

W/C Monday 2nd May 2022

# Walthamstow Montessori School

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## Newsletter

### Eid Mubarak!

Last week, the children learned about the important Islamic festival of Eid al-Fitr. This follows the holy month of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. The children took part in lots of art activities related to Ramadan last week and will continue to do so this week as we celebrate Eid. Oak class made some wonderful cards and our nurseries made beautiful clay decorations. We look forward to continuing these celebrations this week, including henna at our Children's House! Eid Mubarak to all of those celebrating.



### Art & D.T.

The children in our Children's House became artists last week as we looked at the French artist Claude Monet. Children were introduced to the Impressionist; we compared Monet's 'dot' technique to van Gogh's stripes (we had painted his sunflowers last term). We were inspired by his work 'Water Lilies'. The children were asked to use two different techniques; for the background they had to paint stripes going up and down. For making the dots we used corks (which is equally good for the pencil grip).



Everyone was very proud and happy about their paintings.

***Please note we break for half term on Friday 27th May and term resumes on Monday 6th June 2022.***

### School Photographs

**Lower School: 4th May**

**Upper School: 5th May**

Your child must be wearing their school uniform and so if you do not have a smock, please contact the office to purchase a new one. Your child will not have their photo taken if they are not in school uniform.

### Notice Letters

Notice letters and forms were sent out last week for children leaving at the end of the summer term 2022. If you did not receive one and your child is leaving at the end of this term and not returning in September, please contact the office. Please return the leavers form to the school office as soon as possible.

### Herb Garden

We are delighted to share with you our new herb garden we have now planted at Penrhyn. This area provides a wonderful sensory experience for children as well as an opportunity for them to learn how to grow and care for plants.





## Fire Drill

The children in the Children's House took part in a fire drill last week. All the children listened to their teachers and exited the building in a calm and orderly way, resulting in safe and effective fire drill throughout.



## Sun Hats and Lotion

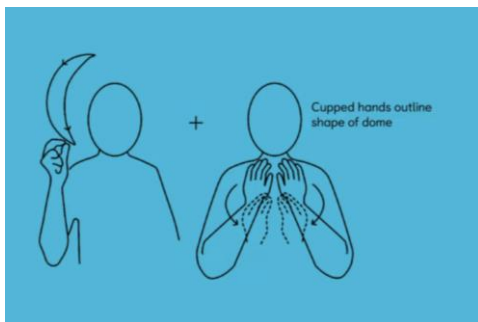
We are looking forward to these warmer months where the children will be taking their learning outside whenever possible. Please ensure your child has a named sun hat and that sun lotion is applied before school. We will make sure that the children are drinking plenty of water to keep them hydrated and their school smocks will protect them.

## Chicken Pox

We have been notified of a confirmed case of Chicken Pox at the lower school. Chickenpox is common and mostly affects children. It starts with red spots, that can appear anywhere on the body. Chicken pox is contagious until all the sores have crusted over which normally takes between 7-10 days.

Sign of the week at WMS!

'Mosque'



Use your fingers to trace a crescent and the cupped hands outline the shape of a dome.

Visit [makaton.org](http://makaton.org) for further background and information on this great skill

## Composer of the Week



Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750), was born in Eisenach, Germany. Bach only become famous after his death. He is probably the best-known Baroque composer today. He wrote 1200 pieces of music and many of his children and grandchildren became musicians too. He often wrote the instrumental music of other composers, too, including Vivaldi.

## Meet the Teachers



We are very happy to introduce two new members of staff to our teaching team. We have Miss Maria who has joined Elm class.

Miss Bethany who has joined Sycamore class. They have both already enjoyed getting to know all the children and are looking forward to our lovely Summer term ahead.



## Children's House



Last week, the children in Children's House were learning about the life cycle of a ladybird. We discussed how long takes for a ladybird to become fully grown, what they eat and how long they can live. We also discovered some curiosities and myths, for

example, the number of dots on a ladybird does not indicate their age! In our 'out and about' session children had fun playing a ladybird theme maths game, counting their spots.



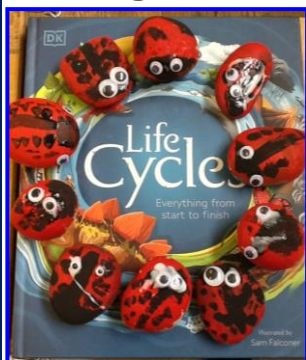
We also continued our discussion of plants, and the children were introduced to the term 'chlorophyll'. Children also observed how their bean plants are growing and they drew them in their books to record the process.

During our art session last week, we looked at Claude Monet and children recreated the Water Lillies painting. The children also enjoyed helping to create a beautiful board with the initials WMS for the 21st birthday of our wonderful school!

