

W/C Monday 17th May 2021

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

Eid Mubarak

The children learned about the important holy Islamic month of Ramadan. It is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and is observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting (sawm), prayer, reflection and community.



The end of Ramadan is called Eid al-Fitr and is celebrated with friends and family.



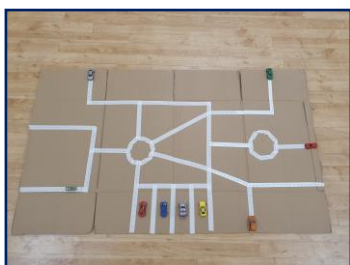
Please be reminded that we break up for the May half term on Friday 28th May and school resumes on Monday 7th June.

A full list of term dates can be found on our website

www.walthamstowmontessori.com

Road Safety Week

Last week both schools focused on road safety. All the children engaged in lots of practical activities throughout the week to enable them and others to use roads safely. They learnt about the importance of traffic lights and Crossing the road safely.



Alexander Graham Bell

Last week, Prep Class learned about Mr Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone. What a fantastic topic to work with in art and DT.

First the art lesson focused on the varieties of telephones, from the first ones till our modern cableless portable phones. With a disc used as the number dial! we made an old fashion phone. It was amazing to see how much fun the children had using the cable and handle. Some children decided not to glue the handle onto the paper in order to be able to pick up the phone when it rings.



Spontaneously, the children ended the session by role playing out their ideas and enjoying telephone conversations with their peers. We then decided to change the DT session to make a 3D phone with cardboard and wire. We made phones which can be picked up and the number dial can actually turn. Already during the session, the children started 'calling each other'. When waiting for the door to be opened the children and Miss Sandra sat in the entrance hall picking up the ringing phones. We all had a lot of **fun**.



Montessori Geography

We are pleased to share with you some of our new pieces of Montessori geography equipment.

These are the North American and Australasian continent puzzle maps. A control mat is used for when the pieces are removed to help a child become familiar with the location of a country.



The maps are large maps used on a floor mat. They are kept in our special map stand.



Children are enjoying exploring our geography table. Each week a different country or continent is featured with accompanying information, artefacts, books and pictures.

This week one of our countries is Egypt.



Inigo Around the World in 80 days!

Thank you to Inigo's mum for sharing this with us; So inspired with his new geography knowledge, Inigo got creative and extended his geography learning at home. He has been really enjoying the world work, learning about the continents and geography with his class, talking about it a lot at home and choosing the map puzzles and books. At the weekend, his big brother and sister read him the 'Around the World in 80 Days' book by Jules Vern and they watched the family film of it. Inigo made and decorated a hot air balloon to fly and told us where he was visiting.

'So thank you for re-inspiring us all at home to do some more map work!'



Please feel free to share with us if your child has been inspired by anything they have learnt at school.

National Walk to School Week



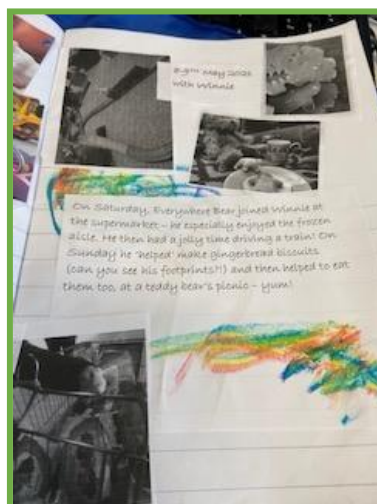
This week is National Walk to School Week.

Your child will be coming home with a 'Walking Card'. The children will then be able to collect a sticker for each day that they have walked to school or done a walk which can be then added to their walking card. Please let their teachers know so that they can hand out the stickers.

Walking can help to make you feel happier and healthier and helps to reduce congestion and pollution outside the school gates. We want to see every child that can, walk to school!

Everywhere Bear

Had lots of fun with Winnie, they made some lovely gingerbread biscuits and invited friends to join them for a teddy bears picnic!



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.



Absence from school

If your child is absent from school, then it is important that you telephone the office/send an email advising us of this no later than 10:00am. Please ensure that you advise us of the nature of the absence i.e., sickness/holiday etc. It is very important that we are made aware of any childhood illnesses such as chicken pox, measles, mumps, vomiting and or diarrhoea etc - so if you suspect that your child may have come in to contact with anybody with infections then please let us know ASAP.

Illness & Infections Policy

This is a reminder that if your child has vomited or has diarrhoea, that they should not return to school for 48 hours. This policy along with all our policies can be found on our website and a paper copy is available to read in school.

Parent Corner

One of parents is looking for a nanny share for their 9-month-old baby from January 2022.



If you have any recommendations or know of other parents who may be interested, please contact the school office so that we can pass on the details.

Class Information

Prep Class

Last week Prep class children have been busy learning about Alexander Graham Bell, who is credited with inventing and patenting the first practical telephone in 1876, as well as the metal detector among others.

Prep class children also found out that his wife was deaf. Taking advantage of this, we talked about how deaf people communicate with other people. The children attempted to lip read their friends' secret messages, which they found quite tricky!

A few weeks ago, Prep class learnt about the

concept of metamorphosis. Now that our baby caterpillars have arrived, we are measuring them on a daily basis to see how fast they grow! We have also made a lovely booklet called "a diary of a caterpillar" in which the children will be writing down the length of them as well as drawing them.

