

W/C Monday 5th October 2020

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

#HelloYellow
YOUNG MINDS

World Mental Health Day 2020

We will be taking part in #HelloYellow, World Mental Health day on Friday 9th October as part of our 'Wellbeing' curriculum.

Our theme for the week will be 'being kind'. The children will be invited to wear yellow for the day. Children do not need to wear school uniform or school smocks – for this dress-down day we are asking for donations towards this important charity and a minimum of £1 is a suggested donation.

Thank you in advance for supporting this charity.

Staff Training

At WMS we are always looking at our own personal development in the workplace and staff recently completed first aid training. We have used this training company many times and we highly recommend their in-depth and enjoyable training sessions. Certification to this level last for 3 years.

Miss Lorna also is a qualified trainer in first aid, so we recognise the importance of refresher training in this important subject. Each term or sooner if requested staff refresh key areas of first aid.

We will be sharing some of these important life saving skills with the children with mini first aid sessions.



Black History Week

As part of Black History week, some classes have already been learning about the outstanding contributions that people of African and Caribbean descent have made to our country.



Oak class learned about famous Black Inventors such as Garret Morgan who invented the traffic light and the gas mask, and Lewis Howard Latimer who help to patent the light bulb and the telephone.

The children at both the upper and lower school will continue to learn about these and other black role models both past and present.

Montessori Parent Talks

These popular sessions with Miss Lorna will be scheduled in the near future we hope.

We are considering holding an initial one by Zoom, while are building covid measures remain in place restricting gatherings. We will share more on this soon.

Covid Measures

Can we please remind all parents to maintain a distance of 2 meters from other parents and staff when dropping off and collecting their children at school.

We also thank you for your consideration at this time and understanding with communication and meetings. Essential visitors are only allowed to enter the school buildings and we ask all visitors to clean hands and wear a mask while moving through the building. This has meant that more communication has been via email/telephone and this has been a successful way for dealing with matters.

It is also important that you notify the school if you are self isolating or if you are going and/or awaiting results of a Covid test as we have a mandatory requirement to respond to the Department for Education's weekly surveys. Please note that we are not required to give your personal details.

Please note our Autumn Half Term dates, school finishes on Thursday 22nd October and resumes on Monday 2nd November

After School Club Invoices

If your child attends one of our extended day school clubs (Breakfast, Lunch or Tea Timers) and has attended during September you will be receiving an invoice via email today.

If you require a paper copy please let the office know and it can be printed for you.

Please note these invoices need to be paid in full by **Friday 9th October** to avoid a late penalty fee.

Birthday Walk

We very much enjoy celebrating your child's birthday with a birthday walk at WMS. For full information on how we celebrate birthdays at WMS, please see the school website for full info (under School Life).



We ask that you save any sweet treats for your home celebrations as we have a number of children with serious allergies and food intolerances.

WOW! Sheets



WOW sheets are a positive way to celebrate your child's achievements. These are an important part of your child's journey. And a really good for maintaining parent/teacher communication.

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).

Harvest Festival

Our annual harvest festival will take place on Tuesday 6th October.

We are asking parents to kindly donate items of non-perishable foods.



These items will be donated to Mill Grove Children's home. If you would like to know more about this charity please visit their website. www.millgrove.org.uk

Composer of the Week



Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) was born in Hamburg, Germany and began writing as a child. One of his most famous pieces was Shakespeare's play A Midsummer Night's Dream, which he composed when he was only 17.

Italian Lunch Games Club

Signor Stefano, our Italian teacher, will be holding an Italian lunch time games club at the Upper school on a Tuesday. Children will be able to participate in some fun and energetic playground games which will also support their love of the lesson and language.

All children at the Upper School are welcome to join this lunchtime club.

Henry - Infant Feeding



HENRY provides a wide range of support for families in the early years including workshops, programmes, resources and online help. All of their support for families is underpinned by the HENRY approach to supporting behaviour change which helps parents gain the confidence, knowledge and skills they need to help the whole family adopt a healthier, happier lifestyle and to give their children a great start in life.

