

Summer 2025 Parent Carer Newsletter

www.watotopreschool.org.uk



Welcome to Preschool!

Dear Parents, Guardians and Children,

As we approach the end of another wonderful term, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt thanks to all our amazing parents and carers. Your continued support, encouragement, and involvement mean so much to us and make a real difference in the lives of the children.

It's been a fantastic year filled with laughter, learning, and memorable moments. From messy play to magical milestones, we've cherished every opportunity to help your little ones grow, explore, and shine. Watching each child develop confidence, curiosity, and independence has been a true joy — and we feel incredibly privileged to be part of their early years journey.

But the fun isn't over yet! We still have lots to look forward to, including our **Preschool Graduation** and the much-anticipated **Summer Fayre**. We can't wait to celebrate all the progress, achievements, and friendships made along the way.

Thank you once again for being such a valued part of the Watoto family. We look forward to making more memories together!

With warm wishes,
Sharon and Lisa 🌈🌟

On behalf of the Watoto Team





"The theme for the summer term is 'learning through exploring the natural environment.'"

We are looking ahead to the warmer weather and planning lots of activities to enable the children to have fun while enjoying lots of learning through their play.

Our curriculum this term will include children developing their learning through exploring the natural environment, plants, mini beasts, growing vegetables in the allotment.

These activities offer rich, hands-on learning opportunities that will not only teach children about nature but also develop skills they can carry with them throughout their lives.!

Exploring the Natural Environment:

- Develop curiosity, ask questions, and learn about environment and how things grow and change.

Learning About Plants and Mini-Beasts

- Understand the needs of living things, develop respect for nature, and enhance fine motor skills.

Growing Fruit & Vegetables in the Allotment:

- Learn responsibility, patience, and the process of growing food, while understanding where food comes from

Making Healthy Choices:

- Gain an appreciation for healthy eating, improve physical health through outdoor activities, and learn about sustainability.

Social and Emotional Development:

- Work together, build confidence, and develop independence through hands-on learning experiences.

These activities help children connect with nature, develop important life skills, and make healthier choices.

Calling all budding gardeners

If you would like to volunteer to come and help us, please speak to your child's key person or give us a call. (0330 016 5668)

Sharon
Manager



Lisa
Deputy Manager

Denquie - Room Leader - Rainbow Room



Safina - Room Leader - Sunflower Room



Faith - Room Leader - Sunshine Room



Joanna Sunflower Room



Paris Rainbow Room



Juwairiya Rainbow Room



Maddison - Sunshine Room



Luke - Rainbow Room



Ruby Sunflower Room



Ellie Sunshine Room



Asharni Sunflower Room



Demi - Rainbow



Knesha - Rainbow



old - Housekeeper & Lunchtime Supervisor



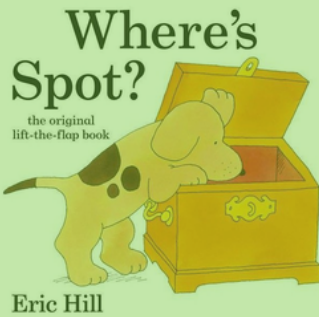
Alicia Office Administrator



Our Staff Team

Reading Roundup

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go." — **Dr. Seuss**

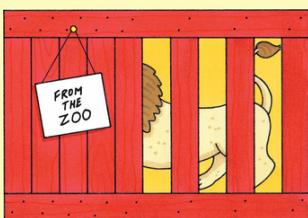


Our sunflower room has been enjoying our core story for the term, *Where's Spot?* by Eric Hill. The children have really engaged with this interactive book, joining in with repeated phrases and lifting the flaps to see what's hiding underneath. It's been a great way to support early language development, turn-taking, and listening skills.

The core book in the rainbow room is the *Magic Porridge Pot* by Rosie Dickens. As well as reading this book, the children have been doing different activities to improve their early literacy. The children have really enjoyed this book this term.



