

# Walthamstow Montessori School

## Newsletter



### Carol Concert

This Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
at 10.30am at St. John's  
Church on Chingford Road, E17

4LH.

This is a lovely festive event and we look forward to seeing you all there.

### Festive Art & Crafts Session

Thank you to all the parents that will be joining us in class for these lovely sessions.

If there are any more Kindergarten parents that will like to come in too we have room for another one! If you are able to help this Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm, please email or call the office.

### Christmas Post Box



Is now open and ready to receive your Christmas cards. Please post in plenty of time so that they can be delivered before Christmas.

To help your child write their cards, don't forget that class lists are available at both school doors.

### Tree Decorating!

On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December we will be having our special tree decorating day! This is one such traditional event at WMS that is very special. We invite every child to come to school with a silver ball to hang on our tree. If your child does not attend on a Monday, then they are welcome to hang their special silver ball on another day. Please do not send your child into school with one in their bag as they could easily get damaged.



### Christmas Displays

WMS is starting to look very festive. The children and staff have been busy creating these beautiful Christmas displays and decorating Christmas trees.



### Tea Towels and DVD's

We will be selling the Tea Towels before school on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December outside the Penrhyn school doors at 9.20am. Orders can also be taken at this time for our **Christmas Concert DVD's** at a cost of £15 each. This is a lovely memento for you to keep.

### Christmas Party – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Party food lists for each class will be displayed at the school doors on Friday. We are always very appreciative of your support so please put your child's name next to the item you are able to supply.

### Early Risers / Tea Timers

Invoices have been sent out today. Please ensure you pay these on or before the deadline of Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December to avoid penalty late fees.

## Plans Ahead

You will have all received emails regarding some exciting new classes and clubs at WMS. The Upper School will be starting DT classes with a taster day taking place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December. We will be inviting upper school parents to come in at 2.45pm to see what children have been doing!

ICT - We are also looking to start a 'Code Club' this club will be run by the school and volunteers. If you feel you would like to get involved in the club and are able to share your knowledge within this field please contact the school office.

## Class Information: End of Term!

**Please be reminded that the last day of term is Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30pm. No packed lunch required on this day.**

### Dates for the diary:

**Carol Service, Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

**Christmas Concert, Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

**Christmas Party, Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

### Elementary:

Last week, Elementary has been researching and writing about the geologic time scale, of when scientists believe life began on Earth. They've been reading and writing about the different eras on the time-line, as well as helping to create a time line. Children also worked on reading and writing about the layers of the Earth, as well as reading, writing and reaching facts about volcanoes and different types of rocks. Children extended their knowledge by creating detailed descriptions and reports in their books, creating learning posters and presenting information to others, as well as writing questions, they themselves have about these topics. They then used books and prepared resource materials to research facts further.

Children are also working on ideas of fairness in PSHE, learning to respect the opinions of others and will be learning how to write about and debate their ideas.

Children are practising joined-up writing and working towards having more consistency with their hand-writing. Children are also working to perfect their editing skills, by reading what they write to ensure it makes sense, has capital letters at the beginning of sentences and capital letters for proper nouns and the pronoun I, as well as ensuring they are using the correct punctuation. Children will be participating in a variety of peer editing skills in the coming weeks, where they act as editors and read others works to help strengthen their independence in editing. Children are also learning to make plans for their writing and organise their writing in paragraphs.

In maths, children have been working on measurement of time, division skills and the study of lines.

This week we have a very exciting week. The Children will be having their end of term assessments as well as a day dedicated to DT. This is a great way to introduce this lesson that will continue weekly next term. For art the

children will be designing and making props for their end of term Christmas concert and of course we are really looking forward to our annual Festive Arts & Crafts session on Friday and coming together on Thursday with the whole school at the Carol Concert. Around these planned events we will still be doing our morning work cycle.

### Prep:

The children are looking forward to performing at the Christmas Carol Service on Thursday and have been practicing hard. We hope you enjoy their performance!

Last week began with a review of all the work we have covered over the term. It gave the children an opportunity to reinforce their knowledge. The children were also introduced to the term 'capacity'. They enjoyed predicting which container held the most water, estimating how much water was in each container and they also learnt how to read scales. We will continue to build on this area this week. In Literacy, the children continued to work with the various Montessori Grammar Boxes. The younger children explored the Pink and Blue Boxes and the Logical Adjective activity whilst the older children worked with Prepositions, Verbs and Adverbs. They were also introduced to Imperative Verbs (Bossy Verbs).

