

W/C Monday 16th November 2020

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

Remembrance Day

Last Wednesday all the children participated in a 2-minute silence to remember all those who were killed during the two World Wars and other wars and conflicts.

Upper school children watched the Remembrance Day service on the BBC and Sylvie shared her Great Grandad's story and talked about his job in WW1.



Diwali – Hindu Festival of Lights

The children in the upper and lower school learnt about this important Hindu festival.

Thank you to Nova for bringing in her book on Diwali which the teachers shared with the rest of the children.

One of the most popular festivals of Hinduism, Diwali symbolises the spiritual "victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance". Diwali marks the start of the Hindu New Year



Children in Need

All the children had a wonderful day helping to fundraise for this worthwhile charity. We managed to raise a massive £71.82.

Thank you to all the children, parents and staff who helped to make this happen.



Montessori Classroom

In the Montessori classroom we introduce geography at an early age.

It has made easier and more accessible for the child by the use of simple colour coding.

We introduce the child to the many different areas of geography.

Right from the beginning we show a child that the world is made from air, land and water.

These are colour coded white for air, brown for land and blue for water.



In this exercise you can see how a child is sorting the transport models into the 3 categories and placing them on the relevant sections of the mat as they sort them.

Italian Lesson

Last week Mr Stefan read a lovely book to the children. Il Mio Palloncino. A twist on the story of Little Red Riding Hood. The story of Cappuccetto Rosso starts with her grandmother holding a beautiful balloon in her hands. Walking through the woods she comes across a series of curious characters: a jogging lion, an elephant collecting flowers for a mouse, an incognito giraffe with sunglasses and raincoat, a rhino playing hide-and-seek, a group of flamingos hunting shrimp, and a crocodile in a sea outfit. Every meeting is a real surprise.



Birthday Walk Celebration

A very happy 3rd birthday to Ivy in Willow class, who turned 3 last Friday.

At Walthamstow Montessori School we like to celebrate birthdays in a very special way which allows the children to have a greater understanding of the passage of time.

Full details about our 'Birthday Walk' can be found on our website. If your child is celebrating a birthday, please let your child's teacher know so that we can arrange one of our birthday walk celebrations



We break up for the Christmas Holidays on Thursday 17th December at 12.30pm and school resumes on Wednesday 6th January 2021

Tea Towels

Thank you for your tea towel orders received so far. They are selling fast!



If you would like to place an order please do so by completing an order form which are available at the school doors or alternatively ask the office to email an order form to you.

They make a lovely Christmas present or a treasured keepsake.

Each year we sell out and we cannot order anymore.

To ensure that you do not miss out please pre order!

The cost is £6.50 each or 4 for £22.00.

Road Safety Week

We will be sending further information shortly regarding this virtual programme which is running from the 16th -22nd November by Waltham Forest Council.



Spare Clothes

We urgently need spare trousers or leggings aged 2- 4 years old unisex. If you have any that you no longer need they would be greatly appreciated.

If your child has come home in spare clothes from the school, can you please ensure that they are returned once they have been washed. Thank you.

Upper School Uniform

We have some used upper school uniform for sale. If you are interested, please contact the school office for more details.

Parent Meetings

We are unable to hold face to face meetings this term as we would normally but we still want to be able to share your child's progress with you. We will be scheduling phone meetings and accommodating some zoom calls too. These will take from 1st December. We will confirm shortly how these will be scheduled.

Class Information

Prep Class

Last week was a busy and educational week in many different ways.

For our DT session children made some lanterns to commemorate Diwali, a Hindu festival of new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil, and light over darkness. Children took the opportunity to think about what "happiness" is and what makes them happy.



Diya Diwali Lantern

We also had a get-together to commemorate the Remembrance Day in which ,after a two-minute silence to

remember those who lost their lives in conflict, Sylvie shared her great granddad's story and talked about what his job was in the WWI. She was very proud of him.

As part of our maths curriculum, children are encouraged to learn the value of coins and notes, so on Friday prep class got to count the money we collected as a contribution towards Children in Need .



