

W/C Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019

# Walthamstow Montessori School

## Newsletter

### Harvest Festival

The whole school came together last Tuesday for our annual Harvest Festival, as we think of others less fortunate than ourselves and the origins of our food.

We came together to share ideas and poems, sing our harvest songs and show the lovely Autumn art we have created.

Miss Lorna read us 'Handa's Surprise' and some of us acted out the parts of the story, which included balancing a basket of fruit on our head and walking like Handa did in the story.



### Black History Week

As part of Black History month, the children in Upper School will each choose someone who has made their mark in history. They will summarise their story and present their journey to the class. We will also be looking at role models from the past and present.



### Bumper Harvest



A big thank you for all your generous contributions of food for our Harvest Festival. This has now been donated to a local Children's charity.

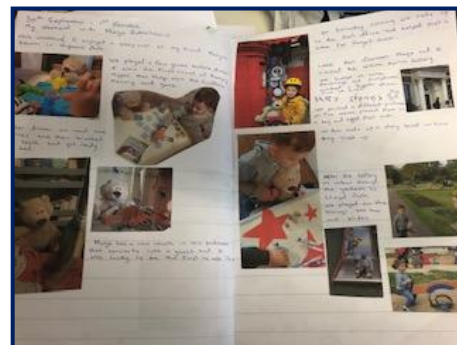
A special thank you to Zephaniah's dad who brought in a bumper harvest of fresh vegetables from his allotment. Zephaniah helps his dad by making sure that the vegetables get plenty of water.

This gave the teachers an opportunity to talk to all the children about where our fruit and vegetables come from and how they grow, as well as learning more about what an allotment is.



### Everywhere Bear

had a wonderful weekend, Hugo kept Everywhere Bear busy, they visited William Morris Gallery, Lloyd Park and the French market at Highams Park.



It was lovely to see how Hugo made sure Everywhere Bear brushed his teeth properly.

## Community Snack

On Friday mornings Elementary Class share a community snack, Lachlan has been elected as our Catering Manager and Zoe as assistant Catering Manager.

A list of food preferences is given to us early in the week after asking other class members for their choice!

If possible the children will go and buy the items but if we can't do this Miss Lorna goes shopping for us!

Last Friday morning the table was cleaned ready and the food was prepared by Lachlan and Zoe.



At 11 o'clock we were all ready and eager to share the food!

We all enjoy eating as friends together in this way.

Last Friday we have bread sticks, houmous, rich tea biscuits, apples, pears, cucumber, honey, jam and croissants

## Mandarin Club



In Mandarin Club last Friday Miss Wee taught us the names of lots of different types of food.

## Autumn Half Term Holiday Club

We are planning to run our holiday club during the October half term break from Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Booking forms are available at the school door. Please ensure you complete your booking form along with full payment to secure your child's place in the Holiday Club by Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October,

## Second-hand Uniform Sale

We are planning to hold a secondhand uniform sale at our Upper School on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October. More details to follow.



## Themed Assembly, 'Space and Autumn'

Will be on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 10am.

All the children in the Lower School will participate and it is a lovely opportunity for you to see what your children have been doing in Nursery and Kindergarten so far this term.

Parents are invited so please complete your attendance slip and return to the school office by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October.

Upper school will also be having a 'Themed Assembly' after the half term break, the date of this be

## Spring Term Fees 2020

Invoices will be issued from Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Payment should be made on or before Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December to secure your child's place for the Spring term and then the second instalment on or before the Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

All school fees must be paid in advance of the start of the Spring term on the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

## Indoor Shoes

**Please ensure** that your child has a pair of plain black plimsoles that they can change into when they are inside at school at Penrhyn.



In the Montessori, the children may work on the floor with mats and with so many children not changing into their indoor footwear means during this particularly wet weather floors will get very dirty quickly during the school morning. Many seem to be wearing wellington boots which are also uncomfortable when worn all day.

