

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

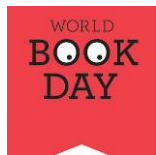
Meet Everywhere Bear!

Each Friday, Everywhere Bear will go home with a different child. He will take part in whatever you do over the weekend and return on Monday. Please keep Everywhere Bear, his ruck sack and his journal and book very safe.



We look forward to reading all the exciting adventures that Everywhere Bear takes you on.

World Book Day



World Book Day is **Thursday 7th March**. We would like to invite all the children to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book.

We would also welcome any parents who might like to volunteer to come in to read the children a story. A time-slot sheet will go up on both school doors during week commencing 25th February. You can choose a book that was a favourite from your own childhood perhaps. But we can also guide and supply.

Easter Holiday Club

Please let us know if you think you will require childcare during the school Easter holidays?



If so, and subject to demand, WMS will be looking to run a club just like the successful Christmas Club that has run in previous years.

If you feel that you would be interested, then please could you express your interest to the school office via our email putting 'HOLIDAY CLUB' as the subject, so we can ascertain the demand.

Lower School 'Themed Assembly'

A letter inviting you to our 'Themed Assembly' on **Wednesday 13th February at 10am** will

be sent out today. Please complete the slip confirming your attendance and return to the office by **Friday 8th February**.

WOW! Sheets



WOW sheets are a positive way to celebrate your child's achievements. These are an important part of your child's journey.

WOW! Sheets are freely available at the school door or can be downloaded from our website, which also has more information about WOW! Sheets. (Under School life, Learning Journals).

Chinese New Year

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year tomorrow on **Tuesday 5th February and throughout the week**. Don't forget children can come to school wearing red tomorrow, Tuesday. We have some exciting related activities for the children to participate in.



Composer of the Week

Our composer of the week is Tchaikovsky. Tchaikovsky will be playing throughout the school, this helps to boost the children's concentration and improve their listening skills.



Dress up as an Animal day

All children in Reception and Prep class have the opportunity to dress up as an animal on **Friday 8th February** for school, this is to support their topic on animals.



We look forward to seeing lots of wonderful creative costumes.

Extended Services Invoices

If your child has attended our breakfast, lunch time or tea timers club in January, please note that invoices will be sent home on **Monday 4th February**. This will cover weeks commencing, 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th January. Invoice will be due for payment by **Friday 8th February**.

Staff announcement

Please join us in welcoming Mr Nikolaos to WMS. Nikolaos joins us as a qualified and experienced primary teacher and in Early Years too. He has a degree in Computers and BA in music. He can play the piano and I am told has been conversing with a child in Japanese! Nikolaos will be working throughout the school and has already been enjoying getting to know our Kindy children.

Small objects should not be brought into school. We often find small change dropped by the children. Such items can be choking hazards. Please check your child's school coat for small objects and please remove any items that are unsuitable. Thank you for your co-operation.

Summer Term School Fees

Please be advised that your child's Summer term school fee invoice will be issued on **Monday 18th March** with payment due (50%) on or before **Monday 25th March**. If you would like to pay in two instalments then the second instalment would be due on or before **Tuesday 23rd April**.

Absence from school

If your child is absent from school, then it is important that you telephone the office/send an email advising us of this no later than 10:00am. Please ensure that you advise us of the nature of the absence i.e. sickness/holiday etc. It is very important that we are made aware of any childhood illnesses such as chicken pox, measles, mumps, vomiting and or diarrhoea etc - so if you suspect that your child may have come in to contact with anybody with infections then please let us know ASAP.



Lower School Footwear

Please can your children come to school with their indoor school plimsols for changing into. We are often working on the floor mats in the classroom, and it is much nicer and prevents the floors and mats becoming covered in mud.

Class Information

Elementary

Last week children have been exploring Kenning poetry which use metaphors, as well as Haikus, and other poems that use metaphors. Children have been working in pairs and writing some beautiful poems as a team. Other literacy activities

last week included writing mechanics, using capital letters for proper nouns and use of the correct punctuation. We also have been working on book reviews, which help children with their independent reading comprehension skills. Children are also reading about fish and mammals and completing reports to share, as well as learning, reading writing and researching about the Andes mountains. In maths children have been working on subtraction with change, long division, money work and multiplication skills.

Prep

Last week the children were introduced to Prefix. We looked at how adding a word such as 'un' or 're' could modify the word and make the term negative. We also looked at advertisements in Newspapers and some of the children had a go at creating an advert for a Spaceship.

In Maths, some of the children were introduced to simple addition and subtraction using the Stamp Game while others were introduced to Dynamic Subtraction and Division. We also had some children repeating their work with the multiplication and division board or challenging themselves with the box of Addition or Multiplication Equations. We continued our topic of graphs but this time focussing on Pictograms. The children used their knowledge of counting in 2s, 4s and 5s to help them answer questions relating to the graph.

