



## Seasonal Greetings to all

Our seasonal preparations are now well underway and excitement is building in the nursery where all the children are looking forward to our end of year party. This will be a fantastic end to what has been another wonderful term. We are extremely proud of the effort the children have put into all the learning experiences on offer and we are very appreciative of the continued support given to us by parents and carers.

We have also been learning lots about Christmas, having lots of fun learning festive songs and using lots of glitter in arts and crafts! We even have our own Christmas post box in the nursery and are busy writing our letters to Santa.

I take this opportunity to say Thank you to all the staff for their endless effort and energy this term in supporting the team, the children and parents.

I wish you all a great festive holiday and look forward to seeing you all at our end of year party.

Many Thanks  
Hafiza – Manager



## Upcoming events

### End of year party on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2014 from 3pm to 5pm

We would love for all our parents and children to join us for the party. There will be plenty of food, snacks, music and entertainment and presents for the children!

We are expecting most of our children and parents to attend so it will be quite busy and therefore it is important that you **accompany your child to the party**, as the staff will be overlooking the party.



**Party Food:** If you would like to contribute some party food, then please add your name to the food list that is on your child's room counter.

For those bringing in food, it would be really helpful if you could drop the party food off the week before the party if you are bringing in dry/ packet food and snacks and drinks. If you are making fresh food please bring it in the morning, as it needs to be prepared by staff ready for guests by 3pm.

### Pick up time

Please note that on this day, your child will need to leave the premises by 5pm due to health and safety reasons. **The nursery will close at 5pm.** This is because we will be undergoing a thorough cleanup and re-organisation of the nursery after the party making the premises unsuitable for the children.

### Dress Code

To make it fun and exciting the staff have chosen **green** as this year's colour theme for the party, so if you have anything green in your wardrobe then put it on if you wish and join the fun.

### New settlers

A warm welcome to Nala and Felix who have joined Sunshine room. They have been settling in well and we hope they love their time here in the nursery.

**Goodbye to  
Oliver Sung,  
Max Clark and  
Harry**

A very happy birthday to Amelia, Oliver Sung, Axl, Reuben, Moyo, Oliver Kiff, Sophia, Hazel, Avni, Albert, and Thomas

### 27<sup>th</sup> Month checks

Quite a few of the children had their 27<sup>th</sup> month check on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December. The health visitor came in to meet the children due for the progress checks. The meeting involved the health visitor, parents and the child's key person. The progress check meeting is a way to track and discuss children's development within an integrated approach.



## Star room fluoride treatment

### Star room dental inspection and fluoride coating

The dental nurse came in on Wednesday 3rd December to inspect the children's teeth and apply fluoride to those children who had consent.

This programme is to help prevent tooth decay in children aged between 3-6 years and meet the requirements of 'The Healthy Child Programme' to promote good dental health from an early age.

The session was a success as all of Star room children who had consent and attended had an inspection or applied fluoride. In groups, the children observed their peers having their teeth inspected and applying fluoride before having their turn, which enabled them to observe what will happen and know what to expect. Those who had fluoride got to even choose their own fluoride flavour.

This was their first fluoride treatment and they were really brave and confident. Just a reminder that if your child did receive fluoride treatment then he/she will require the **second and final treatment in the summer** when the dentist will be visiting again. If your child received fluoride then you would have been given a **dental card** by now, please keep this safe as that is proof of your child's fluoride application which you can hand over to the nursery before their second treatment in the summer.

For those parents who have children who attend Benthal as well, please ensure that your child receives both coatings either here on in Benthal.

## Restructuring Rainbow room

As you may already be aware we were planning on refurbishing Rainbow room but we have had to delay the process. The new furniture will now be delivered on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

We may have to close Rainbow room from 1pm on that Thursday in order for the staff to set up the room with the new furniture. This may mean that Rainbow room children may have to be picked up by 1pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January. We will however try to avoid this if we can by working around the nursery routine on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January by combining the room children together so as to empty Rainbow room furniture out and put in the new furniture.

We will however, keep you updated but in the meantime we will receive deliveries from the first week back so please be careful. There will be no outdoor play whilst deliveries are made and full risk assessments will be drawn up.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to speak to Hafiza.

### A plea to parents

We require temporary/long term storage to store the additional furniture in Rainbow room once the new furniture arrives. We would really appreciate if anyone can provide us with temporary storage up to ground floor level (an empty shed space, an unused room, a basement room). If you have spare space available we will be more than happy to pay for the storage until we find a permanent solution. Please call Hafiza directly to get the ball rolling...

