



**A very Happy
Birthday to Ihsaan
and Amaru!**



Graduation Ceremony

To celebrate Rainbow Room children's achievements over the period they have spent at Rooftop Nursery, we hosted yet another special graduation ceremony to give the children a good send-off before they start school in September.

Hafiza began the ceremony with a heartfelt speech dedicated to the children, highlighting their strengths. The children were praised for their progress and development as they have become very talented, independent, and confident individuals over the years.

The ceremony was a great moment to celebrate the children's achievements and progress at Roof Top Nursery where they have all been actively involved in all of the nursery activities such as reading, writing, baking, making friends, and learning how to resolve issues and overcome challenges.

As the children prepare for the next stage in their lives and look forward to starting school in September, we would like to wish them all the best and that they continue shining each day as they blossom into amazing individuals.

At the end of the speech, each child had the opportunity to collect their certificates from Shaheena (Our Site Manager), then gave Hafiza a handshake before having their photo taken. The children sang their graduation song which was dedicated to all the teachers and their parents for the role they play in the children's lives. The children also cut their beautiful graduation cake and enjoyed their party thereafter where they had some yummy snacks followed by entertainment, dancing, and games.



We would like to take the opportunity to share Hafiza's heartfelt speech which was shared during the children's graduation ceremony in this month's newsletter.



(Ref: Hafiza Bhaiyat, 15th July 2024 Rooftop Nursery @ Brook): We want to start by thanking all the children, parents, and staff for being here today on this very special occasion for our children who will be leaving Rooftop Nursery and moving on to school.

Time – Months, days, and hours are trickling away..... and we can't believe another nursery year is coming to an end. This is our 18th year in operation, and we are truly grateful for all our days. Every morning our nursery comes alive with the spirit of our happy and energetic children. This sets the tone for the day for us. **We are Alive and Awake!**

I want to start by saying how proud all the staff are of all the children in this nursery for becoming very talented, independent, confident individuals..... some of you children have been with us since you were a baby and we have seen you crawl, walk and talk. Some of you are now able to read and write and some of you are proudly putting one and 2 letters together and have now started to read. Today is about celebrating your achievements and the progress that you have made with us at Roof Top Nursery, you have all been actively involved in all the nursery activities such as reading, writing, baking, making friends, and learning to resolve issues and overcome challenges.

The children that are graduating today from the nursery have made great progress from the time they first started nursery after the pandemic, as parents who went through a pandemic with their newborn in the early days of their child in this world, some children were hugely impacted after the pandemic with a high number of children in with social difficulties, language delay, and additional support needed to help these children and some parents requiring emotional and mental support. We are pleased with the outcome and proud to say the children are now confident, and resilient and outshine the rest of the children who have previously left this nursery. This has been a huge effort put into these children with the support of our staff team and you as parents.

You all have been active explorers and used your creative thinking in your play and learning. You have developed further independent skills, social skills, and important etiquette of life.

The effort and love given to you by your staff in your room and the nursery, from Peri, Janet, Lilly, Faiza, Naila, Demi, Faheka, Claire, and Shaheena in your final year, we cannot thank them enough, we are grateful to have such loving staff in our nursery for all of you.

It was a great pleasure looking after so many shining stars here at Rooftop over the last 18 years. The time has come to say goodbye, each day has been filled with fun and excitement, we laughed together, played, learned, & enriched our lives together. As much as we feel sad to see you all leave & move on to school, we would like to say to all the children that we wish you all the best in your new school & we hope you will continue to be independent learners & seekers of knowledge.

Thanks a million

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support over the years which is so invaluable to us.

You have all been amazing, thank you for working in partnership with the nursery and attending all our events.

Wishing you all the best!



A few highlights from our Graduation ceremony - Class of 2024



Cutting the cake

Party Food



Parachute game



Photoshoot 2024

Our group picture



Last Goodbyes

It has been a pleasure looking after all of the children at Rooftop Nursery. Sadly, we had to say Goodbye to Cesar who has moved to France. He will be missed dearly, and we wish him and his family all the best.

Thank you for the sweet postcard x



Brook site closure – Goodbyes and Good luck to all

Brook's last day of operation for the children was on Thursday 18th July 2024. Indeed, a sad day for all.

