

W/C Monday 8th October 2018

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

Activities and talks happening throughout WMS this week as part of Black History Month.

The Half-Term break

commences next week and the school day will finish on Wednesday 17th October at 3pm. Tea Timers' club will run as normal on this day.

From all the staff we wish you a fun and relaxing half term break.

We return on Monday 29th October, ready for a very busy and festive period – we will keep popping reminders of events in weekly newsletters so please read them!



Carol Concert

Last week we reminded you about our Christmas Concert for your diaries. Please don't confuse the Christmas Concert with our annual Carol Concert which is traditionally held at St John's Church and will be held on Thursday 6th December – everybody is invited. As always full details and timings will be sent home with every child.

Brookcroft Open Morning

- Monday 12th November
Please be reminded and RSVP your attendance to e17montessori@aol.com. This is a really useful visit to the Upper School for parents currently

with children in Kindergarten (Oak, Sycamore and Beech classes).

Children in Need

Our fundraising day for this important charity is being held on Friday 23rd November. A programme of events to raise money will be sent out shortly but the day will be a non-uniform day and children will be invited to donate £1 and come to school dressed-down. Please note that this day is for children that attend school on a Friday. We may have some extra days available if you wish your child to attend an extra session that week.



Spring 2019 Term Fees:

Spring Term Fee Invoices will be issued on Monday 19th November 2018. If you wish to pay in instalments then 50% would be due on or before 26th November and 50% on or before 4th January 2019.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

As you will all know Parent/Teacher meetings will be taking place in November (20th Lower School and 21st Upper School). Sign-up sheets for appointments will be going up on both school doors and we will give you warning when this will be.

If you cannot make the appointments, please speak to your child's class teacher directly and reschedule. Please note that we cannot accommodate children or siblings at these meetings and Tea Timers has only a couple of available spaces which can be offered on a first come first served basis. If you require our Tea Timers Club for your child please book a place ASAP. The cost of each session is £10.00.

Remember all meetings are being held at Penrhyn hall.

Birthday Walks at WMS

We very much enjoy celebrating your child's birthday with a birthday walk at WMS. This can be arranged by contacting Miss Katie in the office or directly with your class teacher. Parents are invited to attend the session. For full information on how we celebrate birthdays at WMS, please see the school website for full info. We ask that you save any sweet treats for your home celebrations as we have a number of children with serious allergies and food intolerances.

Christmas Holiday Club

Thank you to those that expressed an interest in the holiday club days during the Christmas holidays. If you are considering please let us know ASAP and before the deadline.

Second-hand Uniform sale

Please be advised that there will be second-hand uniform sale after the October half-term break. If you have any good condition uniform that you no longer need, please could you kindly donate it.



2018 Tea Towel Fundraiser!

All our WMS children will shortly be making a start on a very 'special' task and will be completing their self-portraits for this year's tea towel! As some of you will remember from last year, we ask every child in the school to produce a self-portrait which we then get made in to a beautiful tea towel! The tea towel makes a great keepsake and Christmas gift for family and friends so please keep your eyes peeled for an order form to follow shortly!

Class Information:

Upper School Clubs

Monday: Book club

Miss Mary leads this very popular club and the children are currently reading **Tarka the Otter** by **Henry Williamson**. This is a very in-depth story with lots of detailed chapters regarding

the birth of Tarka the Otter, how he learnt to swim and hunt, losing a sibling in a trap, and how he is separated from his mother and wanders around North Devon alone. The children have been very engaged in reading and sharing their thoughts about how it makes them feel with the events unfolding in the story. The children are eagerly taking it in turns reading this wonderful story that they chose together as a group.

Tuesday: Poetry club

Miss Uzma had been enjoying her sessions with the children at this weekly club. They are enjoying listening and reciting the poems. Children are encouraged to write their favourite poems!

Wednesday: Drama Club

At this week's club, run by Miss Michelle, the children have the opportunity to try on different characters through a variety of improvisational games. It is lovely to see children freely expressing themselves and coming up with some funny characters. The improv games help children develop confidence, focus and teamwork in a dynamic and fun way.

Thursday: Yoga club

Led by Miss Heidi, yoga classes this term are at 12 o'clock on Thursdays. We will be practicing together various yoga poses, that will help increase co-ordination, concentration, stretch and strengthen their bodies, and help them learn to relax.

Friday: Mandarin club

This very popular language club is run by one of our lovely parents, Miss Wee.

Please do speak with your child about the clubs. Teachers do encourage and remind children that they are running.

Elementary:

Last week, children completed their poetry they wrote for the harvest festival, and they performed their poems in front of the Lower School. It was a lovely gathering where all children contributed something to share. We also sang songs and gathered together as a community. The children had a wonderful art lesson with Mr Graham in drawing still life's and learning shading. We enjoyed a special assembly with Miss Lorna about garden procedures and safety. Children

came up with some great rules for the garden. Miss Lorna discussed with children the role of a school council member, and that each class would be choosing one to represent the school. Children in Elementary wrote detailed descriptions about how they would make excellent leaders. It was great to see children coming up with responsible and respectful ways they would make them an excellent leader.

