

# Walthamstow Montessori School

## Newsletter

### Red Nose Day

was celebrated at WMS last Friday, children and staff wore red for a small donation.



Lots of yummy cakes were made by Nursery, Oak and Sycamore children.

While Beech class used their artistic skills to create some Jackson Pollock

'drip' paintings. All cakes and art pieces were sold at the end of the school day at both schools along with cakes that parents kindly donated, which generated a grand total of £163.10!



*Thank you for your generous support.*

### Trip to the London Transport Museum

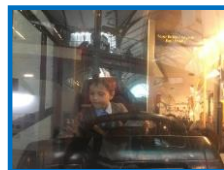
Last Wednesday Reception and Prep children visited the London Transport Museum in Covent Garden. They got a chance to see and get on board some of the preserved vehicles such as the first steam powered underground engine, a wooden Metropolitan Railway Coach, trams, double deck motor bus and a horse drawn carriage. They had a feel of what it would be like



to sit in the driver's seat of a red bus and guide a Northern



Line train through tunnels and up to platforms. They also looked at a collection of bus and train tickets from the past and compared it to what we use today.



The children had a wonderful time and enjoyed learning about the history of London's transportation, which supports their knowledge on this topic which they have been studying this term in the classroom.

### Beech Class

had the opportunity last Wednesday to spend the day at Upper School. Their school day included taking part in a P.E. session which included some games and balancing activities, they explored the Montessori materials in Prep and Reception class and had their D.T. lesson with Miss Alex. All the Elementary class children and teachers made them feel very welcome and it gave Beech class a taster of a school day at our Upper School.

### Trip to Soanes Centre

The children in Elementary class participated in a hands-on workshop about rocks, fossils and erosion at the Soanes Centre, located in Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park with an knowledgeable once cemetery is woodland area



extremely teacher, Mr Dim. The now a beautiful and protected nature reserve.



Children worked as a geologist for the day, testing rocks through

experiments to see if they were permeable or impermeable, for their hardness or softness. They looked at a variety of types of rocks and learned about the forces of nature that effect erosion. Children could make a hypothesis about which rocks were more likely to erode faster, based on their permeability and softness or hardness. Children also got to see a variety of real fossils, including one of a certain part of a dinosaur. Children also went outdoors, examined stones in the park. Many of them found flint, which they use to create a spark.

It was such an engaging hands-on bespoke trip that I highly recommend for children and adults of all ages.



## Montessori Geography Corner

After a very informative geography teaching training with Miss Lorna, the teachers decided to recreate their own 'geography corner' in order to gain the children's attention and get a better understanding of geography by preparing some Montessori materials. We would really appreciate it if you have any artefacts that you would be able to donate from around the world. This could include maps, objects, pictures etc.

## Teacher Parent Meetings

**Nursery, Kindergarten (Oak, Sycamore and Beech) and Elementary classes** takes places on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at **Penrhyn building**.

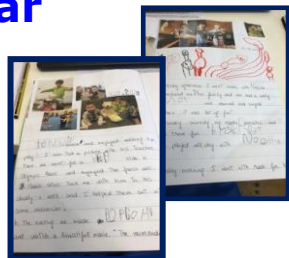
**Reception / Prep Classes** meeting are taking place throughout w/c 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March at **Brookcroft** building.

Time slots sheet for these meeting are up at both school doors. If you are unable to make these dates, please speak to your child's teacher or contact the office to arrange an alternative time or date.

***Please be reminded that no WMS children or siblings will be able to attend these meetings. If you require your child to attend Tea Timers Club on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> or if you have an early morning meeting and your child needs to attend Breakfast Club, please call the office to book your child into these clubs as spaces will be limited. Thank you for your understanding.***

## Everywhere Bear

Had a wonderful weekend with Noah, he was very active and even helped to make homemade pancakes!



## St Patrick's Day

We hope that all our Irish families had a great day yesterday celebrating St. Patrick's Day.

Some of the children at WMS made and decorated a Shamrock on Friday and learnt that the Shamrock has three leaves, each one making up the holy trinity of Christianity (father, Son and holy spirit). Legend has it that St. Patrick used the shamrock in Ireland to teach people about Christianity and it became an enduring symbol of the day.

***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.**



## Leavers Assembly

Any children who are leaving WMS at the end of the Spring Term will be invited to attend a special leavers assembly to celebrate their time at WMS.

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



## Upcoming Trips

**Nursery, Lloyd Park – this Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March.** Children to wear suitable clothing and a water proof coat is recommended.

## Composer of the Week

The composer of the week this week is Frederic Chopin (1810- 1849). Born near Warsaw, Poland. Chopin wrote hundreds of piano pieces, some influenced by traditional Polish dances such as the polonaise and mazurka.



## Car Pooling

Are there any families who commute from either Aldersbrook, Wanstead or Forest Gate area and would be interested in Car Pooling?



***Please contact the school office if this is of interest to you so that we can pass on your details.***

***Many thanks***

**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.

## Payment of Invoices

This is polite notice to remind parents / carers, that when the school issues an invoice that full payment of that invoice should be made by the date stated on the invoice. If for any reason this is not possible, we would be grateful if you can contact the school office and speak to either Miss Wendy or Miss Celestina to discuss a revised payment day. Chasing outstanding invoices

by office staff waste valuable time and resources that could be used in a more productive way.

## Summer Term School Fees

Please be advised that your child's Summer term school fee invoice will be issued today **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**.

