

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

Feliz Aniversario

Miss Karen received lots of hugs from the children during her birthday walk last week and Rita in Beech class decided to sing Happy Birthday to Miss Karen in Portuguese!



Please be reminded that we break for the February half-term on Friday 14th February.

Bird Watching Trip

Please be reminded that the children in the Upper School and Kindergarten will be visiting Lloyd Park this **Thursday 23rd January.**



Please ensure that you have returned your child's permission slip. Thank you

Upper School Trips:

The following trips / visit have been arranged for the children at our Upper School. Letters with more information will be sent out shortly.

Birdwatching Lloyd Park – Thursday 23rd January

Pump House Museum – Wednesday 29th January

Labour MP Kizzy Gardiner – Thursday 6th February

William Morris Gallery – Wednesday 4th March

Composer of the Week

Pyotr Tchaikovsky (1840-1893). Tchaikovsky was the best known Russian composer of the 19th century. His ballet music is some of the most popular ever written and include Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty and The Nutcracker.



Healthy Teeth Workshops

Healthy teeth parent workshops are now running across the borough. For more information you can call 020 8496 5223 or please see our school notice board for more information.



Christmas Concert DVDs

If you have ordered and paid for a DVD then you should have received your copy. Please ask at the front door for yours. The profit we made on the tea towels and DVDs goes straight back into the school – we will be sharing with you any new projects ahead that your fundraising will contribute towards.

'Bumped Head' Text

If your child bumps any part of their head during a school day we will always send a standard text to you. These texts are sent as an extra precaution to ensure you are aware. If you receive a text it is because all is well with your child and we will be keeping an extra eye on them.

No Nuts

As I'm sure you are all aware we are a strict no nut school; so please ensure that you do not send your child in with nuts or nut-based products in their packed lunch such as small sweets (e.g. Snickers) or nut-based spreads (e.g. Nutella, peanut butter). We have children in both schools with severe nut



allergies. These items will need to be removed from your child's lunch.



No grapes

Please ensure that you do NOT give your child grapes in their packed lunch, as young children can easily choke on grapes.

School Smocks

If your child is in Nursery or Kindergarten can we ask that they wear their school smock. The smocks protect their clothing especially during messy play and when they are participating in their art and craft sessions.



You can order your child's smock via the school office and they cost £20.00 each.

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 dirty with outdoor footwear being worn in school.

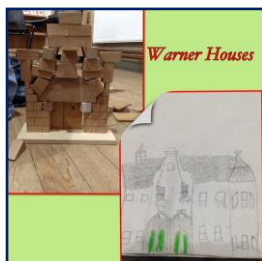


Wellies and Raincoats.

Please ensure that your child has a spare pair of wellies which can be left at school. As part of our Montessori teaching the children will often take their learning outside and the children will participate in their 'Out and About' sessions. Please ensure your child has a raincoat and or a full rain suit.

Elementary

Last week the children were learning about how the housing in Walthamstow had evolved from manor houses, mansions and a few farm labour's cottages, to many cottage-type houses. The children learnt about the Warner house design and talked about the details that are particular to these houses and how they helped house the growing population of Walthamstow. The children drew Warner



houses and also tried to build one using wooden blocks.

This week, we will be looking back at home life in the past, how people lived and what jobs they had. We will also be concentrating on some activities for Bird Watching Week and also look forward to our trip on Thursday to Lloyd Park, to further our bird knowledge.

Reception

Last week the children were working on their topic for this term is "Walthamstow". The children have been learning about the growth of the area and looking at its housing and architecture, including the history of the Warner family and estates. To get an idea of what a Warner house looked like, reception children have made their own 3D Warner houses and painted them, sketching architectural detail of local buildings, particularly Warner architecture, as we mentioned before.

It was so much fun!

Furthermore, the children have been improving their maths and language skills with hands-on materials, focusing on simple addition and subtraction and handwriting.



This week the children will focus on home life in Walthamstow and how and where people used to live, as well as what jobs people used to have. We will tell you all about it next week!



Kindergarten: Oak & Sycamore

Last week in Kindergarten, we looked at the puzzle map with the four countries of Great Britain which are Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland. After the teachers presentation, the children participated in a three-period lesson to reinforce where each country is located. We also looked at some interesting facts about Wales including the national flower which is the daffodil. The children also learnt that Snowdon is the highest peak mountain in Wales at 1085m (3560ft).



Kindergarten display board

Rugby Union is the National sport for Wales and it's closely followed by most of the country. There were some interesting facts about Prince Charles also known as the Prince of Wales and the Monarchy. We all enjoyed discussing The Royal

family as a group and finished of our discussion by participating in a lovely flag colouring activity.

Included in our fun packed week, we also looked at Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland has the Largest

lake (landlocked): **Lough Neagh** (392 km² - also largest in the British Isles). Ben Nevis is the highest mountain in the British Isles which stand at an amazing 1,344 metres.

There is also the famous Edinburgh castle. A historic fortress in the capital city of Edinburgh
Some of Northern Ireland's cuisine include, soda bread, Dexter Beef and Irish Lobster.

This week we will be focussing on famous landmarks, and there are some exciting activities planned for us to gain knowledge and a wider understanding of each of the four countries.

Beech:

Last week was a very busy and productive week for Beech class. The children have been learning about Wales, it's location, it's capital city and other notable features. The children have made Welsh flags and learnt that it's called the red dragon! We played a game using each key fact about Wales to help us to remember them. The children used the theme of Wales to focus on words beginning with 'w' and we made some fun sentences.

On Thursday we did some work on land forms and we made rivers from dough and painted rivers too.

Nursery:

Last week, we carried out various grace and courtesy activities for the children to learn how to move in the classroom with respect of others and the material. The children practiced how to walk around floor mats, how to put their work away, how to carry a chair and how to watch a peer who is working. Each child had a turn demonstrating a certain grace or a courtesy after the teacher's presentation. We will continue with these activities so the children can learn how the Montessori environment functions.

Our 'out and about session was a great success. The children got involved in making a potion using various herbs, paint, tooth paste, and sprinkles and they used sticks to mix all of the ingredients. The children used their creative minds to make their own potion, spending a lot of time mixing, adding and even exploring the texture with their hands. At the end they said the magic words and turned into various creatures such as dragons, unicorns, fairies, etc.



This week we will be introducing our topic, Great Britain. We will start off by presenting the land and

water globe, asking each child to find a small and a large piece of land as well as a small and a large mass of water. In this way, the children will have a sensorial experience of the globe realising that our



planet is made of land and water. Children will participate in making a globe by using a paper mache technique. Further on we will be introducing the continent globe giving language to the land and the water. Children will then learn the "continent song" by using the puzzle map of the world. We will finish the week by looking at various pictures representing Europe.



Book of the week:

'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy

Home Links

Parents can support their children's learning this week:

- **Collect items beginning with 'b' and reinforce the letter sound and name at home.**
- **Cover the bottom of a baking tray with flour and practise writing the letter 'b' in it.**
- **Let their children sort the shopping into shapes that roll, and shapes that stand flat.**
- **Encourage their children to look at the moon at different times of the month to see how it changes.**

Please help your children by finding fun ways together to identify the letter and 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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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.

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