

W/C Monday 13th September 2021

Walthamstow Montessori School Newsletter

**Back to
School**

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely summer. A special welcome to our new families. I am sure you will join us in making them all feel very welcome!

The children have already settled extremely well and making new friends.



We enjoyed counting all the tomatoes that had grown so well in our vegetable patch over the summer break!



Look how tall our **sunflowers** have grown over the summer break!

Our weekly newsletter contains lots of important information and will keep you up to date with everything that is happening at WMS!

Important Term Dates



Please find attached our Term Dates for this academic year. These dates are also displayed on our website and on the school notice boards at both schools.

The children will be coming home with 'Welcome Back' letters from their class teachers this week. The letters will confirm lots of information about your child's class timetable.

Music at WMS

Music is a big part of WMS' focus and is incorporated into the Montessori curriculum, in the daily classroom environment as well as through music lessons taught by a specialist music teacher.



On Friday, as part of the children's music lesson, we were treated to Miss Ruth playing the cello to us all. You could have heard a pin drop! The children and adults alike were mesmerised by Miss Ruth's playing.

Music is an integral component of the philosophy of Maria Montessori.



Jeans for Genes Day -

Friday 17th September
We will be once again supporting this fantastic

charity on Friday 17th September as we do each September. We would like to invite all our children that attend school on a Friday, and staff, to donate a minimum of £1 and come to school on this day in their jeans/denim. No smocks or uniform required on this day.

If you have any unwanted denim, then please donate as children will be participating in 'denim' related art activities throughout the whole of this week

Autumn term School Fees

Your child's school fees for this term should now have been paid in full on or before the 6th September to avoid late penalty fees. If you paid 50% before the summer break, then you should have by now paid the second instalment if your second instalment was to be by bank transfer / cash or childcare vouchers. You may be contacted this week to double-check payments. Apologies in advance if we incorrectly contact you.

School Email:

Please could you email all school correspondence to the office@walthamstowmontessori.com.



Extended Day School Clubs

Early Risers Club has two designated arrival times, **8.00am** and **8.30am**. An Early Risers team member will greet children at these times. If you arrive after 8.30am then your child will not be able to enter the building until the start of the school day for their class.

If you are collecting your child from Tea Timers, please enter the school courtyard and ring the doorbell when you arrive. Please note that all children should be collected from our Tea Timers by 5.45pm. If you are running late for collection, please call the school office. If you are more than 10 minutes late you will be charged a late collection fee of £10.00 for every 15 minutes. This fee covers the cost of extra time the Tea Timers staff have had to work.



Don't forget

Please see below our daily timetable for start and end of day drop off and pick up.

9.15am: Elm: arrival time at main door

9.25am: Oak arrival time at main door

9.30am: Willow and Acorn
arrival at main door

9.40am: Seedling arrival at nursery door

12.30pm: Nursery morning session children
pick up

2.50pm: Nursery full day children depart

3.00pm: Oak children depart

3.10pm: Elm children depart

If you are running late or your child will not be attending school, please contact the school office before by then to report late arrival or by 10am if your child is not attending school.

Early Risers, Tea Timers & Lunch Clubs during w/c 6th September.

Please note that invoices for services your child used during w/c 6th September, will be invoiced to you today – payment will be due on or before this Friday 17th September.

As per last week's communication, we then move over to the new 4-week invoicing period for the clubs. Please be reminded that if you require a place at the team timers from w/c 13th September for this half term, then this should have been booked in advance. Please check if you are not sure your child has been allocated a space at tea timers. Other services remain the same.



Healthy Teeth Free Online Workshop

Please find attached a flyer for the Healthy Teeth Parent Workshops this term. This may be helpful if you have a child under 5 and finding it difficult to find a dentist – so prevention is even more important now.

I'm also attaching a small resource about what to do in a dental emergency.



We will be focusing on our Oral Health Care with lots of fun and educational activities.

Chicken Pox

We have a confirmed case of chicken pox at Penrhyn.



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.

Communication

We will be sending a TEST text out to all our parents. If you **do not** receive one on Thursday 16th September at approx. 12.30pm then please let us know.



Wellies and Raincoats.

Please ensure that your child has a spare pair of wellies which can be left at school. As part of our Montessori teaching the children will often take their learning outside and the children will participate in their 'Out and About' sessions. Please ensure your child has a raincoat and or a full rainsuit.

Notice Period

Please be reminded that if your child is not returning in January 2022 then written notice to the school office should be received no later than this Friday 17th September 2021. If you have already provided notice, then an acknowledgement letter will be sent home with your child in due course. Notices received after this time, as per your terms and conditions, will mean that Spring term school fees would be due, and you would automatically be invoiced accordingly.

Spring Term changes

Please can you let us know in writing if you wish to make any changes to the days that your child currently attends WMS for the Spring Term which starts in January 2022 or indeed increase. If we do not hear from you by Friday 17th September, we will assume that your child's current days will stay the same for the new Spring term and school fee invoices will be produced in accordance. If your child is moving to Kindergarten from nursery in January, then the minimum is 3 full

school days (for those having turned 3 prior to December 31st).

'Bumped Head' Text

If your child bumps any part of their head during a school day, we will always send a standard text to you. These texts are sent as an extra precaution to ensure you are aware. If you receive a text, it is because all is well with your child, and we will be keeping an extra eye on them.

