Please sign up (list on office door) before Monday 22nd March so that we can arrange refreshments.

### *Working with partners*

Now that our new children are settled we are starting to go out and about in the local community.

Some of the children have visited **Woodhouse Close Library**. They looked for different versions of Jack and the Beanstalk and enjoyed a story whilst there. Some of our older children have been on an adventure to try and find Jack at **Auckland Castle**, they then visited **Auckland Tower in the market place** before walking up to **Gregory's** to buy the giant a big pie! (A big thank you to the team at Gregory's - the children were thoroughly spoiled!)

Our children that worked with staff from **Auckland Castle** on the mining project have been invited to see their artwork on display in **NO 42 in the market place**. (A letter is on the way!) It is open Wednesdays to Saturdays from 10am - 4pm and Sundays 11am - 3pm until **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**. Family and Friends are invited to go and see it (no charge).

Our children accessing swimming lessons at **Woodhouse Close Leisure Centre** continue to make amazing progress... we are so proud!



The following children will be celebrating their birthdays this month. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to Lily, Marni-Rae and Bailey as well as Miss Thompson and Mrs Metcalfe!  
We hope you all have a lovely time celebrating.

### **Absence/illness...**

Over the last few weeks, lots of children and families have been hit with winter bugs and infections. We follow **Public Health Agency guidance** to maintain the highest hygiene standards and help to minimise the spread of infection to the other children and families.

If your child is ill, please can you give us a quick call to let us know? This is for 2 reasons, the first is so that we don't worry about your child and the second is that if we have lots of children off for a particular reason, we can seek additional advice/latest guidance from the Public Health Agency.

Thank you very much for your continued support.

Last week, as part of their Goldilocks and the 3 Bears learning, some of the children had a great time making bear biscuits with Mrs High using this very simple recipe and method... do let us know if you try it out!

#### **Ingredients:**

- 175g/6oz plain flour
- 100g/4oz butter
- 50g/2oz caster sugar

#### **Method:**

1. Preheat oven to 150°C
2. Cream butter and sugar
3. Mix in the flour until it forms a ball
4. Roll out the dough until 5mm thick
5. Cut out your biscuit shapes
6. Bake for 25 minutes or until golden brown
7. When cool, share them with your friends & family

*Handy tip! We gave the children a 2oz measuring spoon so they measured 3 flour, 2 butter and 1 sugar!*

January always seems a long month to stretch the family budget!  
On behalf of staff and children we would like to say a very big 'thank you' for your donations to school fund. This month you have bought:

- Daily healthy snacks
- Porridge, baking and playdough ingredients
- Beans for the children to plant
- Creative 'bits and bobs' including shaving foam and Valentine/heart resources
- Children's hacksaws and safety goggles



*Please remember to tick your child's name - the folder is next to the Mickey Mouse money box*

### Chinese New Year...

This year Chinese New Year is from 5<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> February; this year it is the Year of the Pig. The children will be watching a short video clip about traditions and will have the opportunity to take part in creative activities as well as play in the Chinese restaurant and taste Chinese foods including stir fry, noodles, bean sprouts, spring rolls and prawn crackers. If you have any resources we can use e.g. chopsticks, menus etc. please do bring them in for the children to play with! There are lots of activities/celebrations in Durham City on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February** - see the posters on Nursery windows!

**Your child's safety is very important to us... please avoid driving down the approach to the school as this puts other children and parents at risk.**

**Please also be mindful of our neighbours.**

**Thank you for your continuing support.**

### Coats, bags and belongings...

Please make sure all of your children's belongings are named. On the odd occasion, children will take things home by mistake - if they are named, we are more likely to be able to return them to the right child. We are starting to run low on our supplies of spare clothing - if you can provide a bag with a spare set of clothes, we'd be very grateful.

### Safeguarding...

Thank you for your understanding regarding 'picking up' times. We endeavour to open the doors promptly at 11.25am, 2.55pm and 3.25pm and minimise other times the door is opened so that we can maintain our high safeguarding standards.

We also ask you to finish mobile phone conversations before entering the Nursery - we are always willing to supervise the children for an extra minute, if needed.

### Dates for your diary

- Tues 5<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Feb: Chinese New Year
- Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Feb: Safer Internet Day
- Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Feb: Break up for half term holiday
- Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Feb: Children return to Nursery
- Mon 25<sup>th</sup> March aft and Fri 29<sup>th</sup> March morn: 'Special Ladies day' - please sign up on the office door
- Weeks commencing 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> March: Parent/carers consultations
- Fri 5<sup>th</sup> April: Break up for Easter
- Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> April: Children return to Nursery

### GOVERNOR NEWS...

**Safer Internet Day** is on 5<sup>th</sup> February this year and the theme is 'Together for a better internet'. We support and promote safe and responsible use of technology for young people.

More information is available at:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2019>

There are still some copies of the publication 'Digital Parenting' available in the Nursery entrance - please help yourself.

In January, Governors have been working with Mrs Jenkins on the paperwork that must be completed every financial year as well as the 'Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs' Policy.

Lisa Jenkins Head Teacher