Not long ago we learnt about how to be safe online. This week, the whole school has been learning about road safety, which has been so much fun. Traffic signs are very important for traffic safety road, we look at the most important traffic signs, which is exactly what we have done through play.



Beech Class

Last week, children in Beech class started exploring and learning about Africa, focusing on Egypt. We located Egypt on the map of Africa, talked about the Pyramids and mummies, wrote our initial using a



hieroglyph, made the Egyptian flag and golden necklaces and "walked like an Egyptian". We acknowledged Eid and looked at how Islamic people celebrate. Miss Florine

gave a presentation of what Ramadan and Eid is, bringing and naming several items for this presentation.

This week we will focus on Morocco.

We will locate it on the map and learn its main characteristics, such as the geographical features, the flag, the people and the traditional clothing, the traditional food, the weather, etc using books, artifacts and pictures. Children will have an opportunity to smell and feel various spices and create spice painting. We



will decorate Moroccan style lanterns and learn how to say hello in Arabic.

This week is science week and in Beech class we will be rainbow themed. We will mix colours, make colourful crystals, project a rainbow and observe how colours move through a kitchen towel mixing halfway, creating a rainbow effect.

Sycamore Class

Last week was all about 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. After reading the story we created the bear's beds using different materials to assemble them, with different heights and sizes. Darcey brought the story of Goldilocks in and came dressed as her! So, we all acted it out together.

For Maths, we reviewed the characteristics of some shapes and we made the bear's house out of them. For science, we learned about differences and similarities between animals and plants. We looked at their characteristics, including humans in the animals' group, and we compared them to the beans that we planted.

In addition, it was road safety week, so we created a road board on cardboard to learn about the meaning of the traffic signs. The children tried to remember their meaning while working with the cars. We also created a road crossing on the floor and had a go at crossing it, bearing in mind the signs and the traffic light.

The country of the week was France and Anna and Miss Rajae brought some French books to read in class. Thank you so much!



In Art we picked up the topic and made three little bears and Goldilocks out of wood sticks and paper. To represent the dad, mum and baby bear we made three different sized bears. Goldilocks wears a dress and is clearly recognisable due to her golden hair. Every child made three different sizes beds ideal for our little dolls to jump in and have a rest.



This week the country is Colombia so please bring anything relating to it.

Letters of last week: x and y

Also, we will be reading "The Gingerbread Man". Books or anything linked to the story are welcome to school. And as a reminder, it is Science week, so get ready to do lots of experiments!

Oak Class

Last week our topic about Continents continued with Africa. The main focus was on the country of Egypt. We used our communication and language skills to discuss different Landmarks including the Egyptian Pyramids and Sphinx which were built in Egypt over 4000 years ago.



We also looked at other landmarks in Africa

including Victoria Falls. These amazing waterfalls are found between 2 countries: Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Kilimanjaro, the tallest mountain in Tanzania and the highest mountain in Africa, stands at 5895 metres above sea level.

In small groups, we extended our knowledge and creativity skills by decorating our own paper-based pyramid and making a lovely Egyptian necklace. We also participated in a presentation of the Montessori Geometric solids to learn all about the square based pyramid.

Our weekly topic would not be complete without discussing the African Safari. Africa is one of the few places you can see these animals in their

natural habitat. We explored lots of different African animals.

Included in our busy week, we discussed about Eid and how the festival is celebrated. We made some lovely Eid cards to celebrate the occasion.

Last but not least it was our Road Safety Week. A lovely role play activity for crossing the road was prepared for us. After we had practiced crossing and looking left and right, we discussed what we had learnt about road safety and the importance of traffic signals including traffic lights. We then had a lovely history lesson about the traffic light inventor Garrett Morgan who invented the first automatic three-way traffic signal system. This ended with us making our own traffic lights from coloured paper and card. Our teacher showed us a lovely science experiment. A colour mixing activity with skittles and water, followed by a lesson on primary colours and we made predictions on what colour would be formed when two colours were mixed together.



This week is science week and there are lots more Science experiments planned.

We will also continue our focus on Africa and the country Morocco.

Nursery

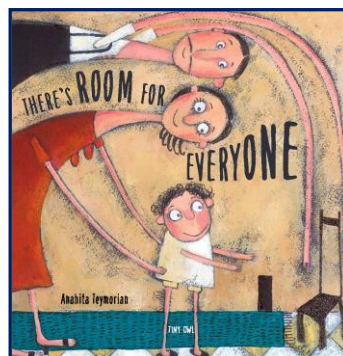
Last week our Nursery classes were learning about Europe and European Countries. Children enjoyed discussions about continents of our world. We learned to identify Europe on the globe and on the world puzzle map. Our song about continents of the world helps us to name all of the continents, and we will continue learning about more Countries in the following weeks.

We started with Italy, created the Italian flag and danced to Italian music. We also learned about Macedonia, Lithuania, and Albania.

Our week ended by celebrating Eid and discussions on why and how it is celebrated around the world.

This week we will have week of Science. Children will do experiments every day. These encourage children to find out how things work. They will have opportunities to ask questions and have discussions while working in groups. We will do some experiments with water, air, and also learn about volcanoes.

Book of the week.



'There's Room for Everyone'
by
Anahita Teymorian

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!