No Nuts

As I'm sure you are all aware we are a strict no nut school; so please ensure that you do not send your child in with nuts or nut-based products in their packed lunch such as small sweets (e.g. Snickers) or nut-based spreads (e.g. Nutella, peanut butter). We have children in both schools with severe nut allergies. These items will need to be removed from your child's lunch.



No grapes

Please ensure that you do NOT give your child grapes in their packed lunch, as young children can easily choke on grapes.

Meet the teacher

Miss Silvia and Miss Florence – Kindergarten Teachers

We are delighted to welcome Miss Silvia fully into her role as class teacher. She will be teaching the children in Elm class with Miss Florine, Miss Uzma and Miss Florence.



We are also welcoming back from maternity leave, Miss Florence.

Class Information

Art and DT:

For our first DT session at the Children's House, we made a moving picture. The slider makes the drawing different from common drawings, it's not static, it can be moved through the drawing.



The children chose between a fish or a flower and adapted their actual surroundings accordingly.



The Art session was based on the Children's House topic of the week 'autumn'. During the day, children had focussed on the visual changes a tree makes. Before we painted our autumn tree we talked about the growth of a tree / plants.

We established that all plants need roots to be able to get their 'food'. The tree is divided into three parts: roots, trunk and crown with its branches and leaves. It's always most enjoyable for the children to work with paint; here they used a brush for the roots and trunk and fingers for the leaves.

Book of the Week:



Kindergarten – Oak Class

A busy first week back for Oak Class. Children have settled well and were all happy to be back having shared holiday stories.

Last week the children were introduced to our topic 'Autumn'. We have been reciting and learning the words 'Spring' 'Summer' Autumn' and 'Winter'.

The class enjoyed talking about the changes we see in Autumn which was completed by them creating an Autumn collage. With guidance children were able to use the scissors to cut around the autumn cut-outs and glue to the Autumn background.

The week finished by us looking at how we dress for the summer and winter season and creating a collage representing the four seasons.

This week we will continue our topic by looking at weather changes, children will get to be weather reporters by going outside. Using their senses, they will report on the weather each day and making predictions of what the weather could be like the next day. We will also look at the life cycle of a

tree and finish the week by making leaf print bookmarks.



We have also been busy creating our wall display where we used different colours to represent Autumn.

Kindergarten – Elm Class

An exciting first week back for Elm Class. Children have settled well in their new classroom and were all happy to be back. We welcomed two new friends - Olivia and Rosie to our class.

The children were introduced to the routines of the classroom. We went through lots of grace and courtesy activities so that the children get acquainted with the classroom rules and boundaries.



The children have been exploring various activities from the practical life and sensorial shelf. Some of them have enjoyed building The Pink Tower and Brown Stairs.

Our topic for this term is 'Autumn'. We have been talking about the four different seasons we have in a year 'Spring' 'Summer' Autumn' and 'Winter' and what we can see, eat or wear in each one. The class enjoyed picking leaves from the garden and talking about the different shapes, sizes and colours they have. Also, we have been playing matching games and using Autumn colours to create collages.



This week, we will be looking at weather changes and we will be learning about the life cycle of a tree. The children will also be introduced to phonetic sounds using I Spy Games.



Children's House

The first week in the Children's house was a great success! Children enjoyed their new environment which was buzzing with activities and many new presentations.

We started the week by introducing ourselves to each other and participating in some grace and courtesy activities that reminded us how to create a lovely and harmonious environment. Children were introduced to the topic of the term, Autumn, and had a closer look at the seasons and their main characteristics.

We welcomed our new friends Arlo, Esme and Zavien to WMS.



We created a nature table which we filled with natural material found in the garden. Children enjoyed playing the matching game, associating various objects and weather facts with the correct season, being encouraged to explain their choices. We looked at the changes in weather and nature when in the garden and identified the correct sort of clothing for the weather.



Children enjoyed making sliders during DT session and were very creative when mixing primary colours to achieve secondary colours for the autumn trees during the art session with Miss Alex. Their creations will be proudly displayed on our display boards.

For our music lesson, Miss Ruth gave an impressive cello session which children thoroughly enjoyed.

This week, we will turn into weather reporters, describing the weather by observing it while in the garden, creating art and writing about it. An Autumn wreath activity will take place and we will use our classified cards and classified reading cards of parts of a tree to name each part and its function as well as encourage reading the parts and matching them with their card. We will finish the week by collecting various leaves and attempting to find their shape using the leaf cabinet.

Nursery

Welcome back everyone!



In Nursery we had a very busy first week. We welcomed some new children, learned about greeting each other, and introducing ourselves to others. The week was packed with grace and courtesy exercises where we learned how to orientate in our classroom and use our materials well and safely. We focused on our term's topic which is Autumn. Children enjoyed exploring the garden and looking at weather changes during our 'out and about' session for our forest schooling.

We enjoyed art activities where we discussed Autumn colours, clothes that we wear and learned about four seasons through discussions, books and action songs.

Our letter of the week for last week was "s".

All the children are becoming familiar with phonic sounds through "I spy games" where we name first sound of the familiar objects.

Our letter of the week this week is letter "a". We will continue discussing seasons and have many art activities using selections of art techniques planned.



We are also celebrating Jeans for Genes Day. Please send children dressed up in denim clothes if you can. We will do lots of art and craft activities and play musical games.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

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!