Hafiza's Number: 07930380443

## Natural Materials

We are collecting natural objects made from natural materials such as bowls, spoons, cups, pots, ornaments, wooden toys, wooden artefacts, pinecones etc. If you are de-cluttering or have any items that you do not require or use anymore then please donate them to the nursery. We shall be collecting throughout the year and adding these to our collection.



## Staff Updates

### New staff

A warm welcome to Nazia and Chi. Nazia has had a chance to work in all the rooms and shall now be finally settling into Star room. Chi has been settling into Rainbow room and is working on making bonds with all the children.

### Continuous professional development of our staff team

Last month staff went on the following training:

- Khadija went on [core training for SENCO's in Early Years](#)
- Sumaiya N went on [phonics](#) training session
- Khadija and Sumaiya N. went on a [Boogie mites school ready music course](#)

## Star Room notices

- ✓ Book Bags: please return all book bags to the nursery before the end of term.
- ✓ Show and Tell: 1<sup>st</sup> 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.
- ✓ Phonics sounds covered so far this term with the older children in Star room: CK, E, H, R, M, D

## Travel and transport

This month the children in Star room have been very busy with many different interests and topics covered. The month started with the children showing interest in transport and the different ways we can travel to places. During circle time they discussed how they travel to and from the nursery, this helped encourage all the children to share their experiences with their peers and practitioners.

On their way to the library, the children spotted different modes of transports. Edon, Jonah, Albert and Jasmine said they saw a red bus, a bicycle, cars and planes.

To extend the children's interest in the travel and transport theme the children did creative activities exploring a range of techniques, materials and resources that encouraged the children to use their fine and gross motor skills.

Initially Star room children made a collage painting of different modes of transport using different coloured paints. They then went onto making 3D hot air balloons using papier-mâché. They did

this by gluing strips of newspaper onto blown up balloons and once dried they painted their hot air balloons in different colours.

They also made a 3D bus using a large cardboard box and painted it red and added wheels. While painting the bus they sang *"the wheels on the bus go round and round"*. Jemima said she is the driver and pretended to drive the bus.

## Dinosaurs

Some of the children in Star room absolutely love dinosaur play and the practitioners have found them role-playing dinosaurs, choosing to read dinosaur books, and even bringing toy dinosaurs in for show and tell.

In order to support and encourage their interest in dinosaurs, the children made their very own 3D dinosaurs through junk modelling. Using different types of junk modelling materials like cardboard boxes of various sizes, plastic cups, paper and foam, the children used their imagination to create their masterpieces.

They went on to doing a dinosaur sticking activity. The children glued on coloured paper strips and glitter on individual dinosaur templates.

They also made a collage of dinosaurs; the practitioners cut out a large dinosaur shapes from cardboard and after the dinosaur collages dried the children painted over them.

Furthermore, during their story time sessions they read a dinosaur book and spoke about what types of dinosaurs they can see.

## Shapes

To support the children's mathematical understanding and development, Star room children have been looking at shapes through various play opportunities.

They drew different shapes that they know of and the children discussed the different shapes they drew which was a good way of learning from peers. They also did shape printing using sponges shapes and paint brushes.

They even did a baking activity related to shapes. They worked in groups to make biscuits, taking turns to pour and mix the ingredients, rolled out the dough and cut their biscuits using different shape cutters.

## Role Play

Star room children have shown great interest in dressing up. They like to role-play in the home corner and dress up in different types of clothing and characters such as builders, brides, grooms and police officers. The children are encouraged to freely explore all areas and role-play different characters. We encourage the development of more flexible attitudes to promote community cohesion and integration through understanding and respecting others.

Role-play is part of the children's learning and understanding. It helps children make connections and sense of things they see around them. Through role-play, children use their imagination to explore languages and actions. In particular, Star room children like to pretend to play mummies

and daddies in the home corner. This type of play helps support children's' thinking in their later life and gives them opportunities to develop a better understanding of the people and characters in their life.

## Winter

The children went to stoke Newington common to spend the morning in the park. Before setting off, they made sure they had all their winter clothing on and some of them wore boots and wellies. The children were talking amongst each other about the importance of wearing hats and gloves. They enjoyed their journey to the park talking about the weather and talking about 'danger'. The children were very enthusiastic to learn about dangers we see when walking on the road. They spoke about roads, cars, vans, people and scaffolding which they spotted on their to and back from the park.



