

W/C Monday 22nd March 2021

# Walthamstow Montessori School

## Newsletter

### St Patrick's Day

Last Wednesday we all celebrated St Patrick's Day. The children made St Patrick Day cards in the shape of a shamrock and coloured in the flag of Ireland. The Feast of St Patrick is a celebration in honour of the patron saint of Ireland, St Patrick.

Lá Fhéile Pádraig sona duit.



### Easter Holidays

A reminder that our last day of Spring Term is Thursday 1st April.

School will finish at 12.30pm so no pack lunch is needed. Breakfast club will be running on the Thursday 1st but please note there will be no lunch time or tea timer's club on that day.

School resumes on Tuesday 20th April at the normal time, all After School Clubs (Early Risers, Lunch and Tea Timers) will be running as normal.



**Red Nose Day** was celebrated at WMS last Friday and children and staff came to school dressed in colourful colours in line with the carnival theme. We all enjoyed plenty of Red Nosed themed activities.

Thank you for all your generous donations and support as always, which came to a grand total of £123.50 for this charity.



### Practical Life Montessori Activity – Washing Up

The children in Beech class have been enjoying this Practical Life activity, which develops concentration, co-ordination of movement and independence. The children have been washing up after their morning snack to help take care of the environment.



**A big thank you** to Ola's mummy, who spent last Wednesday morning sprucing up the front of the school courtyard. Ola's mum kindly donated some plants which have been planted at the school entrance. The children will be helping to water and care for them and watch them grow and bloom.



## Parent/Teacher Meetings

These will be taking place this week with your child's teacher. If you have not made an appointment, please call or email into the office so that we can schedule a convenient time for you.

Your child will be given a Parent Meeting feedback form, we would be grateful if this can be completed and returned to the school office once your call has taken place.

## Collection Times

*On the last day of the Spring term, Thursday 1st April we have staggered the collection times to ensure a covid safe environment.*

*Please see the class list below:*

### **Lower School at Penrhyn**

12.15pm Oak Class

12.25pm Beech Class

12.30pm Willow & Seedling Nursery

12.40pm Acorn Nursery

### **Upper School at Brookcroft**

12.30pm Sycamore & Prep Classes

## Summer Term School Fees.

Your first payment due (50%) was due by today **Monday 22nd March**. If you would like to pay in two instalments, then the second instalment would be due on or before **Tuesday 20th April**.

*Please let the office know if for any reason you have been unable to make the payment on time.*

## Hand, Foot and Mouth

We have had a confirmed case of hand, foot and mouth disease. Please keep an eye out for any symptoms.

Early symptoms of hand, foot and mouth disease include:

- a high temperature (fever) – usually around 38-39°C (100.4-102.2°F)
- loss of appetite
- cough
- abdominal pain
- sore throat

Occasionally, hand, foot and mouth disease can cause vomiting, particularly if it is caused by the enterovirus 71 strain. These early symptoms can last 12-48 hours.

## Healthy Teeth

Please find attached the new Healthy teeth leaflet from Henry.org, which



also has an updated list of dentists accepting new patients.

## Class Information

### Prep Class

Last week, Prep class children have been very busy learning about India and the Taj Mahal. They discovered what a mausoleum is; a building that contains burial chambers (tombs) for the deceased and can be large or small and are often created in honour of influential people. The name Taj Mahal means "crown of palaces" and is made out of a material that some of the children hadn't seen yet: white marble.

One of the children thought that it would be a good idea to recycle some material such as the cardboard from their cereal box and use it for their project. They also used some pastels to make the background of the picture. The result was this lovely handmade Taj Mahal which everyone liked very much.



## Art Lesson

Out of paper plates we managed to reconstruct the famous shape of the Sydney Opera House.



In Art we made dandelions. When learnt that if we blow on one of those beautiful flowers you can make a wish. After we had gathered a few powerful words like friendship, kindness, peace, hope, love we made a dandelion each and wrote the word onto one of the leaves.

## Sycamore Class

Last week Sycamore class have been learning about firefighters and facts relating to fire. We started talking about firefighters, how do they help us? and our experiences when seeing them on the streets. We created a hose to help us to role play as fire fighters! The following day we looked at fire signs around the building (fire exits, fire alarm and fire extinguisher). We walked all together trying to find them. The children did a great job at spotting them.

Furthermore, we did an experiment to blow out candles without actually blowing them. We mixed vinegar and baking soda and the result was that there was an invisible gas that blew all the candles out! We were really impressed! All in a safe environment.



I was very glad to see Sycamore class come together to deliver an activity. It is called "cross the river" and we practice it every day. The activity is about being asked to say the letter sound before crossing "the river" using 3 blue mats to make a river.