## 2019 Tea Towels, Fundraiser

We will be taking part in our annual Tea Towel fundraiser again this year. Some of you may already be familiar with the tea towel fundraiser whereby each individual child in WMS will draw a self-portrait of him/herself and they will all printed onto a tea towel. You will be able to purchase these tea towels, which would make a lovely Christmas present or a treasured keepsake.

**Please note our Autumn Half Term dates, school finishes on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October and resumes on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October.**

## Class Information

### Elementary

Last week Elementary children went on a nature trail for our 'Out and About' session. We visited the site and learned about a medieval Manor House that was surrounded by a moat, in the park.

We used our observational skills to identify plants and had a close look at birds and squirrels that frequently pass through the park. As it's Autumn we collected leaves of different shapes, size and colour, which we used to create interesting woodland creatures and wrote descriptive introductions for them.



For Black History week, the children will each choose someone who has made their mark in history. They will summarise their story and present their journey to the class.

We are looking forward to our school trip on Wednesday to the Museum of London.

### Reception

Last week we have been talking about what it was like to live in 1666. We looked at the differences in how people lived then to how we live now. We spoke about how people's daily life was very different to today. We looked at how they slept and cooked, how homes were lit to how we live today.

We also talked about electricity in everyday life, looking at electrical things that we use and discussing safety. We also looked at battery powered equipment.

Children enjoyed sharing their beautiful Harvest pictures and singing the Harvest songs at our Harvest Festival. In our 'out and about' session the children enjoyed looking at the

our environment as Autumn approaches. They enjoyed collecting conkers and sharing them with the squirrels!

This week for Black History month we will



changes in

be talking about various role models from past and present, such as Mary Seacole and Tessa Sanderson.

### Kindergarten: SYCAMORE

Last week we learnt about the planet Uranus. We discussed that Uranus has 27 moons and that it takes a long time to orbit the sun.

We developed our communication and language skills by learning some of the moon names including Titania, Oberon, Ariel and Umbriel.

To further enhance our knowledge, we used our craft skills to make a paper mache planet Uranus. We explored different colours to complete our lovely activity.

Our Harvest basket activity allowed us to explore different fruits and vegetables. This concluded with a vegetable and fruit counting activity.

We learnt all about harvest and the farmers who pick the crops when they have ripened. The week ended with an exciting science experiment where we grew our own Alien using a balloon.

This week we will have some exciting activities based around stars, we will be looking at the life cycle of a star, star names and constellations.

### OAK

We've continued to learn more about planets throughout last week. We made Planet Uranus paper mache and we learnt it's an ice giant as well as the third largest planet in the Solar System and the seventh from the Sun.

We further explored into space and discussed Aliens! We absolutely enjoyed this topic as we got to experiment growing a balloon Alien. We saw how our Alien balloon grew bigger and that made us laugh really loudly. Some of us were brave enough to hold the Alien balloon as it continued to grow bigger. We also inspected the picture of the Alien on the balloon and spoke about the shapes and patterns made.



During our harvest assembly, we placed some fruits and vegetables into our baskets, and we all got to hold each basket while reciting our Harvest Poems.

We've also been learning the Months of the year, Days of the Week and the four seasons of the year; we will continue learning this throughout the new week.

In addition to this week, we will be learning all about stars and making some experiments. We will also carry on identifying numbers, shapes and colours.

### **Nursery**

Last week the nursery children had an opportunity to do more Autumn related art activities. They gathered leaves, sticks, barks and flowers and created beautiful autumn collages. We talked about the parts of a leaf, learning the names and identifying them. The children also enjoyed watercolour leaf printing, leaf decoupage and threading leaves.



We rounded up our harvest activities with a harvest festival assembly where we celebrated Harvest with lots of songs, poems and offerings of appreciation.

This week we are going to talk about what the animals are doing in Autumn. We are going to learn about birds, create a bird's nest and bird feeder as well as introduce the word hibernation and hibernating animals.

**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:

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