

W/C Monday 7th September 2020

Walthamstow Montessori School Newsletter



Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely summer. A special welcome to our new families. I am sure you will join us in making them all feel very welcome!

The children have already adapted extremely well to the new measures we have put in place to keep everyone safe and have settled back into school life.

Our weekly newsletter contains lots of important information and will keep you up to date with everything that is happening at WMS!



Important Term Dates

Please find attached our Term Dates for this academic year. These dates are also displayed on our website and on the school notice boards at both schools.

The children will be coming home with 'Welcome Back' letters from their class teachers this week. The letters will confirm lots of information about your child's class timetable.

Autumn term School Fees

Your child's school fees for this term should now have been paid in full on or before the 3rd September to avoid late penalty fees. If you paid 50% before the summer break, then you should have by now paid the second instalment if your second instalment was to be by bank transfer / cash or childcare vouchers. You may be contacted this week to double-check payments. Apologies in advance if we incorrectly contact you.

Past Pupil Successes

We are always delighted to share the successes of our past pupils with you. We have recently received fantastic news of the following results from five of our pupils who all attended WMS for many years.



Laxmi - has gained a place at Cambridge to read architecture.

Bea - has gained a place at Cambridge to read English literature.

Eliza - has graduated from Cambridge and has been accepted to do an additional year doing a PGCE

Ben - took his maths A level 3 years early and gained an A*.

Daisy - Her mum posted the following on Facebook with regard to her GCSE results - 8 A*s - 2A (5 of them 9's)

"We were thinking of home education, but when Daisy was 4 she decided it was time for her to go to school and she asked if she could begin at once! So much thanks to Lorna Mahoney for giving her the best start, respecting each child in her care and giving this independent, determined little person the space and freedom to flourish in her own way. You set the bar high for her expectation of teachers who followed!"

We are so proud of every child that passes through our doors and we love hearing about their continuing education.

School Email:

We are working on our PC



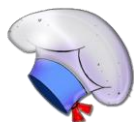
systems to ensure an efficient and smart working environment and system for all! We are creating new email distribution lists but as you can appreciate this is in transition as we move across.

You will start to see responses to your emails from office@walthamstowmontessori.com which is replacing our e17montessori@aol.com address.

Please could you email all school correspondence to the new office@walthamstowmontessori.com.

Cooked School Lunches

We have some exciting news to share with you regarding trialling cooked school lunches prepared by our own chef Oscar at WMS!!



If your child attends WMS for a full school day (9.30-3) or is scheduled to attend lunch club then you will receive a letter this week with all the details and we will be commencing with this next week starting on Monday 14th September.

Please ensure you return the slip by Thursday 10th September.

Children will not need a home packed lunch during w/c 14/9.



Extended Day School Clubs

Our Early Risers (Breakfast) club and Tea Timers club will commence from

Monday 7th September.

Early Risers Club has two designated arrival times, **8.00am** and **8.30am**. An Early Risers team member will greet children at these times at the main gate. At these times children will be escorted into the building. If you arrive after 8.30am then your child will not be able to enter the building until the start of the school day for their class.

If you are collecting your child from Tea Timers, please enter the school courtyard and ring the doorbell when you arrive. Please note that all children should be collected from our Tea Timers by 5.45pm. If you are running late for collection please call the school office. If you are more than 10 minutes late you will be charged a late collection fee of £10.00 for every 15 minutes. This fee covers the cost of extra time the Tea Timers staff have had to work.



Don't forget

Please see below our daily timetable for start and end of day drop off and pick up.

9.10AM: SYCAMORE arrival time at main gate
9.20AM: OAK arrival time at main gate

9.30AM: WILLOW arrival at nursery door (left of building)
9.30AM ACORN arrival at main door (main school door)
9.40AM: SEEDLING arrival at nursery door (left of building)
12.30PM: NURSERY morning session children depart
2.50PM: NURSERY full day children depart
3.00PM: SCYAMORE children depart
3.10PM: OAK children depart

All end of day departures (Nursery & Kindy) will be from the main gate outside of school as per arrival for Kindy

If you are running late or your child will not be attending school, please contact the school office before by then to report late arrival or by 10am if your child is not attending school.

Communication

We will be sending a TEST text out to all our parents. If you **do not** receive one on Thursday 11th September at approx. 12.30pm then please let us know.



Jeans for Genes Day Friday 18th September

Don't forget we are supporting this fantastic charity on Friday 18th September.

We would like to invite all our children that attend school on Friday, and staff, to donate a minimum of £1 and come to school on this day in their jeans/denim. **No smocks or uniform required on this day.**

If you have any unwanted denim, then please donate as children will be participating in 'denim' related art activities throughout the whole of that week.



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 rainsuit.

Drop off etiquette

We ask that parents do not have lengthy conversations at morning drop off with their class teacher. You will be politely asked to stand away from the gate and a member of the office will be called to speak with you only on matters that need passing to the teachers so that they can be actioned. It may be more practical to email the school prior to drop off and the office staff will pass this on to your child's teacher.

Notice Period

Please be reminded that if your child is not returning in January 2021. then written notice to the school office should be received no later than this Friday 11th September 2020. If you have already provided notice, then an acknowledgement letter will be sent home with your child in due course. Notices received after this time, as per your terms and conditions, will mean that Spring term school fees would be due and you would automatically be invoiced accordingly.

'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.



Baby Iria we are delighted to share with you all the wonderful news that Miss Florence had a baby girl Iria during the Summer holidays. Both mum and baby are doing well and I am sure you will all join us in congratulating Miss Florence and her husband.

Meet the teacher

Miss Patricia – Kindergarten Teacher

We are delighted to welcome Miss Patricia to WMS, she will be teaching the children in Oak class with Miss Florine. Miss Patricia is from Valencia and is an experienced Montessori teacher who has been working at a Montessori school in Ireland for the last five years.



Each week we will put in the newsletter another teacher so you can all put a *face to a name!*

Class Information

Prep Class

Hello and welcome back to school! We are so pleased to have the children back in the classroom. It's going to be a fun and exciting year!! We are looking forward to our first week of school.

We have lots fun and exciting projects planned for the term.

Our topic for the autumn term will be "maps and seas". We will start by focusing on the sea. We will look at the seas that pirates travelled as well as locating seas around the world. "Treasure island" maps - invent and record physical features using symbols and a key, map co-ordinates and reading a map for a treasure hunt.

Kindergarten

It was lovely to welcome the children back to Sycamore class and they were all keen to start work. Our topic for this term is autumn. We have already talked about and named the four seasons.

During our art lesson on Friday the children made our display board of an autumn tree. The class enjoyed mixing the colours of Autumn with cotton buds to create the leaves.



Nursery

We are wishing the Nursery children a warm welcome back and a very smooth start for all the new children joining us this term.

We have an exciting term ahead of us. We are going to celebrate seasons and festivals acknowledging various multicultural celebrations such as Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas. We will look at characteristics of autumn, changes in weather and nature and celebrate harvest. The topic will be supported with many books, art, and science experiments and nature exploration.

This week, we are going to focus on grace and courtesy lessons, getting familiarised with the principals of our environment. We are going to learn how to walk in the classroom, how to carry a chair, how to walk around a floor mat, tidy away our work and how to watch a friend when working.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

Important Numbers



To contact the school office dial:

020 8523 2968

Email:

office@walthamstowmontessori.com

Please also 'like' our face book pages. Select the one that says Walthamstow Montessori and Elementary and 'like' us!