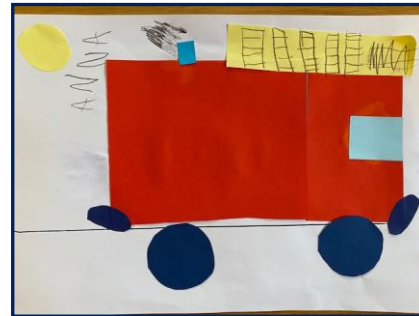
For maths, we reviewed numbers 1 to 10 and then introduced two simple digit number sentences ( $1+1=2$ ).

Thank you for all the donations for Red Nose Day!

The new sounds that we learned last week were 'h' and 'b'. Please support your child at home with their letters by finding everyday objects indoors and outdoors.

## Art & D.T. Class

Sycamore Class' topic was all about fire: fire fighter, fire engine and the fire itself. During the DT session the children had a variety of different shapes to choose from. Carefully, the shapes needed to be arranged in order to create a fire engine.



In art we talked about the dangers of fire but equally

about the joy a campfire can bring us. We discussed how a fire is arranged (often wood used at the bottom), how it burns (upwards).



## Beech Class

Throughout the week children in Beech class took part in some lovely spring activities. We started the week by talking about the changes in weather and nature and the first signs of spring. Children made a rainbow picture supported by songs and a simple experiment of making a rainbow. We looked at life cycles of a ladybird and a frog and new vocabulary was introduced. St. Patrick's Day was acknowledged, and children were able to locate Ireland on the puzzle map of the British Isles. Children made a shamrock picture and coloured in the Irish flag.

We finished the week with Red Nose Day. Children learned about this event through a story of a small girl in Africa and how these donations have enabled her to achieve more. Children made red noses and rice crispy cakes and the day was filled with fun and laughter.



This week, children in Beech class will start preparing for Easter. A small shelf with Easter symbols will be displayed and the children will have an opportunity to explore each item. Children will look at the life cycle of a hen, make a chick snack, create "mother hen and her chicks" hand and fingerprints. All this will be supported by books, cards, songs and a video of a chick hatching. Children will start the egg hunt preparation by making bunny ears head band from scratch, starting by cutting

out the ears and finishing by measuring the head and stapling the head band together.



### 'Out and About'

*The children created a picture on a log using natural materials.*

We will continue with our 'Show and Tell' on Wednesday where the child can bring into school an item from home and tell us all about it. This helps to develop the child's confidence when talking about something they are familiar and comfortable with. We had a very nice and successful session last Wednesday.

A very popular activity in the classroom is flower arranging. It would be much appreciated if your child can bring a small bunch of fresh flowers from your garden, if you happen to have some. Thank you!

### Oak Class

Last week we talked about the life cycle of the frog and the life cycle of the ladybird. We emphasised learning about their life cycle, their body parts and their characteristics. We linked this theme to work on our numeracy skills such as counting the body parts of a frog or how many spots has the ladybird; and literacy skills working on the letter "f" or "l" and learning new vocabulary like "tadpole", "larva" or "pupa". Also, we practised our motor movements jumping like a frog and flying like a ladybird.



During the week, Oak class children did take care of their bean plant and could see their roots and even the plant growing. They could not believe how their

bean had grown.

At the end of the week, we celebrated St. Patrick's Day! We talked about how people celebrate this day in Ireland, we danced to Celtic music,



we learnt words in Irish and decorated a shamrock for our St. Patrick's card. Also, we looked at where Ireland is on the map and which colours compose the flag of Ireland.

Another special celebration was Red Nose Day. We talked about how people help on Red Nose Day to combat childhood poverty. For the practical activity, we made a red nose using different materials.

### Nursery

Nursery children enjoyed learning about the Spring season. We spoke about characteristics of Spring, changes in weather and nature. Children enjoyed observing outdoor activity where they observed the nature in the garden. We also learned about farm animals and their babies using classified cards where children successfully identified familiar animals and their babies. There was lots of songs and poems and art activities to support their learning.



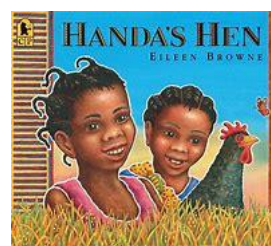
On Friday we celebrated Red Nose Day. Children were dancing, singing and making yummy rice Krispy cakes. Thank you for all of your donations and support with the colourful costumes.



We also enjoyed using our mark making area, where children use activities that prepares them for writing once their hand is ready.



### Book of the week



**Handa's Hen**  
By Eileen Browne

## Best wishes, WMS Admin

### Important Numbers



To contact the school office dial:

**020 8523 2968**

**Email:**

**[office@walthamstowmontessori.com](mailto:office@walthamstowmontessori.com)**

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