

# Walthamstow Montessori School

## Newsletter

**'There is no friend as loyal as a book'**  
*Ernest Hemingway*

### World Book Day

Was marked at WMS last week with an array of activities to encourage children to read and to instil a love of books from a young age. Children and staff dressed up on



Thursday as a book character, we had some very inventive creations. Miss Kasia and Miss Lillia

performed a puppet show telling the story of 'The Three little pigs' which kept the children transfixed, they enjoyed it so much that they wanted to see it again!! Thank you to all the parents who came in to read to the children and to Robert's mum in Beech class for bringing Julia Donaldson's book to life during a musical reading session with 'A treasury of Songs' where the children learned fun-filled action rhymes to 'The Gruffalo', 'A Squash and a Squeeze' and 'Monkey Puzzle'. All the children went home with a new book on Thursday that they chose as part of our 'Book Swap Day', the children enjoyed bringing in their old books and being able to swap them for a different one.



### Pancake Day

Was celebrated on Tuesday by eating pancakes! The children took part in preparing their topping by squeezing oranges and lemons and slicing bananas. The children learned that Pancake



day is also known as Shrove Tuesday and signifies the feast day before the start of Lent.

### ICT Lesson

The children enjoyed their first ICT lesson with Mr Nicos last week. They opened up a computer and learned about the different parts of the computer, and how to put all the pieces back together. They were also taught how to operate a computer safely and how to treat the equipment with respect.

### Everywhere Bear



Looks like Everywhere bear had a wonderful time last weekend with Ela and her family.

I wonder what he will do next?

### International Women's Day

At WMS we believe firmly in equality for everyone. Every child at our school will have an education full of equal opportunities and unprejudiced attitudes such that their choices in life are not limited. We fully recognise and support our girls in providing strong role models and encourage to be everything they want to be.



**Reminder that our last day of Spring Term is Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April. School will finish at 12.30pm. Breakfast club will be running on the 4<sup>th</sup> but please note there will be no lunch time or tea timer's clubs**

### Diary Dates

Our end of Summer term concert this year will be held on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July at Forest School, Snaresbrook, E17.**



**Lower School and Elementary class parent meetings are on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** . Time slots sheets are going up tomorrow at the Lower and Upper School doors, for you to sign up to.

**Prep and Reception class** will have a separate scheduled organised parents meeting time slots starting from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Time slot sheets will be displayed from tomorrow.

***Please speak with your child's class teacher if you are unable to make these dates or contact the office.***

**Tennis** will be resuming in the Summer Term on a Wednesday morning for Upper School children.



## Upcoming Trips;

### Nursery, Lloyd Park

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March.** Please return your consent form asap.

### Prep and Reception Class

**London Transport Museum at Covent Garden on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March** – please return your consent form.

### Elementary Class

**Visit to Soanes Centre, Tower Hamlets on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March.** – please return your consent form.

### Beech Class

All children who attend Kindergarten in Beech class on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March will be visiting our Upper School for the day. The children will be able to experience life as an Upper School pupil. Please return your consent form.

## Easter Holiday Club

Thank you for the responses for our Easter Holiday Club. All acknowledgements and reminders of your sessions booked have been sent.



## Composer of the Week

The composer of the week this week is Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741). Vivaldi was born in Venice and become one of the most famous composers of the Italian Baroque. Vivaldi composed over 500 concertos, the most famous is *The Four Seasons*, a set of four violin concertos published in 1725.



## Geography Day

Was a great success on Friday, the younger children learnt how to use a compass and about the four basic co-ordinates, and the beginning of orienteering. The older children extended their learning by making maps with landmarks and writing directions.

## Italian Teacher

### **Benvenuto Emanuele!**

We would like to welcome our new Italian teacher Emanuele. The children at both schools got to meet Emanuele last Thursday and will start their Italian lessons this week. Sadly, Tiziana had to leave unexpectedly due to personal reasons.



## Red Nose Day

As per your diary dates we will be celebrating Red Nose Day this Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. We are busy planning lots of exciting fund-raising activities to help support this wonderful charity



## Head Lice

We have had a case of head lice in the Lower School, which is very common amongst young children. Please check your child's head and treat accordingly. Thank you.

## Chicken Pox

We have been notified about a further case of chicken pox at Penrhyn. Please keep an eye out for signs and symptoms.

**Sickness Policy** This is a reminder that if your child has vomited or has diarrhoea, that they should not return to school for 48 hours.

## Summer Term School Fees

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

## **Class Information**

### **Reception and Prep**

We've had a busy but exciting week!

On Tuesday we celebrated Pancake Day. We enjoyed eating pancakes for snack time.

On Thursday we had a great time celebrating World Book Day with everyone dressed up as their favourite book character. During circle time, the children shared their favourite story with the group. They also had a chance to get creative by designing a book cover or drawing their favourite book character. Some even wrote a short description about their favourite character. We ended the day by having a book swap. Thank you to all the parents who came throughout the week to share a story.

On Friday we celebrated Geography Day. We talked about why reading maps were important and had a look at different types of maps. The children were introduced to the four immediate points on the compass, after which they made their very own compass. We marked out various points in the hall and the children had to provide directions on how to get there. At the end of the day the children enjoyed creating a map.

In Maths, some of the younger children were introduced to odd and even numbers. The older children continued working with Time related activities, fractions, multiplication and division operations.

In Literacy, we have been constructing sentences with words beginning with 'tr'. We have also been looking at old forms of transportation specifically the horse and cart carriage. We looked at what this form of transportation was used for, whether it was a good way of travelling and why it is not used today.

We will be visiting the London Transport Museum on Wednesday, 13 March.