Henry are offering support with breastfeeding, bottle feeding, mixed feeding and starting solids.

Infant Feeding helpline: 0208 496 5222 (Monday to Friday 9-5pm)

or visit their website for more information
wfsupport@henry.org.uk



Parents Corner

If you would like to share anything with us that you feel other parents at the school may be interested in then please email the school office.

Such as any fun organised events or activities going on in the Borough.

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.



Meet the teacher

Miss Florine – Oak Class Teaching Assistant.

Miss Florine is a very experienced and much-loved teaching assistant and has worked at WMS for over 20 years and is one of WMS's original members of staff. Miss Florine works in the tea timer club as well as supporting the successful school holiday clubs.



Class Information

Prep Class

Last week prep class children enjoyed learning about the animals and plants that live in different parts of the world. We also did some learning on the different climates, habitats and cultures that we have around the globe. The children very proudly showed their work and presented their respective findings in front of their classmates, as well as listening nicely to the rest of the children when it was someone else's turn.

That being said, we also had some time to have some fun and celebrate Imogen's and Aariz's



birthday!! They did their birthday walk around the sun while showing their friends some pictures of themselves throughout these past years!

Lastly, we would very much appreciate it if the families could write any kind of feedback about the reading they do at home on the children's reading record; it is very helpful for us to keep up with the children's learning and level.

Sycamore Class

Last week Sycamore class continued with their Autumn topic. Over the week we prepared our autumn tree. The class enjoyed constructing the trees using paper plates, toilet rolls and their own handprints to replicate the branches.



We also started to think about Black History Month and in particular Garrett Morgan who invented the traffic light. We extended that knowledge by talking about road safety and what the three colours on the traffic light mean. We also looked at 'light' and the class

explored with a torch and how this reflects on different surfaces and coloured paper.

We finished the week by colour mixing paints to demonstrate our understanding that certain colours mix to make other colours.

This week we will continue to think about Black History Month and also partake in 'hello yellow' world mental health day on Friday with the theme of 'Being kind'

Our sound of the week is 'f.' Please encourage your child to look around the environment to think of words beginning with this sound.

Oak Class

Last week Oak class celebrated the Black Month History to honour the history, arts and culture of black British people. We talked about famous black inventors such as Garret Morgan who invented the traffic light and the gas



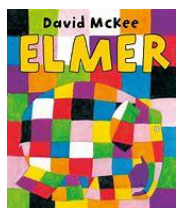
mask, and Lewis Howard Latimer who help to patent the light bulb and the telephone. We learned about the importance of the traffic signals; what is the meaning of the lollipop person; and we discovered the different types of light, as a natural like the light from the sun or stars or the artificial made by humans.

Also, we talked about primary colours and extended our knowledge mixing the primary colours to discover the secondary colours.

For our art session, we created a Suncatcher with leaves from our garden while we listened to an Autumn song.



Our sound of the week is 'f.' Please encourage your child to look around the environment to think of words beginning with this sound.



KINDERGARTEN BOOK OF THE WEEK

Elmer by David McKee

Nursery

The nursery children enjoyed a week of Harvest preparation. We talked about what Harvest means and had a sensorial exploration of Harvest fruits and vegetables. This was followed with apple stamping which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

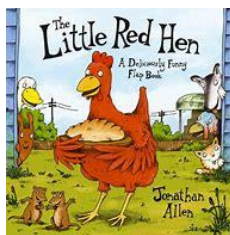


We also did a science experiment where we made the popcorn dance using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda. The

children were actively participating, adding and stirring the ingredients.

There is no Harvest without a scarecrow being involved, so we got really creative in making our own scarecrows, accompanied with the lyrics of Mr. Scarecrow song.

This week we will continue to celebrate Autumn and Harvest with more action songs, books and lots of more fun art activities. We are also going to acknowledge "Hello Yellow", World mental health day with the focus on "be kind" discussion and activities.



NURSERY BOOK OF THE WEEK

The Little Red Hen by Jonathan Allen

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!