



July 2015 End of term Newsletter

We have come to the end of another fabulous year. This has been our 9th year in operation and will be approaching our 10th anniversary in October!

We have had a busy year, with many events and stories; we have seen many of our children grow up and move on from Rooftop, a few of our staff have got married, gone on maternity, old staff that have returned from maternity and new faces that have joined us. Throughout all the changes, Rooftop has remained strong, embracing the changes and supporting the children and staff throughout.

Graduation Party

Last month we had to say goodbye to many of our children who will be moving onto school, Alper, Adam, Sophia, Noor, Jaelianna, Amaya and Lucas. We had a party for all the children who left last month or will be leaving soon.

We would like to say a big thank you to all parents and carers' for entrusting your child to our care and for donating and supporting the nursery in so many ways throughout the years.

We had a fantastic graduation party for all the leavers to celebrate their achievements at Rooftop. They started the party with lots of food, entertainment and left with a present from Hafiza. Tarjhanae's grandma very kindly made the leavers a graduation cake and Elke's mum, Amy, did a superb job of entertaining the children with lots of singing, dancing, reading and parachute games.

Thank you to all the parents that donated food towards the party and a special thanks to Tarjhanae's grandma for the cake and Elke's mum for the entertainment!



Please make arrangements to pick up your child's belongings before the end of term, including transition reports, portfolios, spare clothes, activity/art work etc.

July & August Birthdays

Birthday wishes to
Janai, Edon, Billie,
Felix, Ayla,
Beatrix, Dexter,
Shey, William,
Sylvia, Orla, Daniel
& Temima

Health and safety & messages: We would appreciate if all parents can do the following:

- ✓ No mobile phone/camera policy: Please put your phones away once you enter the nursery premises.
- ✓ Kindly like to remind parent's breakfast starts from 8.05 until 8.50. If you wish for your child to have breakfast please arrive on time.
- ✓ Provide plenty of spare clothes for the children that are toilet training and appropriate summer clothing
- ✓ Ensure your child has plenty of nappies and wipes if they are in nappies.
- ✓ Please check your child's pockets to ensure they do not bring in coins
- ✓ Close the gate behind you upon entering and leaving the premises.
- ✓ Ensure your child has slippers and outdoor shoes at nursery
- ✓ Parents are welcome to donate clothes to the nursery
- ✓ Sign your child in and out daily on the register.

Staff Update

- Diana is on leave from Thursday 20th July until the end of term as a reward for winning the title of Staff Award of the Year in addition to leave she has accumulated for being a staff at Rooftop for 5 years. Hope you enjoy your much deserved break!
- We are in the process of recruiting new staff so you may see new faces around the nursery over the next few weeks.
- Welcome Najwa, our new nursery nurse in Rainbow Room.
- A big thank you to Shakirah, our student Administrative Assistant who has been supporting the office team since October 2014. She will be leaving at the end of term and we would like to thank her on behalf of everyone at Rooftop and we wish her all the best for the future.

Online Banking We are kindly requesting parents who pay their fees online to check payments have the correct reference- i.e. your **child's name**. If we find there are other children with the same name we will ask that you add the second name too. If you have had older children who previously attended Rooftop, please change the reference to the child that currently attends to avoid confusion when logging payments by our administrative staff.

Parent e-mails

We send out e-mails regularly to parents to notify everyone of events and updates. If you have not been receiving any emails, then please get in touch. Email: **office@rooftop-nursery.com**

The nursery will close at 4pm on the Last Day of term, Wed 12th August. Please make arrangements to collect your child by 4pm.

Sunshine room

What Sunshine room children did last month



Reminders

- Sunshine room staff would like to remind parents to bring appropriate clothing as the weather gets warmer. Please provide sun hats, sun creams, short sleeve t - shirts and extra clothing as they will be having more water play.
- Provide appropriate footwear
- Please remember to sign your child in and out of the big register upon arriving and leaving the premises
- Please provide nappies and wipes upon request, nursery nappies that are used for your child will need to be replaced with those you provide.
- Ensure you check Sunshine room counter at the end of the day for any dirty clothes and double check with the staff members in the room for any belongings that need to be taken home.
- When dropping your child off after 9am please enter through Sunshine room door.

Welcome

- Sunshine room staff would like to welcome Robyn & Gabriella to the room, they have both settled in well and have made a good bond with their key persons.

Communication and language development

As the weather has been getting warmer, Sunshine room children have been taking part in a summer theme. The children have been exploring sea animals, talking about going to the beach and sharing their experiences. They have been playing 'what's in the bag?' during circle time sessions. Sunshine room children have been given the opportunity to select various sea animals from the bag and have been attempting to name the animals and learn new names by repeating words, for example 'crab', 'lobster', 'octopus' etc.

Physical development

As part of the children's physical development they have been taking part in a range of creative activities, exploring textures and fruit tasting activities this term.

Creating a blue sea



Sunshine room children created a blue sea for their window display and have spent time painting using individual paint brushes on a large white paper. Many of the children took part in this activity and showed interest in exploring the texture of the paint by feeling it and also painted their hands to make hand prints. Flynn and Janai attempted to paint their hands blue during the activity.