This week we will talk about the life cycle of a bee. We will also discuss Ramadan and Eid, and we will do some fun activities related to this celebration.



## Kindergarten - Oak Class



I hope you enjoyed the extended weekend and are ready for the week ahead. It was a very busy week in Oak Class last week. We have learnt all about the life cycle of a ladybird. The class have been extending their vocabulary including the words pupae, larva, abdomen and wings. We

have created our class display board incorporating areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. Children used their communication and language skills to talk about where we might see a ladybird. Mathematics was covered by making our ladybirds using symmetry and counting the spots. Understanding of the world incorporated the life cycle of the ladybird and expressive art and design used our creative side in making the ladybirds using paint and glue.



Our 'out and about' session saw us moving around the garden as different insects using different parts of our bodies to represent each one.

We continue to practise our Makaton song 'Sunshine in My Heart'. I am sure you have been sung to by your child. The children are really engaging in the signing which is being promoted throughout the school.

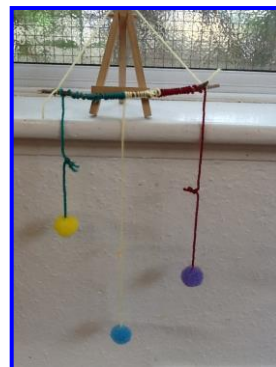
We finished our week by the children creating their own pebble ladybirds to take home. Using different materials gives the child plenty of multi-sensory experiences and the opportunity to see how being creative can be done using a variety of resources.

We also talked about Ramadan and the children learned of the significance of this important time in the Islamic calendar. Each child created their own Eid cards. We will continue our Eid celebrations this week and wish our families a very happy celebration.

This week we will be looking at the life cycle of a bee. We will also be baking using honey as an ingredient extending our knowledge of how and where honey comes from. Please encourage your child to bring something in on Wednesday for our first show and tell. No electronics please.

## Kindergarten - Elm Class

Last week was a busy week for the children in Elm class. The children were very interested in our topic for the week which was the life cycle of ladybirds. We talked about their life cycle from eggs to larvae, pupa to the adult ladybird and we looked at pictures for each stage. The children continued to work individually by identifying each stage and placing the pictures in order. We also compared each stage to stages in the life of other insects. We continued to talk about the body parts of a ladybird and the children created one using a toilet paper roll, crayons, glue, pipe cleaners and googly eyes. We also practiced our counting skills and counted the spots from 1 to 10 on ten different ladybird cards.



In our 'out and about' session the children explored how we can use sticks to make new things. We made mobiles using pom-poms, sticks and yarn.

Towards the end of the week, the children also practiced their gross motor skills by playing a group game and catching a ball.

This week, we will talk about the life cycle of bees, and we will bake shortbread using honey. We will also be celebrating Eid, and wish Eid Mubarak to all our families celebrating at home.

## Sycamore Class



We had very exciting week in Sycamore class. Our topic was the life cycle of ladybird. Children were very interested to learn about the lifecycle, and successfully recognised the entire process. They listened to the lesson with interest and responded to instructions with understanding. Our week

was packed with art activities where children practiced their counting skills, as well as their creativity and imagination. For example, we enjoyed painting pebbles to transform them to ladybirds.



We also looked for objects beginning with letter "l" for ladybird.

Our letter for this week is letter "b". We will be using a bag with various objects beginning with this sound and children will be getting familiar with this letter through sound games. This week we are also going to learn about the lifecycle of bees. We will be discussing the various stages of the life cycle, and playing games, singing songs, and exercising our bodies, pretending to be busy bees. We are also continuing developing our confidence and independence through Grace and Courtesy lessons.

## Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

Another busy week at the nursery. We've welcomed new friends in Seedlings and Acorn and they are all settling in well. Last week, we explored the life cycle of a ladybird. New vocabulary was introduced,



and we've learned words such as change, grow, born and develop. The children participated in group discussions about ladybirds. They talked about some of the features of the ladybirds, e.g. the spots, the colours red and black and the wings.

In our arts and crafts activities, the nursery children made their own ladybirds using paper and cards and ladybirds pebbles. This week, our Muslims friends will be celebrating Eid. As part of our understanding of the world, the children have been introduced to a few facts about Eid. They also participated in a few arts and crafts activities related to the celebration. We will be talking a little bit more about Eid again this week. As we continue on our topic of life cycles, the nursery children will be learning all about bees and how important they are in our eco system. We will also be baking some special cookies using honey.



**Best wishes, WMS Admin**

**Important Numbers**



**To contact the school office dial:  
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**Email:**

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

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Facebook and Instagram pages!**