This week, we will be going on our school trip to the Science Museum, so do bring in your permission slips, as well as observing the drop off time which will need to be a prompt 9:00am at Walthamstow Central Costa Coffee. The address is on the form.

Prep:

Last week, the children recited a poem entitled "The Garden Year" and showcased beautiful artwork to celebrate The Harvest Festival.

In Maths, the children revisited the Changing Game using the Golden Beads before being introduced to Dynamic Addition and Subtraction processes. The children enjoy working through sums using the Stamp Game and it has surely become one of the favourite materials in class at the moment! Some have even started exploring Simple Multiplication using the Stamp Game.

In Literacy, the children were introduced to the function of Verbs and made lists of interesting verbs. Some went further by grouping a set of words according to Nouns or Verbs. Others chose to do some persuasive writing on why they think they should be nominated as School Counsellor.

Thank you for sending in the lovely pictures. We have begun working on the timeline and are hoping to complete it by next week!

This week, the children will be introduced to the concept of simple division and division with remainder using the Golden Beads. We will also be looking at the function of Adverbs, specifically what an adverb is, identifying it in sentences and how to correctly use Adverbs in sentences. We will also be discussing healthy eating as part of our topic.

We will be setting up a special corner in our classroom with a *Pride Box* and *Suggestion Box* so that children are able to share their achievements, express their thoughts and take ownership to what happens in the classroom.

Reception:

Last week, we celebrated Eden's birthday with a Birthday Walk. We all enjoyed the whole school Harvest Festival on Tuesday!

We told everyone the story of 'Handa's Surprise' with pictures and props that we had made! We also made a wreath of corn with finger painting onto card. On Thursday, in our community meeting we discussed the theme of respect and correct use of our garden. We also learnt about being a school councillor. Nominations were asked for, all of Reception Class raised their hand!

For Show and Tell on Wednesday Miss Lorna brought 3 interesting dead items for our new nature table (a frog, a bird's egg and a stag beetle). In science we are looking at Alive and Never Alive.

We are all working hard to learn the days of the week and the months of the year by Christmas and to be able to know what comes before and after each.

This week, we will be looking at how to recognise old buildings and sequencing old to new. We will begin to create our 'house' for the classroom. **Please could everyone bring in a shoe box this week.**



Reception class practicing their tennis skills with Miss Hilary

Sycamore:

This week as part of our 'autumn' terms topic we have been learning the different parts of a leaf. The children explored many parts such as stipule, blade, tip, axil and veins. We compared our own veins that were visible on our wrist too which the children found really interesting.

For our out and about session we made a mask using leaves, sticks and bark. The children acted

out different animals they wanted to be, which they really enjoyed doing.



On Friday we visited our local library and the librarian read the popular story 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Brown the children took it in turns to collect the various fruits that were in the basket. We finished our session by colouring pictures of Handa's fruit basket.

Children also found time to look around the library and find their own books of interest.

This week, we will be investigating what hibernation means. The children will be exploring which animals start getting ready for the fall hibernation, what food they start gathering and where they will sleep during this long period of time.

Beech:

Last week, Beech class learnt about leaves in more details. We made a nature table in a corner of our classroom with different leaves that children brought in. Furthermore, we looked at the life cycle of a leaf and parts of it.



Children enjoyed drawing a leaf and some of them they wrote its parts. We also had the Harvest assembly on Tuesday where we sang songs and read poems and showcased our lovely Harvest display board.

For our 'Out and About' session we played the leaf parachute game. On Friday we went to the Library where children enjoyed spending time.

This week we will be learning about hibernation.

Oak:

Last week, Oak class learnt about Lewis Latimer and Garrett Morgan as a part of celebrating Black History month. We looked at their inventions - traffic lights and light bulbs - which made a difference in people's lives all across the globe!



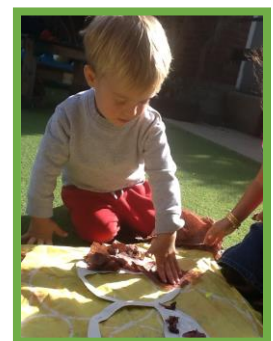
We also looked closely at different parts of a leaf as part of our Seasons topic and learnt new words, such as petiole, stipules and vein.

As always, we were being creative and made some beautiful art using leaves, playdough and paper plates.

Nursery:

Last week, children had fun celebrating the Harvest Festival by participating in various activities. They learned harvest songs and made basket crafts which they filled with different fruits and vegetables made out of crunched up tissue paper. Children then learned about the parts of an apple and engaged into feeling, smelling and tasting different types of apples as well as printing with apple halves.

For the out and about session, children explored pressing various natural objects onto salt dough and observing the prints which were left.



This week, we will continue engaging our senses and learning about them by tasting different tastes, smelling lots of different scents and feeling different textures. Also, children will be engaged in preparation of the snack where they will be encouraged to describe the food in greater detail.

Seedling Class enjoyed displaying their art work for all to see!



Best wishes, WMS Admin



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