When they got back the children were using their memory to recall all the things they saw. Lucian said 'I saw scaffolding', Millie said 'I saw a road' and Albert said he saw 'a school sign with children on it'. At the park Sophia and Sylvia wanted to collect leaves to bring back and do sticking so all the children helped pick up lots of leaves, which they brought back and used for junk modelling and sticking on paper.

The outing helped the children be aware of road safety and it made them aware of asking for help if needed which forms an important part of their physical development.

The children also did sticking on snowmen; they discussed how they wanted to decorate the snowmen and discussed how many eyes they were going to stick on. They used sequins and various cut outs to stick on their individual snowmen. Khadija then hung them up with the Christmas decorations, which made the children very happy.

The children also made their individual snowflakes, which they painted blue and made it sparkly by adding red and blue glitter to it. They also talked about wrapping up warm in winter, which built children's interest in seasons.

The children spoke about all the different seasons and what happens to the tree's in each season, Millie, Sylvia, Rafael and Albert talked about how leaves fall down in winter, in spring the flowers and leaves blossom, in summer the flowers grow and look colourful then in autumn the leaves go orange, brown and yellow and fall. By exploring weather and seasons, the children are building on their knowledge and understanding of the world.

## Christmas

The children started by talking about presents for Christmas and what they would like for Christmas. The children also talked about their own birthdays and some of them mentioned that their birthday is during Christmas time. The children took interest in watching the adults put up the Christmas decorations and questioning what was happening. They felt very proud making their snow men which were used as decoration. Amaya, Mania, Jonah and Millie helped decorate the Christmas tree and chose what bauble should go where. The children spoke about their own Christmas trees at home and how they helped decorate it.



Star room children have been keen to learn about Christmas and have learnt many words such as 'Sheppard' which Albert helped to define. They also picked up on names of places and persons related to Christmas such as Bethlehem, baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph and learnt that Jesus is the baby of God.



The children then made their individual 3D Christmas trees, which they painted with Christmas colours such as red and green and sprinkled it with glitter. They painted stockings, bells and a large Christmas tree for the Christmas display. The children used stampers to make marks and make prints for their Christmas tree.

The children have been doing lots of dancing to Christmas songs; they have also been excitingly participating in singing Christmas songs and have been singing to their group of friends within free play and circle time too. Star room have been reading various Christmas books, which they have shown great interest in.

They will also be busy this week making Christmas cards and making a post box for posting letters to Santa as part of our free play on the literacy table.

Amongst all this, Star room sadly said 'bye-bye' to Oliver Sung and Max Clark who have turned five and left Rooftop to continue their journey. Star room have also had many birthday celebrations this month so its been a month of joyous celebrations with the big end of year party to look forward to as well.

### Asma will be leaving Rooftop Nursery

You may already be aware by now that Asma will be leaving Rooftop Nursery at the end of this term. Her last day with us will be on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. We will be having a *leaving party* for her on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm, which you are all welcome to join.

Asma has been great with all the children and staff and we will miss her very much. We wish her all the best!

### Rainbow room notices

- 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.
- Bring in coats, hats, gloves and scarves for outdoor play
- All parents are kindly reminded to arrive before 8:50 if you wish your child to have breakfast
- Ensure you sign your child in and out at the end of the day

### What the children have been up to last month

The children in Rainbow room have been very busy talking about Elsa and Anna from *Frozen*. Therefore, the



practitioners extended their interest and created a frozen theme in Rainbow room.

They transformed the cosy area into a winter wonderland with characters from frozen displayed around the room. The room had been decorated in blue and silver Christmas decoration to reflect the Frozen theme.

The children engaged in a large blue painting session on cardboard paper, which was used to create a sledge for the children to sit on and pretend to be Santa and deliver presents to everyone. The children enjoyed unwrapping presents and discovering what's inside within the wonderland area.

The children were very excited to have a Christmas tree in the room and enjoyed exploring the decorations and even helped to decorate the tree by putting the baubles up and wrapping tinsels around the tree.

### **Expressive Arts and deigns: Exploring and using media and materials**

The children all took part in decorating their very own Christmas tree using different coloured crepe paper, sequins, feathers and glitters.



They also painted a large Christmas tree by dipping their hands in Red and green paint to create handprints and also added sliver glitter to give the sparkly affect.

