

W/C Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019

# Walthamstow Montessori School Newsletter

## Nursery Trip to Lloyd Park

Our Nursery children visited Lloyd Park last week and spent time discovering the changes that are taking place in the park during the season of autumn. The children collected fallen leaves, twigs and conkers from the Horse Chestnut tree. The children were encouraged to feel the textures of the tree trunks and produced some tree rubbings from a 1000 year old Evergreen Oak and 'The Tree of Heaven'. The children made friends with some squirrels, a couple of sleepy newts and they also fed the hungry ducks and moorhens.



Children finished off the session by making clay tea lights and Rangoli patterns for Diwali the Hindu festival of light and learnt that these patterns encourage goodness and celebrate new beginnings.



## Diary Dates We will be getting festive!

We have lots of lovely events to look forward to before Christmas such as Children in Need on 15<sup>th</sup> November, and of course the Christmas Concert on the 17<sup>th</sup> December and the many other festivities traditionally held at WMS for our children!



One such tradition here at WMS is where we invite all children to come to school with two silver Christmas tree decorations. Children will hang these on the tree themselves on our special tree decorating day being held on 10<sup>th</sup> December. .

## Christmas Jumper Day At WMS!



Why not! Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December will be 'wear your festive jumper/top' to school.

Parents, please don yours too!

***We break up for the Christmas Holidays on  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December and school resumes on  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020***

## Halloween Fun!

All the children enjoyed dressing up for Halloween last Thursday and had lots of fun taking part in all the activities.



## Pumpkin Carvings

During DT lesson with Miss Alex last week the children in Elementary class used knives to carve out a pumpkin.

They discussed different facial expressions such as happy, silly, scary and sad which the children then drew. They then each chose an expression which they transferred and carved out their pumpkin

They all had a lot of fun and were very pleased with their results, the children each took their pumpkin home.



## DT Lesson

Last week Reception class finished their dolls. They made the figure out of wire, then added volume with foil and masking tape. After children painted the dolls in individual skin colours, each child chose different fabrics and wool to dress their figures. Some chose trousers, skirts, dresses with and without sleeves.

We all had a lot of fun and the children were excited to take their individual dolls home.



## Christmas Holiday Club

We will be running our Christmas holiday club on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> & Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



This always proves to be a very popular club, so please ensure that you complete a booking form if you wish your child to attend.

Booking forms are available at school front doors or alternatively they can be emailed to you.

The deadline for completed forms is **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November.**

## After School Club Invoices

If your child has attended any After School clubs during October you will receive an invoice today for these clubs.

Invoices will be emailed to you. If you require a paper copy please let the office know and it will be printed off for you.

Invoices need to be paid in full by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November to avoid being charged a late penalty fee.

## Big Book Boost

Is a fund raising scheme by the Book People. If you purchase books over the value of £10 the Book People will donate a £1 towards our school that we can use to purchase books.



Please visit their website for more details: [www.thebookpeople.co.uk/bigbookboost](http://www.thebookpeople.co.uk/bigbookboost)

## Parent Evenings

**Lower School Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Upper School Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

These will be held at our Lower School (Penrhyn Hall).

Time slots will go up at the both school doors this week. Please select a time that is suitable for you. Please note we are unable to accommodate any children at these meetings. If you require child care please book your child into our Tea Timers Club, spaces will be limited, so early booking is recommended.

If you are unable to make these dates please call contact the office to advise.

## Spring Term Fees 2020

These 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.



## Class Information

### Elementary

Last week we learnt about the Hindu festival of Diwali. The children enjoyed decorating Rangoli patterns, like the

ones the Hindus put in front of their houses for good luck. The children worked together to create their own Rangoli pattern using leaves that they had collected.

We've had regular class discussions about well-being at school. The children have been putting it into practise by being more aware of each other's needs, giving support, encouragement or praise where they see necessary. We ended the week by writing something positive and personal for each other's flower.

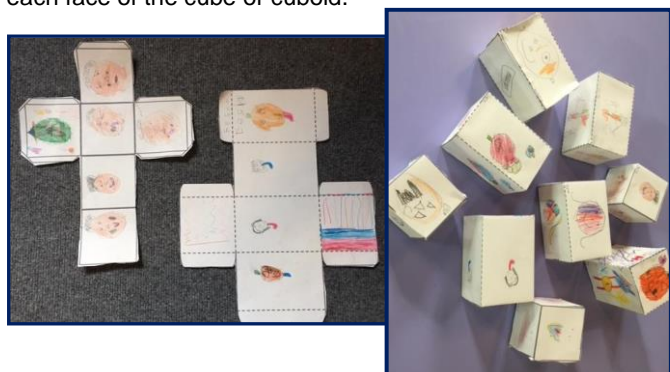


Halloween was celebrated with costumes, scary creative writing and Halloween themed Maths games. In DT they designed and skilfully cut their own pumpkin.

This week we will be reviewing our learning of the Great Plague and Fire of London and create a timeline of the events. Also writing some poetry on our topic.

## **Reception**

Last week as part of 'wellbeing week' we have been thinking about feelings and those of others. We talked about how we can be thoughtful towards other, thinking about how they could be feeling and what we could do to make them feel better. We decided to connect our feelings work with making a cube or cuboid by drawing different faces on each face of the cube or cuboid.