### **Elementary**

Last week has been a busy and fun educational week. It was delightful to see so many children dressed up for World Book Day. Thank you also to parents who came and read to the children. Children have been working on editing skills this week and peer editing for their story writing. We've also been looking at land and water forms around the world for Geography Day, looking details up on google Earth about various rivers, and creating maps.

We are also exploring fossils and looking facts up about fossils in books and on the computer. In maths children are using bank games and large Bead frames for multiplication skills, test tubes for test tube division, and stamp games for dynamic subtraction. Some children are also learning pre-algebra and fraction works.

This Friday we have a special trip planned to learn about rocks and erosion. Make sure you return your permission slips and money for the trip. Also note that they need to come dressed in gym kits, with proper shoes to be outdoors, wellingtons if it is muddy. Drop off to school is at 8:30 sharp. There will be no breakfast club for Elementary on this day.



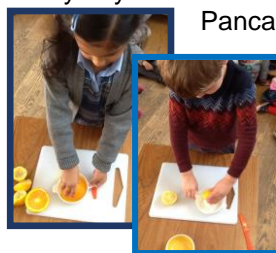
### **Kindergarten:**

#### **Beech:**

It was a busy week at WMS last week. We started our week by celebrating March with a Greek tradition. We made "Marti", an ancient custom for the beginning of Spring. It is believed it dates back to ancient Greece and it is known all over the Balkans. The name is derived from the Greek word for the month of March, "Martios"! From March 1st, it is a tradition, especially for children, to wear a bracelet made of twisted white and red thread. The white symbolises purity, and the red colour stands for life and passion. The 1st of March also indicates the beginning of Spring in Greece, and the hope for warm days and a lot of sun. Therefore, especially for young children, wearing the Marti bracelet also means you are protected from the burning sun.

Children wear the bracelet for the entire month and remove it the last day of March.

We wish you a very nice month of March and a lot of sunny days. Furthermore, on Tuesday we celebrated Pancake Day by squeezing some lemons and oranges for our pancakes!



We had lots going on for World Book Day, we had two parents came in to read a story and a parent who did a music session about Julia Donaldson books! The children loved it. Furthermore, we continued to talk about Africa. We looked at South Africa and Tanzania, learned the capital cities as well as located on the map.

Friday was geography day and we had lots of activities like making a compass, colouring the UK flags, matching the 7 continents and reading a map. This week, we will start talking about North America.

#### **Oak:**

Oak class had another great week at WMS. On Monday we started our art project of making Moroccan lanterns using glass jars, acrylic



paint and gold 3D paint. We started off by painting the jars on the inside and letting them dry overnight. We finished the lanterns' design by creating beautiful patterns on the outside using golden paint, which we had to squeeze using our fine motor skills. We really enjoyed the process and we are very proud of the result too!

On Tuesday it was Shrove Tuesday, which is also known as Pancake Day or Mardi Gras. We joined our friends from Sycamore class at a long table, where we chose toppings for our pancakes and enjoyed this yummy food. Delicious!

Wednesday was dedicated to the great country of South Africa. We looked at and learnt about traditional South African food as well as South African clothes and patterns. We participated in an activity where we attempted to recreate a traditional South African pattern by weaving strips of colour paper through slots in a rectangular piece of paper. This was a good exercise for our fingers as well as our social, communication and behaviour management skills, as we had to sometimes ask for help from our teachers and wait for our turn.

It was World Book Day on Thursday and we came dressed up as characters from our favourite books. Guessing who was who was so much fun! We then had a puppet show about Three Little Pigs performed by Miss Kasia and Miss Lilia! Our book of the week was 'Why so sad Brown Rabbit?' and our sound of the week was 'r'.

We finished our week by having a day dedicated to Geography on Friday, where we decorated Spanish flags and recapped our knowledge on compass and four coordinates of the world: North, East, South and West.

### **Sycamore:**

A full filled week at Walthamstow Montessori last week. Our study about Continents continued with Morocco. We all enjoyed making Moroccan Lanterns by painting our jars then using gold paint for the finishing touches.

We learnt about pancake day, which is also known as Shrove Tuesday. The children were able to recite important information on the ingredients used for pancake making. Sycamore demonstrated excellent practical life skills as they helped to cut the fruit in preparation for our pancake tasting activity.

We also had a group discussion about South Africa. The children discussed different types of farming including subsistence farming commercial farming. We also looked at different South African symbols such as the 'Coat of Arms' and the colours of the flag.

Our discussion on South Africa was completed by Sycamore class looking at different forms of weaving. We made our own weaving patterns from paper. For our World Book Day the children were dressed in some lovely costumes to mark the event.

The planned Geography day went down a treat as the children explored how to use a compass. Using directional cards, the children learnt how to orientate within their environment.

This week we will be exploring some exciting activities geared towards North America.

### **Nursery:**

Last week we were celebrating books, enjoying a variety of paper craft activities and looked into new and old favourite stories with enthusiasm. We were learning about the importance of books, how to handle books and keep our book corner tidy. During circle times we were discussing our favourite books and book characters supported with a dress up as our favourite book character. The children enjoyed creating bookmarks and binding their own little books using paper and pipe cleaners. We have also acknowledged Pancake day with pancakes for snack where children chose how to decorate their own pancakes. Towards the end of the week, the children had an opportunity to participate in a very engaging and interactive puppet show, bringing to life the story: "Three little pigs".

This week we will be talking about clothes and fashion around the world. We will be having a look at fashion now and in the past and seasonal clothing through picture presentations. The children will have the opportunity to explore the cultural table and they will have a go at making an outfit.

**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**

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**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.**