

W/C Monday 10th January 2022

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

A very Happy New Year to all our WMS families and friends. We hope you have all enjoyed a happy and restful Christmas break. We are delighted to welcome all our families and children back for our Spring term, which is already promising to be both a very busy and exciting one.

We have had several new children joining us throughout the school and I am sure you will all join us in making those children and their families welcome. For those parents whose children have moved on to new classes, we hope they find the change both exciting and challenging. If you are unsure about which class your child is in this term, please do not hesitate to ask.

Welcome Back Letters

You will be receiving a 'Welcome Back' letter detailing all the exciting things that your child will be getting up to this term, it contains lots of important information, too. Please make sure you read this to be informed on all of the key information and lovely plans for the weeks ahead.



RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch

The children at WMS will be enjoying our annual participation in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch. Throughout the week commencing 24th January, the children will be 'bird spotting' as part of this annual Birdwatch – keep an eye out for more information on how they will be getting involved!

Composer of the Week

The composer of the week this week is Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741). Vivaldi was born in Venice and became one of the most famous composers of the Italian Baroque. Vivaldi



composed over 500 concertos, the most famous is *The Four Seasons*, a set of four violin concertos published in 1725.



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.

'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.

Art & D.T.

We have started the new term by welcoming our new friends who moved up into Children's House. We talked about kindness, using kind hands, kind words, sharing, how we are all individual and unique but still one community.



To reinforce our prior discussion about 'kindness', we used our kind hands to make one big heart shape for our big display board. Children took turns to paint their hands and place them onto the paper. Later, some children wrote words or sentences (which have been added around our big heart) of what comes into their mind when thinking of kindness.

We break up for the February half term on Friday 11th February 2022 and school will resume on Monday 21st February 2022.

Notice Period

Please be reminded of your child's notice period as per your Terms and Conditions.

If your child is not returning for the Summer 2022 Term, (i.e., April 2022) then notice was required in writing or email by January 6th, 2022. If you have any queries regarding notice periods, please email the office to discuss.

Session Changes

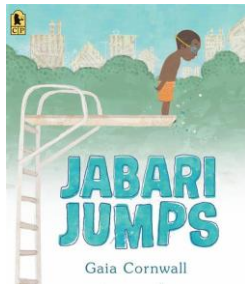
Please note that if you wish to make any changes to the sessions that your child attends we need a terms notice in writing.

Also, please be reminded that the term after your child turns three they will move from nursery into our Kindergarten where they will be expected to attend for a minimum of 3 days per week.

Class Information

Book of the week:

Jabari Jumps
By
Gaia Cornwall



Birthday Walk Celebrations

We would like to wish a very happy birthday to Evie who celebrated her birthday over the Christmas break. The children had lots of fun celebrating Evie's birthday when we returned to school with one of our WMS Birthday Walks.



At Walthamstow Montessori School, we like to celebrate birthdays in a very special way which

allows the children to have a greater understanding of the passage of time.

If your child is celebrating a birthday, please let your child's teacher know so that we can arrange one of our birthday walk celebrations. Please see our website for full details.

Children's House

Last week, we welcomed some new friends to the Children's House. The children were very excited to show their special belonging that they brought in from home to their friends on the first day. We also celebrated Evie's birthday with a WMS Birthday Walk, and the children very much enjoyed celebrating her special day.

We have been learning about the numeral 2022. We are practicing the months of the year, too. Vivaldi is our focus composer in class and in Art we are beginning to look at van Gogh. The children created some beautiful



paintings of van Gogh's Sunflowers. In numeracy, we are working on measurements, and we will

have an exciting measurement discovery table to work from this week!



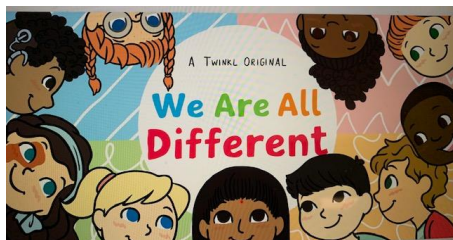
The children also began to discuss how we are all different and unique as part of our 'All About Me' topic this term. Part of this discussion included how we should treat everybody with respect. On Wednesday 12th January, we have our 'Kindness Day' at the Children's House. Each child will be making a gift for one of their friends; if you are unsure of who your child has, please check the noticeboard outside of the Children's House.

Kindergarten - Oak Class

A big welcome back to Oak class children many of whom have moved from Elm. The children were all excited to share their stories from the Christmas holidays. As a class we revisited the class rules and all enjoyed working in the environment, exploring new resources and activities. This term our topic is 'All

About Me.' Our welcome back letter will follow outlining how we will cover the topic.

Last week we were looking at ourselves and how we are all different. Not only in skin, eye, and hair colour but also how we all like different things for example our favourite colour or food. We looked at the book 'We Are All Different' which the class really enjoyed.



This week, we will be looking at patterns. We will examine our footprints and will be taking a rubbing of the sole of our shoe. We will extend the learning by sizing our footprints and revisiting the fact that we are all different. Later in the week, we will look at our families in more detail and start to compile our family tree booklet. Our letter of the week will be 'f' for family.

Kindergarten - Elm Class

A very Happy New Year to all the children and families of Elm Class. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know all the children and parents as their new class teacher.



Our topic this term is 'All About Me'. Last week, we begun exploring this topic by discussing what makes each of us unique and different to one another. The children created self-portraits of their face using colouring pencils and various materials such as pom-poms and

string to give our portraits facial features and hair.

We also looked at patterns and used crayons to create wax rubbings of leaves. The children enjoyed discussing the different patterns they could see in their wax rubbings, and we will continue exploring different patterns this week as we look at our footprints and the patterns in the soles of our shoes.



This week, we will be continuing our 'All About Me' topic by beginning to explore our family trees. Please may parents send their child in with photographs of

their family so that we can use them in our discussion of family trees.

Nursery

Welcome back for our Spring term. Our first week back in the Nursery was a great success! The children have done a great job adjusting to our classroom routine.



Last week, we continued to enjoy 'Grace and Courtesy' lessons where the children have been learning about how to use our materials and look after our classroom.

Our topic for this term is "All About Me." We had fun week with lots of art activities and discussions related to this topic. The children participated in a discussion of how we are all unique and different in our own special way. The children shared their experiences from Christmas and their faces lit up when talking about their Christmas time spent with their families.



All of us enjoyed learning how to draw self-portraits while looking at ourselves using the mirror. This is something that we will continue doing throughout this term.

This week, we will be learning about our bodies. We will be discussing healthy eating and enjoying different art activities. In phonics, we will look at how to identify the letter "b" for body. There will be lots of fun games and songs planned for the children to socialise and work as a team, as well as working individually focussing on their chosen activities during the Montessori cycle.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

Important Numbers



To contact the school office dial:
020 8523 2968

Email:

office@walthamstowmontessori.com