In our 'out and about' session the children really enjoyed looking in detail at the trees. They felt the different types of bark on the trees and collected different leaves. We spoke about the sizes of the trees and how old they might be.

This week we will continue talking about fireworks and Guy Fawkes. We will also be talking about children's parts in our Christmas concert.

## **Kindergarten:**

### **BEECH**

Last week Beech class had a week of exciting activities planned around the festival of Diwali, Halloween and Wellbeing. The children had the opportunity to smell different spices used in Indian cooking, as well as playing different games to raise awareness of the importance of healthy eating.

The children made some Halloween biscuits, decorated their class pumpkins and had lots of fun at the Halloween party!

To conclude the week, the children also learnt about the Moon and have elaborated on their own "Mud / clay Moon" while learning different facts about it.



This week, Beech class will carry on learning about their topic of 'space' with some hands-on activities that will encourage and support their learning. The children will be making a collage as part of the Remembrance Day as well as learning some interesting facts about Bonfire Night and Guy Fawkes.



## **SYCAMORE**

Last week we enjoyed celebrating the Hindu festival of Diwali. We listened to the story of Rama and Sita and used our communication and language skills during a discussion with our teachers and peers. We also explored different 'mark making' materials to colour our own Rangoli patterns and make a Diva lamp. We use our olfactory sense to smell different herbs and spices used for cooking during Diwali.

The fun continued as we carved and used our creativity to decorate pumpkins for Halloween exploring the primary and secondary colours. The activity extended into a sensory experience as we manipulated the pumpkin seeds and pulp between our fingers.

To finish off the celebration, there was a lovely Halloween disco where we showcased our outfits and played some exciting activities.

This week, we will be continuing our focus on this term's topic of 'space'. We will also be participating in some exciting activities based around Guy Fawkes. We will discuss Remembrance Day and also make some lovely crafts to mark this occasion.

## **OAK**

Last week was filled with various and interesting activities as we started off by learning about Diwali festival and how it is celebrated. We learnt how to make a Kandel lantern using different art materials. We further discussed the importance of wellbeing as we explored and grouped different fruits and



vegetables. We discussed the importance of healthy eating, exercising, brushing our teeth twice daily, as well as things that makes us feel good. We ended this activity with an exercise in the garden as we demonstrated our creativity and imagination skills whilst engaging in garden yoga poses. We pretended to be a tree, a frog, a seed, a butterfly and a flower! Some poses were a little bit challenging but most importantly very exciting! At the end of the yoga poses, we laid on our backs with our arms and legs spread out in a resting pose.

For Halloween, we read a story about Halloween, decorated our special pumpkin and later on made a ghost tree. In the afternoon, we had our Halloween disco!

We continued to learn more about space as we made a mud/clay moon where we spoke about what the moon looks like using our imagination. We also described the craters made on our moon and used our senses and discussed how bumpy or rough it felt.

This week, we will be discussing about the first man who landed on moon, how he worked together with his team to achieve the mission and how brave they were. We will also learn more about how craters were made, and we hope to end the discussion with a science experiment where we get to make our own craters!

Furthermore, we will be learning about Bonfire Night and who Guy Fawkes was. We also hope to explore moving around the garden like different fireworks! We will be discussing the importance of Remembrance Day in the United Kingdom, why and who we celebrate on this day. We will be learning the relevance of the poppy and Remembrance Day - why poppies are worn on Remembrance Day. We will end the discussion by making our individual remembrance crosses and poppies.

*Our phonic sound of the week for our class will be 'b' and we will be concentrating on things that begin with the sound 'b'. Could you please support your child's learning by sending in a picture, toy or a safe object that begins with the sound 'b'. This will enable us to relate and discuss various things from home in class.*

*Thank you to those who sent in objects beginning with the sound 'a' last week. We hope to continue to support the children's learning this week, creating the link from home to school.*

As you've all been aware, we've 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 week.

## **Nursery**

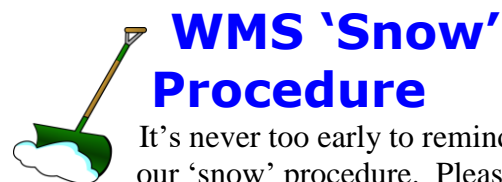
Last week nursery had an amazing week with loads of festivities and celebrations. We celebrated Diwali by drawing Rangoli symbols and creating Diyas. The nursery children participated in discussion about why and how this holiday is celebrated in India.



We carved a pumpkin and put on our scary outfits for the Halloween party. The children also enjoyed Halloween related art activities. The nursery children had an outing in Lloyd Park where they did bark mark making, observed and stroked a newt, fed the ducks in

the pond, draw Rangoli symbols and created clay Diyas.

This week we are going to recreate a bonfire for our 'out and about' session and discuss about Guy Fawkes and Bonfire night. The nursery children will have an opportunity to create fireworks using paper rolls and learn more about how fire is created through a science experiment. They are also going to learn about different types of trees and leaves.



## **WMS 'Snow' Procedure**

It's never too early to remind yourself of our 'snow' procedure. Please ensure you are fully aware of our bad weather procedures should we have a predicted or unexpected arrival of snow that may mean the school has to remain closed or close early! Information can be found on the school's web site.

**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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