

## A New Year and a New Decade

It was lovely to welcome all of our children and families back after the festive break. The children had so many interesting things to tell us about their time with family and friends and of course all the exciting presents they received. We have now got into full swing with the new year, including already having more celebrations as we spoke to the children about Chinese New Year recently.

Wigwam continues to go from strength to strength and move forward with plans for change and improvements to what we are able to offer to our families. We have been delighted with our new all weather surface in the garden, enabling all of our children, including our youngest crawling explorers, to access the space and the resources we have. Its been really great to see all the children in the nursery access the space together and offers a better space and more time for siblings to play alongside each other too.



## New Staff

Kerry Blakeway has just started with us as our Curriculum lead and will be part of the Management team. Kerry will be working within all the rooms and with all staff supporting them in offering quality provision and supporting our Early Years curriculum. Kerry is a qualified teacher who completed her 4-year Honours Degree in Early Childhood Development and Foundation Phase at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. Kerry has been working in a Primary school as a teacher since moving over to the UK. However, her passion has always been to work with the younger children, to give them a love for learning as these are the most important times for their lives.

Chloe Burke has now started with us. She has experience of working in a nursery is has almost completed her Level 2 childcare qualification. Chloe will be based with our babies.

Erin Lyons will be starting with us on 3 March and is Level 3 qualified. Erin has worked at the same nursery for a number of years where she started as an unqualified member of staff and has worked her way up to room leader. Erin brings with experience and fresh ideas and will also be based with our babies.

Tracie Williams - Is the newest member of our Bank team. Tracie has over 20 years' experience of working with nursery aged children and is level 3 qualified.

**Staff update:** Amanda, our wonderful room leader for Turtles and Deputy Manager is currently off sick. We wish her a very speedy recovery and look forward to her return to work.



Tracie Williams



Chloe Burke



## Intergenerational Care

Our intergenerational visits to St Lukes have now started up again and the children were very excited to get back and see their friends in the residential home.

It has been decided that because the sessions are working so well for the children and the residents that in a recent meeting it was felt that the children would be able to visit all of the residents, even those who are unable to attend the activities in the dining room. Due to the impeccable behaviour of the children they now move around the home and visit residents in their rooms to say hello.

## Our intrepid explorers

Kerry, our new Curriculum Lead is going to be heading up our new venture at Wigwam. Our children from Deers and Squirrels are going to be experiencing life as explorers, being able to be involved in different activities, resources and opportunities across both rooms, allowing for amazing adventures, time spent with siblings and with their key person. The children will be in small groups allowing for more opportunity to support social skills, build confidence and communication which for some children, can be tricky in large groups. The sessions will be planned to be able to focus on the children's key interests and enable staff to support children's next steps. Look out for further details in the coming weeks.



### Employee of The Month

Congratulations to Rutendo for winning Employee of the Month. She has gone above and beyond in her job role this month, supporting the running of the nursery in Amanda's absence. Thank you and well done Rutendo.

Make sure you vote for a member of staff each month who you feel deserves extra recognition for their hard work!



### Buggy Shed

Please can we ask all parents who use the shed to store their buggies to make sure these are folded and not left in the main walkway area. This is a fire route and we need to keep the walkway clear for the safety of all staff, children and visitors. If there is no available space, then please place it folded under the canopy area in the garden.

## Day Nursery Reviews

Your feedback means a lot to us at Wigwam and we value positive feedback from our families.

We would be grateful if you could take just 5 minutes to complete a review for us on

[DayNurseries.co.uk](http://DayNurseries.co.uk)



## Facebook

You can also see all the fun activities the children get up to on our Facebook page! Remember to like our page and see what we have been up to.