This term we have also been reading stories during lunchtime. Throughout the week we read the Paddington Bear stories where Paddington Bear goes sightseeing and visits various landmarks such as Hampton Court, Tower of London, Buckingham Palace and Windsor Gardens. The children have thoroughly enjoyed Paddington Bear's adventures.

### Reception:

Last week was very exciting and busy for Reception class. We enjoyed learning and practising our lines for the Carol Concert.

We helped to decorate the Upper School's Post Box and in our art lesson we made the first Christmas decoration for our classroom. During circle time we talked about which foods are healthy, how to eat and where to eat.

We also learned about the rhyming of words and made our own Home Headband.

### Kindergarten:

#### Beech:

Last week Beech class continued to learn about different festivals. We started talking about Christmas, Christmas decorations, Christmas trees and costumes. We played a costume matching game. Furthermore, we have been learning about Christmas in other countries, how they celebrate, what do they eat etc.

On Thursday we started talking about St Andrew's Day and we learned about St Andrew. We coloured a Scottish flag for our art session and learned the meaning of 'X' on the flag.

This week we will talk about Advent and Hanukkah.

I am pleased to share with you our new book that has just been published!! We have two little authors in Beech class that wrote a book about baby Jesus. They phonetically

sounded out the words together and illustrated some lovely festive pictures which they have attached in the book.

Seeing the development of phonic awareness in young children is a total joy to watch. The Montessori method of phonetics allows a child to develop a secure understanding of sounds and to relate these to written symbols and to attempt to construct and spell words at an early age based on what they hear. It really is wonderful to watch it grow and change.

We have a writing development scheme from the age of 4 where we capture written work for each child every month to specifically show progress in this area clearly.

Here you can see how two of our Kindergarten girls have created a book entitled 'Baby Jesus' First Christmas'

They are so proud of their work and plan to make it into a film apparently. Love their ambition and their enjoyment in working together in this.

Well done Imogen and Cleo



### Sycamore:

Last week the children all helped put up our main display board in the hall. We looked at how other people celebrate Christmas around the world and children spoke about the many different types of costumes we wear in this country for Christmas day. Some of the costumes were funny and children laughed at this. During our 'out and about' session the children collected only bark from the garden so that they could make an owl face using this natural material. We spoke about who St Andrew was and why people in Scotland celebrate this very special day. For art, the children scrunched up blue and white tissue paper to make their own Scottish flag.

This week the children will explore what an advent calendar is and what kind of objects are filled in the boxes. We will also be looking at various square shapes. How tall, small, sides and the depth of it. Some children will be celebrating Hanukkah and we will learn about why Jewish people light 9 candles. Sycamore class children have been busy practising the Christingle songs ready for their performance on Thursday at St John's church.



### Oak:

The Christmas period is upon us and here in Oak class we are very excited about the upcoming festivities! We looked at different Christmas trees around the world on Monday and learnt how other countries celebrate Christmas. On Tuesday we heard a story about the first ever Christmas tree that was erected in Germany many years ago. On Wednesday during our Out and About session we made geometrical 2D shapes using clay dough, we then baked them and painted them in different colours. On Thursday we decorated Christmas baubles and hung them up on our Christmas display in our class. We made paper chains using glue sticks and strips of paper which we arranged in neat patterns. Friday, which was St. Andrew's Day, we learnt about different saints, the country called Scotland and a story of Saint Andrew and John the Baptist. We learnt a new game which supported us in hearing and naming the first sound in different words. As, always we were busy during the week practising our phonics, writing letters and numbers and looking at differences between 2D shapes and 3D shapes.



### Nursery:

Last week, nursery children had a sensorial experience of what the planet earth is made of. They identified the land and the water on the globe pointing at Oceans and Continents. Children then made a collage of the planet earth using different coloured tissue paper for the land and the water. They also had a look at some multicultural cards of housing around the world, matching people with their house. We listened to world music and read some multicultural books. Everyone enjoyed the Kenyan story of Hinda and her hen.

This week, nursery children will start preparing for Christmas. There will be various arts and crafts activities and collage making of a Winter scene. We will also talk about Hanukkah, introducing the Dreidel and the Menorah and explaining their meaning.



School office. 0208 523 2968

[www.walthamstowmontessori.com](http://www.walthamstowmontessori.com)

email: [e17montessori@aol.com](mailto:e17montessori@aol.com)

**please support your child's  
learning by finding fun ways  
together to support the class topic  
at home.**