We would like to say a big thank you to all parents, carers, children, staff and students for being a part of this journey at Rooftop Nursery. It has been lovely to see the Brook site flourish and thrive over the years.

With huge sadness, as we end this season and move forward, for some of us this will be the beginning of a new chapter, some children will be transitioning to school in September, some children have already begun transitioning to our Ottaway Site and some of our children have moved homes and countries. We would like to wish everyone a smooth transition and all the best.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support over the years which is so invaluable to us.

You have all been amazing, thank you for working in partnership with the nursery and attending all our events.

"Thank you to all the staff that have stood by Rooftop Brook from the beginning, we appreciate all the support and contributions provided by every staff member to ensure the children were well looked after, nurtured and cared for. Some of our staff started as students and progressed in their roles which was a great milestone. The entire process has been a learning opportunity for everyone, and many families have been supported by our team effort put forth".

(Ref: Hafiza Bhaiyat, 15th July 2024, Rooftop Nursery @ Brook)

We would like to thank Hafiza for all her hard work and passion in ensuring her business thrives and for providing us with the opportunity to reach out to the community and provide a service in the Hackney Downs area which has been a great success.

Best wishes and good luck to all

Rooftop Team

Sunshine Room and Rainbow Room combined

Summer



The children participated in activities relating to summer to learn more about this season especially as we are near the end of this term. As the weather was warm and sunny on some days, the children participated in lots of water play and spent the majority of their time playing and taking part in activities outside. The children took part in activities learning about the changes in the weather, such as warm temperatures, appropriate seasonal clothing and exploring summer fruits.

Summer water play with Citrus fruits

Expressive arts and design – Being imaginative and expressive

The children participated in exploring water play with orange slices and flowers. The practitioner also added a little bit of food colouring to change the colour of the water to make it more fascinating for the children. Willow, Nala, Bobby, Galad, Idris and Matteo took part in this activity, and they all showed interest.

The children used their senses to explore whilst playing, especially smelling the oranges as they flavoured the water. Matteo attempted to taste the orange as he is one of the youngest children in Sunshine Room, however the practitioner encouraged him to smell it instead. The rest of the children were feeling and smelling the oranges and the flowers whilst playing, [exploring objects by linking together different approaches: looking, feeling, tasting and mouthing](#).

The children spent some time doing this activity, using their fine motor skills and imagination. The students supported the children, by talking to them about what they were playing with, such as what colours and shapes they could see.

The children then brought some cups and bowls into the water play from the home corner unit and showed interest in filling and pouring out the water. Willow, Nala, and Bobby were role-playing, talking amongst themselves and pretending they were making some juice and giving it to each other whilst pouring it into their cups.

This activity was a great opportunity for the children to explore their senses, likes and dislikes and hold an open conversation amongst their peers and practitioners during the activity.



Summer continued

Sunshine and Rainbow Room children enjoyed taking part in the summer theme as they were able to continue exploring summer fruits, role-playing, buying/ selling ice cream, water play, and exploring their summer clothing. The children were also given time to explore their likes and dislikes tasting watermelon during free play. These activities supported the children to learn about summer.



Exploring a watermelon

Shape, space, and measure

The children from Rainbow Room and Sunshine Room took part in exploring a watermelon. The children who participated were Nala, Willow, Amaru, Iris, Sophia, Zenaiya, Zeynep, Vanessa, and Matteo. The practitioner showed the children the watermelon and the practitioner asked the children some questions such as, how much do you think this watermelon weighs? The children started guessing numbers and the practitioner introduced mathematic words such as kilos, pounds, and grams as she also guessed the weight of the watermelon. The children then took turns holding the watermelon with the support of the adult, they said that the watermelon is heavy, estimating the weight. After [estimating and guessing the weight and size](#), the practitioner asked the children to talk about the colour and shape of the watermelon before cutting it to see the inside.

The practitioner then cut the watermelon in half and talked about the [safety of using sharp tools](#) such as a big knife that only an adult can use. All the children were aware of the danger and replied, "Only adults can use the knife". When asked about the colour, Vanessa, Willow and Nala replied "Green". They identified the colour inside the watermelon too.

The practitioner asked the children, 'Does it have seeds?' All children replied, "Yes", they guessed how many seeds it had and talked about the colours of the seeds as they also observed black and some white seeds. The children were then given a slice of watermelon to explore using their senses to smell and they enjoyed tasting it and we're saying that it tastes sweet.



