

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

Trip to the Pump House Museum

The Upper school children visited The Pump House Museum in Walthamstow. We had a guide to take us around and explain the many exhibits there. It was quite impressive to see the enormous Marshall steam pumping engines with the line shafts and belts that ran along the ceiling to the other side of the room.

The children were excited to see the old fire engine that had been used in a number of films. They were also able to handle some of the fireman's tools to compare the weight with today's tools. We also had the opportunity to climb into the fire engine to see the rest of their protective garments and tools.



The children were amazed to learn that the B-type bus made in Walthamstow in 1900 was painted and used in the First World War to transport the troops. There were also exhibits relating to J.A.Prestwich, who manufactured internal combustion engines, famed for their use in a variety of vehicles.



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

Chinese New Year

We had a lovely week of activities to celebrate Chinese New Year. The children were invited to wear red which is traditionally worn during this festival as it symbolises good luck and good health.



The children really enjoyed eating some noodles and even had a go at using chopsticks!



The children participated in some lovely art activities which included making Kongming Chinese lanterns, Chinese lanterns are used in Asian festivals to bring prosperity and good fortune.

WOW! Sheets



WOW sheets are a positive way to celebrate your child's achievements. These are an important part of your child's journey.

WOW! Sheets are freely available at the school door or can be downloaded from our website, which also has more information about WOW! Sheets. (Under School life, Learning Journals).

After School Club Invoices

If your child attended any of our After School Clubs during January, you will be receiving an invoice today.

Please note these invoices will need to be paid by Friday 7th February to avoid a penalty charge.

All invoices are now emailed to you. If you require a paper copy please let the office know.

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.

Labour MP Kizzy Gardiner – Thursday 6th February

William Morris Gallery – Wednesday 4th March

Composer of the Week



Richard Wagner (1813-1883) was one of the most important opera composers of the Romantic period. Wagner was born in Leipzig, Germany. He wrote his first play when he was 13.

Wagner wrote songs, piano pieces and orchestral music, but is best known for his operas.

Half Term – Cycle School

Waltham Forest are running a February Half Term Cycle School – the cycle school is free to attend and will take place in Leyton Jubilee Park.

Go to their website for more details:

www.cycleconfident.com/sponsors/waltham-forest/

Road Works

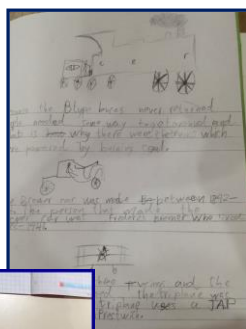
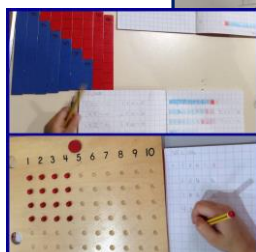
Waltham Forest have notified us that work will be taking place in **Higham Hill & Lloyd Park** area from Monday 3rd February for 4 weeks.

This may affect your journey to school.



Elementary

Last week we learnt the first transport that people used to travel to London from Walthamstow was a coach drawn by horses. Later came the railways, trams and buses. We were excited to travel on the bus. On our way we passed by a couple of railway stations before arriving at the Pump House Museum. There we were able to see steam pumping engines, the B-type an old fire engine even an old penny-farthing bicycle.



bus,
and

This week we will be learning about leadership and important people in Walthamstow. Kizzy Gardiner, the local MP will be visiting the Upper school and we hope to be learning more about her role in Walthamstow.

The children have been practising their number bonds with the help of the red and blue rods. Also using the multiplication board to learn their timetable.

Reception

As part of the topic on Walthamstow, Reception class has been learning about the different means of transport throughout history, and how they have evolved. As part of the teaching learning process, the children visited the Pump House Museum in Walthamstow. The children saw different engines from many years ago, as well as a bus and a few engines, which they had the opportunity to get on and explore the inside.

