

W/C Monday 24th May 2021

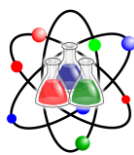
Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

Please note that we close for the half term break on Friday 28th May, school re-opens on Monday 7th June. Early Risers and Tea Timers will run as normal on both these days.

Science Week

The children enjoyed a wonderful week of science at WMS. A massive thank you to Tiffany, Anna's mum who delivered some amazing science experiments last Thursday and to Georgina, Sylvie's mum who came into the Upper school on Monday. Georgina delivered three science experiments with the children.



The first one was looking at how alkali and acids (bicarb and vinegar) react together in water and what happens to raisins in the cup of water (they dance up and down).

In the second experiment the children made static electricity with a balloon and a jumper and saw what happened to rice crispies, they jump up and down!

And thirdly the last experiment they putt skittles around the edge of a paper plate and adding warm water to the middle. The colours slowly dissolve into the water but don't blend and create a very pretty rainbow.

There was lots of discussion and opportunities for the children to do the experiments themselves in small groups.

*Coke & Mento
Experiment*



Frida Carlo

Last week, Prep Class' person of interest was the artist Frida Carlo. Frida Carlo is known for her colourful, critical self-portraits. The children worked with different materials (paint and coloured pencils) to draw a portrait of the artist.



The children laid emphasis on the flowers which were added to the drawing. Frida herself did not embellish herself. Note the eyebrows are drawn very strong, a feature of Frida which is seen in most of her portraits.



*Fantastic work Prep
Class.*

Inside the Montessori Classroom

Juniper was observed doing some lovely work during the morning circle time demonstrating fantastic focus and deep concentration.

Here we can see Juniper working with the cards and counters activity and mathematics. This activity helps to develop understanding of quantities and symbols 0 to 10. The activity follows the child having been



introduced to all quantities up to 10 and their associated names as well as the written symbols and associated names.

This piece of material also helps a child to be able to sequence the numbers from 1 to 10 it helps the child to combine quantities and symbols as a child is required to place the correct amount of counters below the number.

The control of error in this piece of material is that there are only 55 counters that is exactly the right amount that is needed to complete the exercise correctly. A child will of course make mistakes but should be able to see any errors by having too many or too few counters by the time they get to the number 10.

This activity also introduces a child to the concept of odd and even as the counters are placed in pairs below each.

This shows excellent mathematical development.

Everywhere Bear



*Elijah &
Everywhere
Bear, had lots
of fun exploring
over the
weekend!*

Autumn Term School Fees

Please be advised that your child's Autumn term school fee invoice will be issued from Monday 28th June with payment due (50%) on or before **Wednesday 7th July**. If you would like to pay in two instalments, then the second instalment would be due on or before **Tuesday 6th**

September 2021. All children will receive an invoice.

Please note the school's website has an up-to-date fee schedule on it.

Half Term Holidays – Covid Travel Guidelines



If you are planning to travel outside of the UK during the half term break, can we please ask that you inform the school office and communicate regarding quarantining as per government Covid guidelines on travelling abroad.

Leavers Form

If your child is leaving us at the end of Summer term. Please ensure that you have returned your completed leavers form which will have been emailed to you. If you have not received it, please let the office know.



Composer of the Week

Our composer of the week is Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770-1827) Beethoven was born in Bonn, Germany, he wrote nine symphonies, violin and piano concertos. Beethoven lost his hearing at the age of 45 but continued composing right up to the end of his life.

Lost Property



As we approach the half term, we will be displaying items in the lost property box on a couple of tables on Wednesday and Thursday at the end of the school day.

Please could you ensure you check for any items your child may have mis-placed during this half of the term.

Please could you check as after this time we will be removing the items left and donating to a local charity.

Car Parking

The doctor's surgery opposite the school have complained that some parents from the school are parking across their driveway. On one occasion, a member of staff on an urgent patient call was unable to leave for 15 minutes, the car had blocked three other cars in. At the time it was observed that there were a number of available, legal and safe parking bays free. Please park legally and considerately.



Healthy Teeth Workshop



Please see attached flyer for the Henry online **Healthy Teeth Workshop** for families with upcoming dates on **25th May and 11th June**.

This workshop is suitable for all families with children under 5 years. Please visit their website for more information. www.wfsupport@henry.org.uk

Teacher Information

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to Miss Elsa in Willow nursery at the end of this week. Miss Elsa is returning back to Spain to complete her Montessori Teacher. Miss Elsa will be back with us in September.

Class Information

Prep Class

In our science week Prep class had a number of activities to do which were fun and interesting. Some of the experiments that Prep class children carried out were in class and others outside. We did lots of practical investigations and were able to make observations and explain why certain things occur.

Apart from doing some experiments, Prep class also did lots of learning in literacy. The children were introduced to the term "plural", and learnt the rules of how to form plural nouns by adding -s, -es or -ies at the end of words. What's more, Prep class also reviewed some of the contents they have learnt so far, which most of the children recalled well.

Frida Kahlo was our person of interest last week. We learnt many interesting things about her, but the most important one we learnt from her is that she never gave up, regardless of all she went through.

For maths, we have been working with money and are learning to work out values with coins.

This is a tricky content that children will still need to practice a bit more at home.

Last but not least, in Science the children have discovered how some animals behave in winter. Prep class children found out that some animals like bears hibernate, some adapt and some others like Arctic terns migrate to survive.