Making fruit smoothies

Physical Development – Health and Self-care

Rainbow and Sunshine Room children made ice lollies as part of one of their summer themed activities. They were provided with all the ingredients and tools to make it themselves such as mango, strawberries, a chopping board, plastic knives, bowls, and an adult knife for the practitioner. Firstly, the practitioner discussed safety rules about using a knife, they were aware of adult knives being sharp and how they are using plastic knives which are safer, however, they were still careful whilst using them. They then named each fruit, Cruz was the only child to label the mango, but the rest of the children did recognise strawberries and knew the colour of them.



The children were told to choose the colour of the chopping board they wanted, Alice chose red and a red plastic knife, Vanessa chose green, Zeynep chose blue and Nala, Cruz and Galad chose white. The practitioner peeled the mango and gave it to the children to cut into pieces along with the strawberries. Galad ate all his mango and strawberries, and Alice ate some of her fruit. The children talked about healthy food and fruits. They all used their fine motor skills and cut the fruits into pieces, ready for ice lollies.

This activity supported the children with their sensory exploration, following simple instructions and directions and being able to handle tools safely and for a purpose.



Sensory play

Role play/making ice cream

Expressive arts and design

Rainbow and Sunshine Room children role-played making ice cream with playdough. The children started by getting all the resources ready such as flour, oil, bowls, a wooden spoon, water and paint on the table. The practitioner explained to the children that they would make ice cream with playdough and that they were going to use two different colours.



The children started by making pink playdough first and then placed it on top of a funnel as they used their fine motor skills to shape the playdough into a ball shape and then they pretended to eat the ice cream they made.

The children then moved on to making the second coloured ice cream which was blue so they could sell both coloured ice cream with the help of the practitioner.



The children also talked about the summer season as it was sunny outside. They shared their experiences of going to the park and having ice cream from the ice cream van. The practitioner explained that having cool things can cool us down and help us regulate the temperature of our body.

The children spent some time exploring the playdough and Matteo and Alden joined us for the activity. They all had a good time and formed good relationships with each other.



Exploring Zoo animals

As we prepared for our annual summer trip this year to Hertfordshire Zoo, we thought it would be a great idea to explore animals in a variety of forms to build on the children's learning and development and build on their interest in animals. The practitioner took time to speak about the different animals they would encounter on their trip and talked about their names, sizes and colours. The children also took part in some creative and sensory activities such as corn flour play with animals, searching for animals in shredded paper, and animal rescue. The children also took part in their weekly session of 'Yoga' and 'Box of feelings'.



Corn flour play with animals

Physical development – Moving and handling

Our theme for this week was all about the Zoo as the children will be visiting the Zoo with the nursery. Sunshine and Rainbow room children had fun [exploring materials and expressing ideas](#) with messy play and wild animals. The children were provided with cornflour, water, and wild animals in a black tray for them to explore so they could familiarise themselves with the names of each animal: tiger, elephant, monkey, gorilla, cheater, and rhino.



We watched videos of animals we may find in the zoo to prepare them for the trip on Friday, we also talked about some of the animals and where we could see them. Willow, Nala, Idris, Galad, Matteo, and Alden took part, and each child shared his or her favourite animal. Willow said she likes cheaters and she said was making a footprint of the cheater in the cornflour. Galad likes giraffes, Idris likes elephants, Nala likes tigers and Alden likes cheaters. We described each animal and the children made marks in the cornflour, while a practitioner wrote all the names of the animals with her finger, the children joined to do the same, and they all enjoyed the activity.

Shredded paper play with animals

Communication and language – Speaking

Sunshine and Rainbow room children participated in a fun activity which was playing with shredded paper and wild animals allowing them to [explore objects by shaking, hitting, looking, feeling, pulling, turning, and poking](#). The children were asked to find the hidden animals in the shredded paper such as a goat, cow, sheep, lion, elephant, tiger, zebra, pig, and many others. The children then chose their favourite animals and talked about the colours, where we can find them, and how they sound, and they also talked about the zoo as most children will be going on the trip to the Zoo with the Nursery.

