

W/C Monday 30th November 2020

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

Thanksgiving Day

We celebrated 'Thanksgiving' Day at both our Lower and Upper schools last Thursday.

The children were taught why this day is celebrated and the history behind some of the traditions. Each class created their own Thanksgiving themed craft.

All the children and teachers reflected on something that they were thankful for!



Exciting Garden Development

Our garden at the Upper school is undergoing an exciting make over.

We have been working hard in the garden and there is certainly a very wintery chill today!



We love being outside with the children and extending their learning in so many different areas.

This week, we will be having a fire pit arriving in our Brookcroft garden. We will be using this as part of our Forest school sessions to develop well-being and practical skills too. We will begin by talking about the many aspects of fire safety of course.

We will then be offering the children a lovely warming mug of hot chocolate and a sprinkle of marshmallows while we sit around the fire.



We are looking forward to sharing pictures with you of this and hope to be doing it regularly.

Christmas Displays

The children have been busy using their creative skills helping to create some very festive Christmas displays in their classrooms.

**Acorn
nursery**



Oak Class



Christmas Party Week



You will have received a letter via email last week, with all the details of our children's Christmas party festivities during week commencing 14th December.

If you have not received this letter or would like a paper copy. Please let the office know.

Don't forget to wear your party or dressing up clothes on these days!



Christmas Diary Dates

- **Decorate the Christmas Tree – Tuesday 8th December**
- **Christmas Jumper day – Thursday 10th December**

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

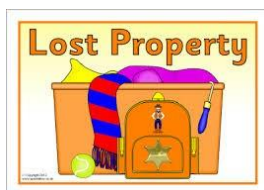
Invoices - Spring Term 2021

Polite reminder that the first instalment of your child's Spring Term invoice is due by Monday 7th December 2020.

If for any reason you are unable to make this payment on time, please contact the school office by Friday 4th December.

Lost Property

Our lost property box will be placed outside the school gate at the Lower School this week. Please check it if you have any lost items.



This box will be emptied at the end of this week and any items will be donated to a local charity shop.

Tea Towels

We have now sold out of our Tea Towels. Thank you to everyone that purchased them. Your purchases raised a wonderful £427 to school fundraising. Some of this has already been spent on outdoor equipment for both school gardens.



Parent Telephone Meetings

These will be taking place this week. If you have not already booked your time slot please email or phone the school office so that we can arrange a convenient time for you. Thank you.

Uniform for Sale

We have some items of school uniform for sale.



Please contact the school office for details.

After School Club Invoices

If your child has attended any School clubs during November you will receive an invoice tomorrow for these clubs.

Invoices will be emailed to you. If you require a paper copy please let the office know.

Invoices need to be paid in full by Friday 4th December to avoid being charged a late penalty fee.

Class Information

Prep Class

Last week children enjoyed a fun week full of activities, learning and lots of fun. As part of our topic "maps" we learnt about the four **cardinal points**, which some of the children already knew the directions north, east, south, and west, commonly denoted by their initials N, E, S, and W. The children also learnt how to use a compass and were able to follow directions and get to different places by using it.

As part of our Science curriculum relating to seasonal changes, Prep class children *observed changes across the four seasons, described weather associated with the seasons and understood how day length varies and they reason why this happens. After talking about it, the children played a game which they really enjoyed. The quiz consisted of answering in groups different questions about the length of the days and the weather changes and surprisingly, prep class got all their answers right!*

In maths, Prep class children have been introduced to the concepts of; halving and sharing, doubling, division and multiplication.

Lastly, on Thursday we celebrated Thanksgiving Day, so we talked about what we were grateful for, which

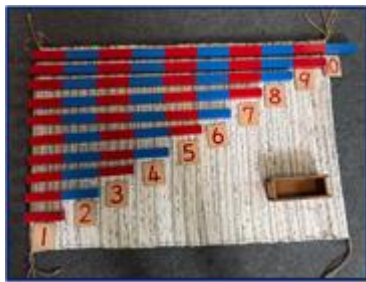
was one of the best moments of the week, since most of them mentioned their family as the most important thing to be grateful for.

Sycamore Class

Last week the children started making some Christmas decorations. We made a Christmas tree out of cardboard and some other decorations too. We love being creative and making different crafts, especially during the festive part of the term.



We celebrated "Thanksgiving Day". We talked about this festival, watched a short video for a better understanding and we also decorated our turkey with feathers. Some of us thought of what we are thankful for.



Another activity that we enjoy was related to maths. We were looking at the number rods, matching the rod with the number and identifying their sizes

(bigger/smaller). We were very good at this activity.

For phonics, we practiced 3 more letters. At the end of the week, as a revision, we sorted different objects identifying initial sounds and matching them with the corresponding letter.



And finally, we are full of joy with our garden! Looking after our new games, taking turns, and sharing them! Great job Sycamore! Let's keep having so much fun!



We love to encourage discovery and creativity in the garden. Last week the children in Sycamore class have created a fire engine from the crates.

Oak Class

In Oak class, we were very excited to learn all about the weather and nature in winter and the tradition of celebrating Christmas.

In circle time, we talked about the low temperatures and snow. The children were so happy sharing their experiences making a snowman, playing with the snow sledge, wearing a scarf, gloves and winter hats, drinking hot chocolate and singing Christmas songs. Also, we explained to them why in winter the days are shorter than in other seasons.

To increase their learning, we learned winter words in Spanish; we made a mural about what the trees look like in winter when they cannot grow because of the cold; and a science experiment with ice.

Oak class children are practising songs for our Christmas play. The songs are Jingle Bells and Away in a Manger.

On Thursday, we celebrated Thanksgiving Day. We celebrated the harvest and other blessings of the past year. Also, the children were saying what are they were thankful for, it was lovely! We got a lot of funny responses too!

We are progressing in maths, but we have to continue working on numbers, their quantity and counting to secure our knowledge further.

Also, we are practising our writing and how to hold a pencil correctly.

We introduced new vocabulary in English, and we start learning some words in Spanish like "Buenos días" means "Good Morning" or "Agua" means "Water". We learned about opposites too.

This week we will start talking all about Christmas and how people celebrate Christmas in different countries. We will make all the Christmas decorations too. So please, don't forget to bring a photo for the Snow Globe if you did not do so already.

Nursery

Last week we enjoyed talking about winter. The children enjoyed discussing weather, clothes we wear and things we see outside.

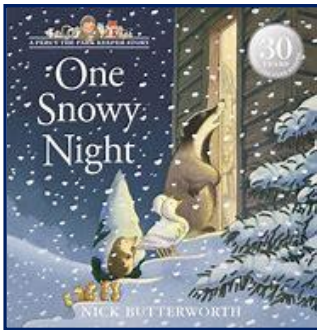


We started to make Christmas decorations and learning new songs about winter and Christmas. Our boards are also decorated to remind us that Christmas is coming.

Everyone in the classroom is very excited about Christmas and are joining in with the songs and stories. Children are learning how to share, interact in a group and taking turns in conversations through small group discussions and art activities.

We also discussed Thanksgiving and traditions for celebrating. Children enjoyed making cards with their handprint.

This week we will continue discussing winter and Christmas celebrations.



Book of the Week

One Snowy Night
By
Nick Butterworth

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!