**Please contact the office before the end of this week if you have not collected your invoice to prevent a penalty late fee being applied to your account. Every child at WMS will receive an invoice.**

## Lost Property

As the end of term approaches please could you ensure you check the lost property bin for any items your child may have mis-placed during this half of the term. Please could you check before Tuesday 2nd April as after this time we will be removing the items left and donation to charity

## Class Information

### Elementary

Last week Elementary had a splendid time at the Soanes Centre learning about rocks and erosion.



For Red Nose Day activities children looked at ideas and ways to help people living in poverty. We are writing persuasive letters to our local officials with our ideas. We are looking on-line for ideas to help people living in poverty, learning about empathy and how we can make a difference.

Other topics last week have been looking at types of rocks and causes of erosion, land and water forms around the world and using google Earth to look up rivers and trying to find their source. In maths some children are enjoying new lessons on the Bank Game for multiplication, Large Bead Frame activities and fraction activities. This week we will be exploring sound vibrations in science, the history of numbers in maths and continue with ideas on helping people in poverty.

### Reception and Prep

Once again, a busy but exciting week for our class!



On Wednesday, we visited the London Transport Museum. The children had a wonderful and interesting time exploring the history of

London's transportation.

On Friday we celebrated Red Nose Day by wearing something red. The children designed red noses and decorated biscuits for our bake sale.

In Maths, some of the younger children continued their work with odd and even numbers while others were introduced to simple subtraction using the Montessori Golden Beads. The older children continued to explore activities using The Stamp Game, Multiplication Board and Division Board. Some of the children have been introduced to Dynamic Operations using the Stamp Game while others are working through long divisions.

In Literacy, the younger children have been working with Placement on Line activity to help them improve their formation of letters and sight words whilst the older children have been working on their cursive formation and editing skills.

For topic work, we looked at the different modes of transportation used to get to school. With this data, the children created bar graphs and answered questions pertaining to the graph.

### Kindergarten:

#### **Beech:**

Last week Beech class had so much fun! We started talking about North America and the countries within North America. On Wednesday we had a day at the Upper School, where the children were very excited. Having the 'I am at the "big" school' feeling made them more responsible, more keen to learn. They had a lovely P.E. Session with the P.E. teacher, lots of fun with games and balancing activities! It was amazing to see them how well they got on with the other children, especially during lunch time when a child from upper school kindly helped a child from Beech class to peel her banana. We continued the day exploring more Montessori materials and also had our DT lesson delivered by Miss Alex. Furthermore, we read the book "Only



One You" by Linda Kranz and discussed about wisdom. Children painted some fish rocks as well! On Friday we started our day with dip painting, messy but a very funny activity! At the end of the



day children, sold their canvases to raise funds for Red Nose Day. In the afternoon we planted some bulbs, talked about the life cycle of a flower and parts of the plants. This week we will continue talking about North America. You can always send with your child artefacts from around the topic to support children's learning.

## Oak:

Last week Oak class was learning about the third largest continent in the world, which is called North America. On Monday we looked at pictures and talked about animals that live in North America, such as raccoons, grizzly bears, bobcats, brown bears and many more. We learnt that North America has a unique and very picturesque natural parks with mountain chains, thick forests and blue lakes. We all agreed we would like to go visit North America one day.

On Tuesday we learnt about the United States of America, the 4th largest country in the world. We found out about and discussed such interesting facts as the first man on the Moon, who was an American citizen Neil Armstrong; American flag, which is made up of 50 stars - one for each of the American states and 13 stripes and about the first American president George Washington. We talked about traditional American festivals such as Thanksgiving Day and Independence Day. We looked at pictures of American landscapes and learnt about Rocky Mountains, the Great Lakes, the Grand Canyon and Denali, which is the highest mountain in the US!

During our Out and About session we worked with Land and Water globe. We discussed how our planet Earth is made from these two elements, and how it creates all the beautiful life we see around us, including plants and animals. We then discussed the life cycle of a plant and planted flower seeds in our nature corner. We will be watering them every day and will watch them grow into beautiful flowers.



On Thursday we learnt about New York and Olympia, as well as differences between British English and American English languages.

On Friday we made shamrocks using paper plates and paint to commemorate St. Patrick's Day. We also baked blueberry muffins to support Red Nose Day.

As usual we concentrated on learning about shapes, numbers and letters throughout the week. We revisited sound "s" for our Sound of the Week. Our book of the week was Squash and a Squeeze by Julia Donaldson.



## Sycamore:

Last week we looked at North America. After their teacher's presentation each child was able to locate the Orange continent on the puzzle map. We explained the continent folder where a discussion was formed about the images that they could see. The children produced some beautiful New York sky lines to coincide with our topic.

We also discussed about Washington DC and the President of the United States of America. We had the opportunity to explore different coins from America and as an extension activity they produced coin rubbings for their money tree.

For St Patrick's Day, there was some lovely Shamrocks created by using two toned tissue paper.

Some of the children demonstrated excellent attention to detail as they glued the tissue paper within the printed lines.

Our red nose day went down a treat as we decorated our cakes for the Cake Sale. Thank you for dressing your child in red to mark the occasion.



This week we will be exploring

Mexico, learning about the oceans of Canada and the World.

## Nursery:

Last week, nursery children learned about fashion and clothing from around the world. They were very interested to look at pictures of traditional clothing and had an opportunity to try traditional Pakistani costumes. Then the children made a comparison between the fashion of today and in the past and created outfits by matching the cut out paper pieces in order to create a whole outfit.



Red Nose Day was a real success. Children created funny faces using clay and other crafts, they played a game of searching for the red noses that were hidden in the garden and learned about the importance of this day.



This week we will be exploring the changes in nature and weather and the first signs of Spring. The outing to the park will be taking place where children will learn about plants we eat and how to use them in order to create a dye used when celebrating Holi.

**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](mailto: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.**