Nala said she liked sheep and pigs, and she demonstrated how pigs sounded to her peers. Idris likes cows and we talked about colours and how they sound. Willow said, "I like zebra", Iris said she likes pigs and Amaru likes tigers.

The children learned that some animals are very dangerous, and we need to be careful when we get to the Zoo. All the children roared like lions. They spent some time exploring shredded paper with animals. The children that took part were Alice, Galad, Cruz, Nala, Amaru, Iris, and Willow, while Ihsaan and Alden showed interest in the train and train tracks. This activity supported the children with their understanding skills and being able to identify all the animals.



Box of feelings

Personal, social and emotional development

Rainbow and Sunshine Room children enjoyed taking part in a box of feeling session with the practitioner in the garden where they learned to describe their feelings and the feelings of others. The practitioner started by asking the children to breathe in and out and then to let the practitioner know how they were feeling today.



Bobby was happy because Daddy shared with her, Willow was sad because she was changing nursery, Nala was sad because she hurt her knee, Galad was happy because of Daddy, Idris was happy to see mummy today, Alice was happy because she went on an aeroplane, Alden was sad because he misses his parents, Matteo was happy to be at Nursery. All the children were able to say how they were feeling and were able to use one or two words to say why. The practitioner was happy to see the children engaged and exploring their feelings. During this activity, some of the older children were able to [talk about how others might be feeling and respond according to their understanding of the other person's needs and wants](#).



The children also had an opportunity to create and develop their understanding of the 'scared' emotion by taking turns to look at the 'scared' emotion card and then one by one they shared with their peers what they thought was going on in that scenario on the card.

Willow, Idris, Bobby, Nala and Alice had a turn one by one to stand up and show their friends the card they took and a little story of what was going on in the picture. Willow did a great job in describing the pictures, while Nala, Bobby and Alice used their imagination to share the story of their pictures. This activity encouraged the children to understand emotion and use their imagination to create a story from the picture cards used and communicate their understanding.

Forest Play

Understanding of the world – The world

Making our way to Hackney Downs Park

Today was our last Forest play session for the term, we had Alice, Nala, Vanessa and Zeynep all take part in their final session for the term accompanied by Shaheena. As we left the nursery and made our way along the roads, we talked about road safety and ensuring we cross the roads safely. Alice and Nala took turns to press the button for the traffic light as we waited for the lights to change and for the green man to appear. As we continued to walk along the pavement the children noticed the new plants and flowers, Shaheena asked the children what they could see,



and Alice responded “Flowers”, the children were asked, “What colour are the flowers? Vanessa responded, “Purple”

Forest play rules

Upon arriving at Hackney Downs Park, we walked through the grass towards our designated area and met the star room children from Ottaway. The children all gathered together and formed a circle before we went over the Forest play rules with Hafiza. The children were asked, “What’s rule number 1?” What’s rule number 2? What’s rule number 3? Some of the Ottaway children confidently responded to each question such as:

1. No picking, no licking
2. If a bee or dog comes near you, X factor
3. No running past the red tape

Nala did well following instructions and modelling the X factor, Alice, Zeynep and Vanessa carefully listened.



Log Climbing

The children were excited to take part in log climbing, Alice and Nala chose to explore this area first and challenge their physical abilities by climbing onto the log, sliding along the log and balancing on them with adult support, to begin with. Gradually during the session, with continued practice Nala and Alice showed independence as they confidently walked across with minimal to no adult support, they showed a can-do attitude and were persistent in accomplishing a skill. Zeynep also spent time climbing the log after exploring the other areas, she required support with balancing until she felt comfortable to have a go herself. Vanessa also joined in with log climbing and attempted to walk across and balance whilst the practitioner held her hand. On one section of the log, the children noticed there were a lot of ants coming out of a hole, they each showed curiosity at first, Nala was a little scared and didn't want to be near the ants. The children were able to successfully [jump off an object and land appropriately using hands, arms and body to stabilize and balance](#)



On one section of the log, the children noticed there were a lot of ants coming out of a hole, they each showed curiosity at first, Nala was a little scared and didn't want to be near the ants. The children were able to successfully [jump off an object and land appropriately using hands, arms and body to stabilize and balance](#)

Mini Beast hunt

All the children took part in using the mini beast chart as they went on a hunt to find the required insects on their chart. Alice, Zeynep, Vanessa and Nala each took a felt tip and searched the Forest play area with support from the practitioner. They looked high and low, on the plants and leaves and on the logs. Nala was not sure how to form a tick in the



box, Peri modelled this to her, Nala attempted to tick one of the boxes thereafter and did a great job. Alice was informing the practitioner which mini beasts she had found and drew on her chart and created a few other marks with her red felt tip.