We also learnt the importance of being grateful for what we have, and children came up with some good ideas of how to help children who are not as lucky as they are.



Lastly, we learnt about different ways of communicating with people in ICT and how it has changed along history.

Sycamore Class

The children have settled well into their new environment. We are very impressed with how they have adapted so quickly.

We have spoken about two important events that took place last week. On Wednesday we all took part in the 2-minute silence for *Remembrance Day* while we were watching the BBC channel to help us to understand why we were there. It was so emotional that I am sure we will not forget it. We talked about the importance and why we remember all those who served during the wars.

Another festival that we celebrated was *Diwali*. We have spoken about its meaning and talked about *Rama and Sita's* story. As "*the festival of light*", we made a *Diya* to light the candle at home and enjoy it. We hope you like it!

On Friday the children had a fun day for Children in Need, we all dressed in spotty clothes! We talked about the charity 'Children in Need', and the important children charities that they support. The children had fun all together in our disco party! and decorated some delicious cakes.



Our yummy 'Children in Need' fundraising cakes!

Please, remember to bring your **plimsolls** and your **smock** to school.

Oak Class

Last week it was a week full of excitement for Oak class because two new friends joined us. Children were helping the new friends to have a better integration by group activities, playing together and participating in a questioning game to know a little bit more about each other.

During the week, we learned about Diwali, a celebration of light. We also talked about the family feast, Diya lamps and fireworks. For our presentation, Miss Florine brought some spices (cinnamon, ginger, cloves and cardamom) to smell and, she showed us how to wear a Saree. The children enjoyed dancing to Indian music too.

In circle time, we took the opportunity to read a book called "People" which talked about people from different countries and their cultures and popular celebrations. We played a game where teachers and children shared with others where they are from and which languages they speak at home. It was an enriching conversation because we learned new things, such as words in different languages.

On Wednesday 11th, we had a two-minute silence at 11 am to remember the people who had died in the wars. The children were very respectful and managed to stay silent for the 2 minutes. Also, they made a big Poppy flower for the classroom.

Oak children were so happy in their 'Out and About' lesson where we read a book about Diwali, and they coloured some pictures about the story of Rama and Sita.



On Friday, it was another exciting day because we celebrated the 'Children in Need', the children were wearing spots/pyjamas as Pudsey Bear. The children made a lovely Pudsey mask.



To finish, we played a game called "Get a guess" whereby through a drawing and miming the children had to guess the correct word/picture. The goal of this activity is to learn new vocabulary through games.



Congratulations to Laana who is now a big sister. Laana was so excited to tell us all the good news. Laana made a beautiful card for her brother

Nursery

Last week, nursery children had fun celebrating Diwali and acknowledging Children in Need and Remembrance Day.

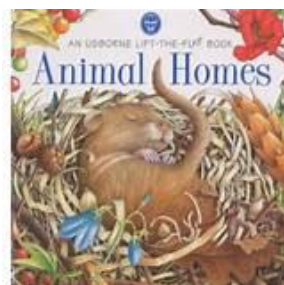
We started the week by talking about Children in Need and making Pudsey Bear bookmarks. Children then learned about Diwali and how people in certain countries celebrate this festival. We had a dance party with Indian music, discovered more about spices and foods that are typical for Indian cuisine and we made Diyas using different techniques.

For Remembrance Day, children followed instructions well to create a poppy field painting using finger prints. A minute silence for remembering the ones that fought for our country took place and children tried hard to keep their body completely still in order to keep silence. We finished the week by making a Children in Need display board in Jackson Pollock style where children painted a large piece of paper in yellow and splashed different dots on it.



This week, we will learn about animals and how they prepare for Winter. We will talk about birds and their migration, how animals gather and

store food for winter and animals that hibernate. We will make a habitat for the mini beasts in our garden as well as bird feeders. These lessons will be supported by books, art activities and various songs.



Book of the week

**Animal Homes
By Debbie Martin**

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!