Dear Zoo



Rod Campbell

In the sunshine room, our core book is the much-loved *'Dear Zoo'*, which the children are thoroughly enjoying—especially with the props we've introduced to bring the story to life. We'd love to share this book with families so you can enjoy it together at home.



We believe that reading plays a vital role in your child's development, and we would love to see them continue their learning journey at home. If you need any recommendations for age-appropriate books, feel free to ask – we're more than happy to help!

A peek into this term's activities: Rainbow Room



This term in our nursery room, we've been busy starting to learn all about plants! The children have really enjoyed exploring the life cycle of a plant and helping to get our allotment ready for growing. We've been doing lots of planting and talking about what plants need to grow. Our craft activities have also been linked to this topic, with the children using real leaves, flowers, and even fruit to create beautiful nature-inspired artwork.

We're also focusing on school readiness as we head towards the summer. Each morning from 9:00 to 9:15, we've introduced focused group times, with children split into three groups: school leavers, younger children, and our Sensory play group.

The school leavers are working hard on their letter formation and name writing, using our core book "The Magic Porridge Pot" by Rosie Dickens to support early literacy. The younger group is also enjoying this story, with a focus on sequencing and understanding the order of events. Meanwhile, our play group is engaging in sensory activities that encourage communication and playing alongside others.



Looking ahead, we're excited to continue developing our allotment and watching our plants grow. There will be more opportunities for nature-based crafts and outdoor learning as we move through the summer term!



A peek into this term's activities: Sunflower Room

This term, the Over 2's have been diving into the wonderful world of plants! The children have shown lots of interest in discovering how plants grow and change. We've been busy getting our garden area ready, digging in the soil, planting seeds, and talking together about what plants need to stay healthy — like sunshine, water, and care.



Our creative time has also been all about nature. The children have enjoyed using natural materials like leaves, petals, fruit and vegetables slices to make colourful, textured art. These activities have sparked plenty of curiosity, as well as opportunities to explore different colours, patterns, and smells in a hands-on way.



A peek into this term's activities: Sunshine Room

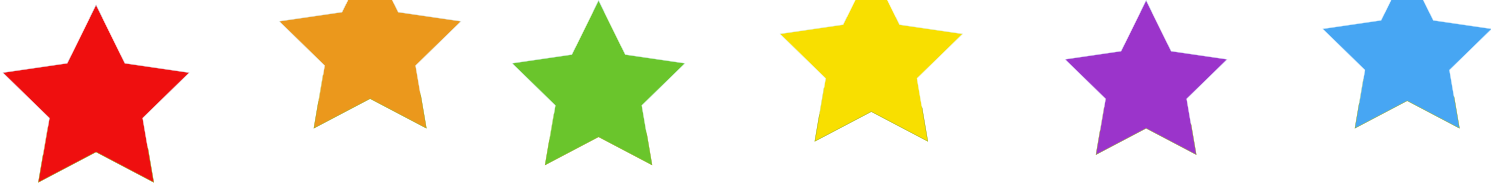
We're excited to share what's happening in the Sunshine Room this summer term! Our theme is Exploring the Natural Environment, and we've got lots of hands-on activities planned to help the children connect with nature.

One of our main projects this term is creating a mini garden our allotment. The children will be planting vegetables and visiting the allotment daily to water and care for their plants. To support this, we're putting together a farm basket filled with child-friendly tools like spades, watering cans, seeds, farm hats, and more.

We've have been on nature walks around the preschool and possibly to the nearby park, where children can explore and observe local plants and wildlife.



Looking ahead to June, we're hoping to host a Stay and Play / Splash Day, inviting parents to join us for some outdoor fun as the weather gets warmer—**more details to follow soon!**



Communication & Language

Helping children develop their speech and language skills in the early years is so important. These skills are the building blocks for learning, making friends, and expressing how they feel.

The early years are a key time for language development — children's brains are growing rapidly, and they learn best through talking, listening, singing, and playing with others.

By supporting speech and language early on, we give children the tools they need to succeed at school and in everyday life. Simple things like chatting during play, reading stories together, and encouraging turn-taking in conversations all make a big difference.