Sunshine room children have been mark making using roller

stamps to create beach umbrellas and spades on individual coloured paper; they used their palmer grasp to hold onto the stamps and did a lot of stamping on their paper.

Sunshine room children have also used yellow paint to create a sun and red paint to create buckets for their beach theme. They showed interest in the painting activities and continued to explore the texture through messy play.

Making sea

Sunshine making to hang in many new was a nice they can room creating



octopuses. They have used various techniques to create each sea animal which include painting, using glue to stick shimmery gold paper, sequins and glitter making each sea animal colourful and sparkly.

Ice play and Water play

With the warm weather, Sunshine room have continued water play indoors and outdoors as many of the children like to splash about with water.

The practitioners have extended water play based activities using different ways of keeping cool through providing ice play which enables the children to explore the texture of the ice, learn about temperatures and that the ice is 'cold'. Many of the children showed interest in the ice play so the activity was repeated various times. The ice play provided plenty sensory and exploratory play opportunities.

Exploring fruits

Sunshine room children have been exploring different fruits as part of sensory play and trying new tastes because many of the children tend to put things in their mouth so the practitioners thought this would be a good way for the children to explore.

Sunshine room staff members have been cutting up different fruits such as melon, mango, strawberries, bananas and lemons for the children to taste.



Personal, social and emotional

development

Over the last week Sunshine room staff have been including baby dolls as part of their home corner set up as Orla, Billie and Iris have been showing interest in them. They have been adding more resources each day, enabling the children to role play from their experiences as they learn to take care of the baby dolls, pretending to feed them, put them to sleep and place them in the buggies.

Iris and Ned have been making their transition to Rainbow Room over the last week. They have been supported by their key persons who has been taking them into their new room and spending time with them as they bond with Rainbow room children and their new key person, Chi. Iris and Ned settled well and are having a nice time playing in Rainbow room. They will be missed very much in Sunshine room!

Star Room

- ❖ Book bags: Every Tuesdays and Thursdays. Every child should have a book bag and reading record book. Please keep these safe.
- ❖ Show and Tell: 1st week of every month. Please ensure children bring in toys only during the first week of the month and not any other time as this upsets some of the children who do follow this rule.
- ❖ Ensure your child always has plenty of spare clothes in a labelled bag.
- ❖ Provide Sun hats. Nursery uses Nivea sun cream on the children if your child cannot use Nivea then provide an alternative and write the child's name on it.
- ❖ Sign in and out of the parent register
- ❖ Return nursery spare clothes
- ❖ Children to wear trainers on Tuesdays and Thursdays for football

Expressive arts and design

Last month, the children did fun activities which involved exploring different media and materials. They worked in pairs to make play dough. They were encouraged to work in pairs and to take turns sharing the resources.

Millie and Arthur were partners and both had lots of fun pouring the water and the flour. When Millie needed help clearing the play dough, Arthur was very happy to help her and with great pride showed her and his friends his messy hands from the play dough.



At the end of the activity when the children were asked whether they enjoyed it or not and why, they all said yes, and Tarjhenae explained why she enjoyed it: "Because we did good sharing!"

The children also baked cupcakes. They described the texture and form of the ingredients before they mixed it all together. Albert told his friends, “The vanilla is liquid. Water is a liquid”.

Cormac handled the eggs very carefully and told his friends, “It’s hard and slimy!” They discussed what happens to the ingredients once everything is mixed together and Jasmine said, “It’s a big mix!” The children waited patiently for their turn to mix and to pour in ingredients.



Through activities like this, the children learn key social skills like turn taking, listening to others and team building skills.

Knowledge and Understanding of the world

Star room took part in an experiment. In pairs, they took turns to pour and mix certain ingredients together to observe what happens. Albert explained to his friends, “*Experiment is you don’t know what is going to happen, you think it’s going to work and it does!*” They identified all the ingredients like flour, bicarbonate soda and vinegar. Rafael told everyone, “The flour is like powder!”



Once they poured in the vinegar the children were excited to see the mixture bubbling! Ayla and Joseph wanted more bubbles and they realised if they poured more vinegar it will bubble even more. Lucian expressed that he didn’t like the smell of the vinegar and later recalled that, “We made bubbles with cornflour”

After describing the ingredients they watched a video about different states of matter; solid, liquid and gas. They learnt that liquids are things like water and juices and gases are things like air and the steam from kettles and solids are hard things like tables and chairs. The children were very interested in this topic and used their critical thinking skills to give examples of their own which showed their engagement in the topic.

Starting School: Personal social emotional development

Some of the children were very excited discussing their new schools to each other! Sylvia told her friends that she’ll be going ballet at her new school and Jasmine said she has a sand and water tray together at her school.

They talked about the different uniforms they have to wear and Joseph told his peers that he won’t have to wear a uniform. Millie and Albert said they will be wearing red, white and grey/black.

All the children then used different coloured cards to cut out and design school uniforms. Lucian wanted to make a dress with a skirt and Sylvia also made the same.