Prep Class observed the cycle of real-life caterpillars to butterflies. In DT we captured the four stages from egg, to caterpillar, to a

cocoon to a real butterfly in one work piece.



Beech Class

Last week the children in Beech class travelled through Morocco. We looked at the map of Africa and located Morocco on it. We learned about the Moroccan flag, talked a little bit about its geographical features focusing on what a desert is and the things you can see in a desert. We tried on our traditional Moroccan garments

and we were transported into one of the great markets a Souk which sells a variety of spices and dried fruit. The children enjoyed having couscous and dried fruit for snack and were fascinated to



leave Morocco with a lantern which they painted and decorated themselves.

A big thank you to Laana's mother who supported our journey by bringing a couple of items from Morocco which we used for our learning.



Our budding scientists in Beech class!

Various science experiments took place for our science week. We experimented with colour and created secondary colours by mixing the primary colours, made colourful crystals, created a walking rainbow by using paper towels and watched how the colourful water travelled through it and created a skittle rainbow.



Children were also amazed to watch how a volcano erupts, learning some parts of a volcano.



This week, we will continue on our journey through Africa stopping in Tanzania. We will again find its location, talk about its flag and create it, go on a safari in the Serengeti National Park and meet all the amazing animals. Children will have an opportunity to try out traditional clothing and prepare an exotic fruit salad which they will have for a snack. We will sing some African songs and look at various pictures that represent this beautiful country.

Sycamore Class

What a fun Science week we had! The children enjoyed practicing how to be scientists taking part in all the experiments.

At the beginning of the week, we talked about magnetism, how different forces attach or repel each other and what happens if another object is in the way, such as glass or plastic. We also placed in a plastic box some paper, some paint (2 primary colours) and a screw, placed the magnet on the



outside and try to move the screw around to mix the colours being helped by the magnet.

Children were very engaged with it and we had the opportunity to explore with the magnets ourselves the whole week. Thanks to Nico for bringing his own magnets from home. Another experiment we tried was mixing water and oil. We realised that it

is impossible and we printed the pattern that it made on a piece of paper.

And last, but not least, Miss Tiffany came to our school to share with us loads of super fun experiments! Miss Tiffany shown us how to make bouncy eggs and we all bounced them, she taught us how to make a lava lamp, and we all actually made one ourselves! And one of the funniest experiments was mixing Coke and Mentos! The Coke went all the way up to the sky! What a wonderful afternoon we had! Thank you Miss Tiffany for teaching us these excellent experiments.

In addition, the tale for last week was "The Gingerbread Man". We talked about patterns and we created our gingerbread man by making a pattern with its buttons. Miss Rajae also brought to school some unifix cubes so we could develop our pattern learning. Thank you to Arnold and Anna for bringing in your book and cuddly Gingerbread Man to school to share it with all of us.

The country of the week was Colombia and Miss Rajae brought lots of materials related to it. The country of this week will be Poland. We would love to have anything related to this at school! Letters of the week: z and q.

Thank you very much for reading at home with your child. We are making a huge progress together!

This week will be about "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". Feel free to be imaginative and bring anything related to the story.

In Art, we used paint (applied with cotton wool) and paper to design the characteristic shape of the gingerbread man. Having to use different materials the children had to concentrate on the fine motor skills for this task. At the end we all agreed that we would love to have a real gingerbread man this size- ready for us to eat it.

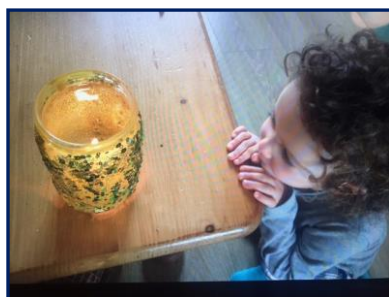


Oak Class

Last week Oak class children learnt where Morocco is on the puzzle map and what the Moroccan flag looks like, focusing on its colour, shape and meaning.

We demonstrated how to create the flag using green and red crayons, introducing the pentagon shape and we invited the children to do it by themselves.

The children learnt the main characteristics of Morocco through pictures, artefacts and books and discussions about them. Teachers who travelled around Morocco shared their travel memories. We created a culture shelf with all the artefacts and pictures that represent Morocco and a sensory tray of a desert so the children could explore it.



One of the most popular activities was designing a Moroccan lantern, the children enjoyed painting and decorating their lanterns. The children learnt how to greet each other in Arabic "As-salamu Alaykum". The children got to try on a Moroccan shawl and try a tasty snack of couscous, raisins and dry apricots.

At the end of the week, we had a science lesson with Miss Tiffany, the children enjoyed the hands on experiments, the Coke and Mentos s definitely their favourite!

Oak class children are continuing to learn some Spanish words. Last week we learnt numbers 1 to 10.

This week we are going to learn about another African country called Tanzania.

Nursery

Last week was filled with fun science experiments, we started our week doing the magic milk experiment where we mixed colours together. The children named the colours and made predictions as to what colours they can make.

We also explored things like floating and sinking with objects we searched for in our environment and used bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to create a volcano eruption!

Thank you Miss Tiffany for sharing your fun science experiments with us the children had fun playing with corn flour and watching the mentos and coke experiment.

This week we will be learning about Bulgaria, do leaf rubbing on paper from leaves collected from our garden and on Friday we will be making fresh lemonade using fresh mint from our garden herb patch.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

Important Numbers



To contact the school office dial:
020 8523 2968

Email:

office@walthamstowmontessori.com

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