At nursery, we use a range of activities and strategies to help every child develop strong communication skills — and we love working with you to support this journey at home too!

If you ever have any concerns about your child's speech or language, please speak to your child's keyworker — we're always here to help.



Reminder



Extended Opening Times: From April 2025, we have extended our opening hours. We are now open from 8am - 6pm, Monday to Friday.

Nappies: For children in nappies, please remember to bring spare nappies and wipes each day. If you forget to provide these items, we will need to charge you for using the preschool's nappies and wipes.

Session Times: A gentle reminder to drop off and pick up your child at the correct times to help us maintain staff ratios and ensure a smooth day for everyone.

Reporting Absences/Holidays: If your child is not attending pre-school due to illness, please remember to call or email us to let us know between 8am-9am. For longer absence's, we kindly ask that you provide a letter detailing the dates and reasons for the absence. While preschool attendance is important for funding purposes, please note that a week's holiday during term time is not considered an unauthorised absence.

Labelling Loose Clothing: Please ensure your children's belongings such as clothing and accessories are labelled with their names to avoid minimal lost items.

Government Funded Hours

From this **September**, 15 hours childcare for working families with children under 3 will expand to **30 hours**, meaning eligible working families can now apply for 30 hours of childcare from the term after their child turns 9 months until they reach school age.

What you need to do:

1. Check if you're eligible
2. Apply online via GOV.UK
3. Apply by 31 August
4. Speak to your childcare provider
5. Keep your code up to date

Are you already using the 15 hours? No need to reapply, just simply confirm your details every 3 months.

 **GOV.UK**

APPLY NOW



Parents Workshop

We'd like to say a big thank you to all the parents and carers who have taken the time to attend our recent parent workshops. It's always a pleasure to welcome you into nursery and see the wonderful interactions between you and your children!

These sessions are more than just fun – they bring real benefits:

- ♥ Strengthening the parent-child bond
- 🌱 Giving insight into your child's learning journey
- ★ Boosting your child's confidence and communication
- 🏠 Building stronger home-nursery partnerships

Our next workshop will take place on **Thursday 22nd May from 2:00–3:00pm**, where we'll be exploring the theme of planting and how things grow.

We hope to see many of you there for another fun and educational session!





Playgroup!

At Watoto

For ages: 0 - 3 years

Every Friday 09:45am - 11am

139 Catherine Road SHEFFIELD S4 7HJ



Contact Us:

office@watotopreschool.org.uk

0330 016 5668



IMPORTANT



**We are a nut free zone due to allergies.
Please refrain from bringing any food
items with nuts in them for the safety
of the children.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Holiday Playcare Places Now Available!

LIMITED
places

Looking for fun and exciting childcare during the Half Term and Summer holidays?

We've got you covered!

We are now taking bookings in advance for our holiday play care services. With a variety of engaging activities and plenty of fun, your child will have a fantastic time while you enjoy peace of mind.

Spaces are limited, so book early to secure your spot!



WRAPAROUND CHILDCARE

In collaboration with Byron Wood School, we are now offering wrap-around care to support your work schedule!



Before School

8:00 AM to 9:00 AM

Your child starts the day with a healthy breakfast and is escorted safely to Byron Wood School.



After School

3:30 PM to 6:00 PM

We pick up your child directly from Byron Wood School and provide a fun and engaging afterschool experience.



Financial Support

You may be entitled to receive help with your before and after school childcare costs. For more information, check out the government website

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Why Choose Watoto Preschool Wrap-Around Care?

- Flexible hours to fit your work schedule
- Safe, trusted care with experienced staff
- Engaging activities to keep your child active and learning

REGISTER NOW

To book your child's spot today and make your mornings and afternoons easier!



Contact Us
0330 016 5668



Visit Our Website
www.watotopreschool.org.uk



Our Location
139 Catherine Road S4 7HJ



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TO LEAVE US A REVIEW**



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ON GOGGLE .**