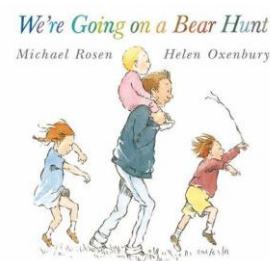
Mud Painting

Zeynep and Vanessa's first choice of activity was mud painting. They both gathered around Hafiza and chose a bucket and paintbrush. They added some scooped soil and poured some water into their bucket to form the mud paint. They each wandered off afterwards and spent time painting a large log on the floor. They formed strokes with their brush as they covered the log in different areas and showed the practitioner their artwork. Alice and Nala joined in with mud painting later on and used their imagination during the process as they pretended to paint different things. This activity enabled the children to [explore and experiment with an increasing range of media and movement through multi-sensory exploration and expression](#)



We're going on a bear hunt

The children had the opportunity to take part in acting out "We Are Going on a Bear Hunt" during their forest play session which was brought to life with a range of props. The children gathered in a large group and the practitioners led the way. The children and the practitioners read out the phrases from the story and most children were already familiar with the story and repeated it with the practitioners confidently.



The children used their imagination and moved their bodies whilst introducing a storyline into their play, [joining in singing songs](#). The children faced a series of obstacles including a river, grass, a snowstorm, and a cave. When the children pretended to come to a river, they repeated the phrase 'deep cold river' and words such as 'over', 'under', and 'through'. As the children pretended to cross through the river, they all shouted, 'Splish', 'splosh' as one practitioner sprayed some water using a water bottle, [beginning to make believe by pretending using sounds, movements, words, and objects and describe sounds and music imaginatively, e.g. scary music](#).

The children then came across grass, they used their feet and legs to wave them side to side, whilst pretending to cross the 'long wavy grass'. When we came across a snowstorm, two practitioners held a material whilst we all went under the material pretending it was a snowstorm and the children copied the practitioner as they pretended to shiver and Leif said, "That was cold", as we [experimented with ways to enclose a space, create shapes and represent actions, sounds and objects](#).



Finally, we all came towards the logs which was the 'narrow gloomy cave', when the children noticed the 'bear', they all screamed and quickly rushed back through all the scenes they went through and pretended to go under the covers where the children were covered with material and they said, "we are not going on a bear hunt again".



Hide and seek

Toward the end of the session, the children took part in hide and seek. The children were divided into three groups, each accompanied by a staff member. Some of the children hid behind logs, bushes, and trees. Hafiza counted aloud with 3 children and checked high and low to see where everyone hid.

The children showed excitement in seeking out their peers and were intrigued as they showed curiosity. As Hafiza searched for everyone she shouted out, "Where oh where are you?" In response, the children shouted back, "We are here, we are here!" When Hafiza found the first group of children, they all teamed up to find the second and third groups together, as they looked for the 2nd group, they discovered them under the covers and screamed with excitement when they found them, the last set of the children were discovered behind the large log. The children enjoyed this game thoroughly and were able to follow directions





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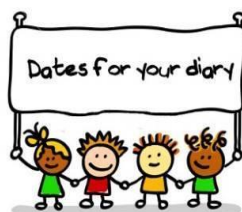
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Look out for updates and see some of the amazing pictures.

Look out for all updates



Instagram



Summer Holiday

Last day Wed 14th August 2024 Nursery closes at 4 pm

Re-open Tues 3rd September 2024

Mon 26th August – **Bank Holiday**

Mon 2nd September - **Inset day**

Winter Holiday

Last day Friday 20th Dec Nursery closes at 4 pm

– Re-open Fri 3rd Jan 2025

Wed 25th Dec – Public Holiday

Thurs 26th Dec - Public Holiday

Wed 1st Jan – Public holiday

Thursday 2nd Jan – Inset day

Comments/ Suggestions

Please feel free to write any suggestions/comments you may have in the space below and email us on office@rooftop-nursery.com

Name (optional): _____ Date: _____