The children who were/are leaving were given the opportunity to discuss new routines, their new play areas and teachers in their school by drawing pictures of everything with their friends. Tarjhenae drew a picture of her playground and Jasmine said she was going to draw her teachers.

Knowledge and Understanding of the world

Star room children learnt about the celebration of Eid. They talked about how people celebrate Eid. Jemima said, "Do we have a party for Eid?" and Millie said, "Eid sounds like Christmas". They decorated card and papers to make lanterns and chains to decorate star room. They used different coloured glitters and paints to mix and make new colours. Albert told us that, "Eid is a celebration where you party and eat lots and lots!"

Physical development

The football sessions are a continuing success with the children and therefore we will be continuing the sessions next term. Last month, the children got to test all the new skills that they have been learning by carrying out an obstacle course.

In the obstacle course they had to tip toe with the ball through cones, jump over a row of cones, dribble the ball towards the goal and then shoot a goal. All the children loved this game and listened attentively to all the instructions given. They were able to go through the whole obstacle course without needing to be reminded of all the steps! Well done Star room!

Star room graduation party



Last month we said Goodbye to many star room children that are leaving to go to their new schools.

They had a graduation party in which the children got to feast on lots of delicious snacks, a beautiful graduation hat cake, join in with Elke's mums activity fun and receive presents and certificates.

The children had lots of fun at the party and the highlight of the party was definitely Elke's mums' entertainment!



Thank you

Thank you to Millie's mum and dad for the lovely big book they gifted to Star room. The children have enjoyed it very much.

Rainbow room

Reminders

- Rainbow room children need indoor closed-toe slippers
- Ensure your child has plenty of nappies, wipes and spare clothes for those that are toilet training and ensure these are labelled.
- Please ensure your child does not bring in any toys from home as this disrupts their play in the nursery
- Please sign your child in and out on the parents register.
- Lots of spare clothes needed for water play

Welcomes and Goodbyes

- We would like to welcome Ned and iris to rainbow room, they are both doing really well with their settling in process and have formed a bond with their new key person Chi
- A sad goodbye to Emily, Shey, Thea and Risky-blue who have been settling into Star room and making good progress.

What Rainbow room did last month

Ramadan

To mark Ramadan, Rainbow room practitioners talked to the children about what happens during the month of Ramadan and to support their understanding they carried out some messy activities. They talked about people fasting during this period and talked about them praying throughout the day.

Physical development- Rainbow room children created henna prints by drawing around their hands and then using a variety of crayons to draw different patterns.

Thea wanted to make hearts for her henna designs and Amena wanted to draw circles. As part of the Ramadan theme, the children created different plates of food. They searched on the computer for traditional snacks they would eat during this time and then printed them out. They then used one handed tools to cut them out and stuck them down onto their own plates of food.

Expressive arts and design- The children made a mosque using a large piece of card; they used glue spreaders on the card to spread the glue and then stuck down shiny pieces of paper to create the pattern of their mosque.

They talked about the prayer mats and that they come in many different patterns so then they decided to create their own prayer mats using a finger painting technique. They were given a selection of colours to choose from to do their finger painting



Summer/ Going on holiday

Rainbow room have been doing lots of activities based around summer and talking about clothes we wear during summer to develop their understanding of seasons. They painted using colours that reflect summer and talked about going on holidays as this has become a recent interest for the children.

Communication and language – during their group discussions, the children talked about the clothes we wear during this period. Ezra said that he wears his shorts and crocs when it is hot, Jasmine showed everyone her sandals and she said they were for summer.



On the topic of holidays the children talked about taking different types of transport to go on holiday. They mentioned going on an airplane and then explained that they would need to go to an airport to get on a plane. Thomas talked about using the train to go on holiday. They spoke about packing; Emily said that we needed to pack sun cream; Ezra said he needed to pack ice cream and sweets and Wren talked about packing her snacks and sweets.

Physical development – the children talked about foods they like to eat during summer and some mentioned jelly and fruit so they decided to make fruit jelly. For this, they cut up strawberries, grapes and bananas using plastic knives. The children all attempted to cut the fruit independently and asked for help when needed.

As they cut each fruit, they were encouraged to describe the colours, textures and tastes. The children then watched an adult make the jelly. Once cooled, the children mixed their fruit into the jelly mixture.



Little Red Riding Hood

During story sessions children have enjoyed reading Little Red Riding Hood so Rainbow Room practitioners had Little Red Riding Hood as the theme of the week. They used puppets to tell the story, dressed up and role-played different parts of the story, pretending to be different characters.

Personal, social and emotional – The story also led to discussions about stranger danger. Using Red Riding Hood and the wolf as an example, Rainbow room spoke about being safe and not talking to strangers. To help them differentiate between strangers and loved ones, the children were asked to think about the people in their lives that care for them.

Literacy – Rainbow room had many story sessions reading this book. They read it indoors, outdoors and as cosy story sessions giving them the opportunity to remember and understand the story and fill in the blanks. The Children were able to retell the main parts of the story in order and talk about the characters.