The children also learn about Chinese New Year and the way people celebrate it. One of our students brought a Chinese dress into school and children had the opportunity to observe the colours and shapes on it. It was fun to find out that 2020 would be the year of the rat!

Kindergarten:

Sycamore and Beech Class

From Chinese New Year to William Morris, we enjoyed another wonderful week here at Walthamstow Montessori School. The children participated well in our Chinese New Year celebrations as we had a lovely food tasting snack. We all indulged in some tasty Chinese noodles as we demonstrated our grace and courtesy skills whilst at the table. Some of the children tried to use chopsticks, but after much deliberation, it was decided that more practice was needed to eat our noodles. The celebration continued with the Chinese New Year story and an art session making lanterns to complete the festivity.

Our week continued with our topic about Great Britain as we discussed different types of homes, including, detached, semi detached and bungalow. As we focused on the interior of a house, William Morris (24 March 1834 – 3 October 1896) who was a British textile designer, poet, novelist, translator, and socialist activist associated with the British Arts and Crafts Movement. Our focus was directed towards his repeated patterns and stained-glass windows, only to mention a few.

After discussing about the designer, we all participated in a lovely arts and crafts activity where we produced our own stained-glass window. We also made our mark by designing our own tile masterpiece. We all took turns to produce repeated



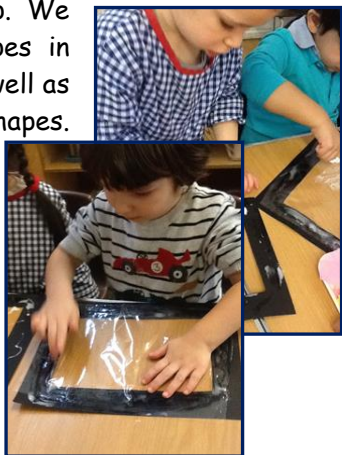
patterns on a cardboard tile using differently coloured floral and nature stamps.

This week still continuing with our topic, we will be focussing on mini beasts of Great Britain, in particular different species of ladybirds.

Oak Class

Last week our focus was on British Homes/Houses. The children have continued to demonstrate good listening skills whilst being able to follow simple instructions in a group. We practised our 2D shapes in building structures as well as introducing a few 3D shapes.

We looked at various pictures of British homes and identified similar and different structures. We also discussed the importance of having a chimney in British homes and what modern homes look like as they don't have chimneys instead replaced by heaters.



Furthermore, we focused on learning about what a Tudor House is and our learning was supported with pictures of various Tudor Houses across the United Kingdom and we observed that these buildings existed for a very long time. We shared ideas of how we think the inside of a Tudor house may look like compared to modern day houses.

We also focused on William Morris' tile design/pattern. We looked at various pictures of how tiles are made and the history behind them. At the end of the presentation, we made our own unique window tiles.

This week, we hope to focus our learning on the British Minibeasts where we get to use our senses to explore and expand our understanding.

Nursery:

Last week, nursery children celebrated Chinese New Year. We read the book about the Great Race and how the animals in the Chinese zodiac came about. We also tried to recreate the race in the garden, using models of animals involved in the



race. Children had fun creating Chinese lanterns and rat crafts, learning about the year of the rat. We finished the week by making Chinese dragons and creating a display board of all the crafts that we had made. Children enjoyed having a snack of noodles, some having a go with the chop sticks. Our culture table included objects from China and children had fun exploring them.

This week we will continue with our topic about Great Britain. Children will have the opportunity to create some land and water formations such as lakes and islands using soil and water in the garden. Children will have a sensorial experience with these formations and what they are. The children will be introduced with the puzzle map of Europe and the British Isles for a better understanding of the geographical location of Great Britain and all the countries forming Great Britain. Towards the end of the week, children will learn the meaning of the British flag, looking at the colours and the shapes of the flag. We will create a big display board of the Union Jack using various craft materials.



Book of the week:

'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'

Home Links

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

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.