All the children in Rainbow room decorated their own reindeer mask using gold paper, tissue paper and glitters. They made Christmas lanterns by dipping Christmas stampers into white paint to create prints on blue cards. They made Christmas cards, hats and angels by using a range of creative materials and glitters.

While they were making their cards, they talked about who they would like to give their cards to. Tara said she would like to make a card for her mum.

Santa's workshop was created in the room and staff encouraged the children to wrap presents for their loved ones, which was very exciting and enjoyed by everyone.

The children enjoyed listening to Christmas songs and listening to stories relating to Santa.



The children enjoyed taking part in a cooking session where they made biscuits in Christmas themed shapes such as snowflakes, gingerbread man, Christmas tree, stars and stockings. They got to take their biscuits home and enjoy with family.

### **Physical Development: Fine motor skills**

The children explored red, green and white play dough and they created shapes using the dough. Some children put the dough in the play oven pretending that they were cooking the dough.

### Sunshine Room

A warm welcome to Marley, Nala and Felix who have all settled into Sunshine room over the last few weeks

**Reminder:** Parents bringing children into nursery after 9am, please use Sunshine room door to drop your children off.

### What have Sunshine room children have been doing this month?

Sunshine room children have been making mobiles to hang in Sunshine room over the last few weeks and they have also been taking part in some Christmas activities, creative work and baking.

#### Making Mobiles

As part of the winter theme, Sunshine room children have taken part in making mobiles recently. They have been exploring the weather theme by looking at pictures of different types of weather. The children made clouds with raindrops, which was used to create a mobile for the room. Sunshine room children also decorated umbrellas which was used to create a second mobile.



To create the clouds sunshine room children used individual paintbrushes and the colours grey and blue to paint on a large piece of paper, once completed staff members cut out their work to form clouds and raindrops.

Sunshine room children made the umbrellas using paper plates, which were cut in half. The children used glue to spread on their plates, thereafter they stuck sequins which supported their hand and eye coordination. Staff then cut out umbrella handles and added them to the children's work to form the umbrella.



#### Christmas

Sunshine room children have been taking part in various creative and fun activities for Christmas. The children have been painting, decorating and colouring pictures of Santa,



Christmas crackers, presents, penguins, making a large Christmas tree, reindeers and Christmas cards.

Within Sunshine room, the practitioners have set up a Christmas corner for our children to explore consisting of wrapped up presents to play with, Christmas teddy bears, Christmas hats and reindeers antlers which have been used for dressing up with.

### Creative activities

Sunshine room children have been taking part in creating a large Christmas tree for their display. They used green paint and used rollers to mark-make onto a large piece of paper. Once the painting was complete, the children used their pincer grasp to pick up gold coloured glitter between their finger and thumb and sprinkled it over their Christmas tree painting.



To add to their Christmas work Sunshine room children have been colouring in a picture of individual penguins using various coloured crayons. They also decorated a snowman through using silver glitter paints and spread glue onto their snowman and then added some cotton wool. This activity allowed them to explore different textures during creative play.



To create their individual Santa Claus and Christmas crackers sunshine room children spread glue onto their paper and have been sticking tissue paper and sprinkling glitter over there work.

Lastly but not least the children took part in making Christmas shaped biscuits. The children helped Guler to pour and mix the ingredients together and then roll out the dough and cut shapes out.



### Nursery fees Increase

We like to remind all parents that the nursery fees shall increase from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015. Can all parents kindly amend your standing orders to your new monthly fees, which you can find on your December invoice under **Future payments**.

If you have any questions please feel free to speak to Hafiza. You can contact Hafiza on: 07930380443 email: hilltopdaycarenursery@yahoo.co.uk  
If you would like to set up a standing order with the nursery, please contact the office where we can give you the relevant details. All fees must be paid in advance at the beginning of the month



**We take this opportunity to wish you a great holiday and a happy new year from all the staff at rooftop nursery.**

### Dates for your Diary

#### Last Day for term time children

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

#### End of year party

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 3-5pm

**Nursery closes at 5pm**

#### Last day of Nursery

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

**Nursery closes at 4pm**

#### Staff Inset Day

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December

#### Nursery re-opens

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015

### Comments/ Suggestions

Please feel free to write any suggestions/comments you may have on the space below and return the slip to the office or post it into our suggestion box located on Rainbow Room counter.

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Name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