During our topic session, we discussed and learnt some interesting facts about Planet Mercury and have begun to create a fact file on planets.

Reception

Last week we had a practical maths lesson, because we learned about "Capacity". We poured water into 3 different glasses of water and we labelled the empty one, the one that was half full and full. Then we named and wrote that in our maths books.

We began to study words that contain – oo,ee,ea, ou, and we wrote sentences with them.

We had a very exciting Design and Technology session with Miss Alex. We made various moving animals in the jungle and the Savanna.

Zoe brought in the book 'Spot 50 garden birds' to school and we looked at it with great interest. We read a lot of interesting facts about the birds we saw last week in Lloyd Park.

This week we will be celebrating the Chinese New Year. Zoe sang a lovely melodic song for us and told us how her mum bakes traditional biscuits for this holiday.

During our Art lesson on Friday we designed a Dragon to participate in Chinese New Year celebrations.

Kindergarten:

Beech:

Last week Beech class continued talking about the continent Asia. We looked at Japan, where we learned some Japanese words, located the capital city Tokyo, on the map, as well as further increasing our knowledge we looked at the flag. Furthermore, we talked about India. Children enjoyed listening to Indian music and dancing with the teacher who was dressed in a sari. One of children, Safia brought in her Pakistani traditional Salwar kameez outfit in the classroom and showed to her friends! We also talked about Cambodia and Thailand, their traditional food, music, flags, and capital cities .

This week we will start to learn about Antarctica.

Oak:

Last week we looked at amazing far away countries called Japan, India, Cambodia and Thailand. We learned about Japanese culture and the Japanese flag, we also practised saying few words in Japanese as well as picking small objects using chopsticks.

During our lessons about India we learned about its location, climate, food and people. We discussed schools in India and compared them to schools in England. We tried on some traditional Indian clothes, smelt Indian spices such as cinnamon and aniseed and looked at pictures of traditional Indian food. We also watched a small clip about Taj Mahal, learned about its history and coloured in our own Taj Mahal drawings. On Thailand and Cambodia days, we talked about these countries' traditional clothes, food, people and national languages.



During our PE session we practised kicking ball while going around cones in the garden. During our Music lesson we listened to flamenco music and danced with castanets.

Sycamore:

Last week the children have been learning interesting facts about India. We explored all of varieties of delicious Indian foods and our favourite was Poppadoms . We extended our learning by providing the children



with various spices to smell and name. Smelling bottles are commonly found in the sensorial area of the classroom. The typical presentation involves



giving children the opportunity to use their sense of smell in many different forms. We decorated the Indian flag using tissue paper.

Classical Indian music was played, and the children were shown simple forms of precision, movement, gestures, steps, and poses.

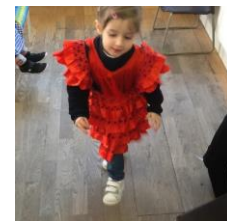
The children felt the fabric of a teachers 'Saree' as well as looking at the pretty 'bindi' many women wear.

On Friday we looked at the beautiful country of Thailand and all of the attractive costumes that are worn as well as exploring the different dishes that are eaten on a daily basis. For art the children decorated an elephant picture as elephants are portrayed as **sacred** animals.

This week, we will move onto a new continent, 'Antarctica and how this continent mainly stays cold. We will have many activities associated with Antarctica, such as melting in different forms. What extra warm clothing is worn? Also asking the children if they were to visit Antarctica what would they take on their voyage. The children will participate in a penguin art activity using a paper plate. For 'Chinese New' year the children will engage in lots of activities to further their knowledge regarding this very special tradition that is celebrated worldwide.

Nursery:

Last week, the nursery children were introduced to traditional dances around the world. We started the week by listening and dancing to Flamenco music followed by an art activity of creating a flamenco dancer.



Then the children were introduced to Irish step dancing with a live performance by Miss Lucy. They all had their turn at step dancing. This was followed by a sticking activity of decorating an Irish step dancing costume.

The children had the opportunity to learn more about the traditional Russian Kalinka dance through a video presentation. By the end of the week they chose a partner to dance Tango with followed by a painting activity where the children painted two tango dancers.



Our 'out and about session' brought a lot of excitement when we did a scavenger hunt, trying to find various items in the garden (a leaf, a stone, twig, something heavy, something light, something green). This week, we will be celebrating Chinese New Year through variety of presentations, discussions and art activities. We will be creating lanterns, red envelopes and a dragon collage.

Please help your children by finding fun ways together to identify topic of the week at home, to support their work in school.

Best wishes, WMS Admin



Important Numbers

To contact the school office dial:

020 8523 2968

email: e17montessori@aol.com

Please also 'like' our face book pages.
Select the one that says Walthamstow
Montessori and Elementary and 'like' us!

These pages are updated with new features
every day on events, school news,
Montessori information, parenting news and
local news and events.

So please don't miss out on what we are
doing and **'Like'** our page.