

W/C Monday 19th September 2022

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter



Jeans for Genes Day

Each year at WMS we fundraise for genetic conditions through **Jeans for Genes Day**. This will take place this

Friday 23rd September 2022.

Please send your child in jeans or any denim-wear on this day with a suggested donation of £1 minimum for this wonderful charity.

If you have any old or unwanted denim you can send in these would be great for Jeans for Genes related art activities!

Important Diary Dates



Whilst all important upcoming dates and reminders are featured in our newsletter each week, a full list of dates to note for this term can be found on our website under 'Diary Dates'.

[Diary Dates – Walthamstow Montessori School](#)

This was also sent out with the autumn term's 'Welcome Back' letters. If you did not receive this email, please contact the office.



Inside the Montessori Classroom...

Part of the Montessori curriculum is to awaken a life-long interest in nature. Having fresh flowers in the classroom each week provides a perfect opportunity for the children to discuss the flowers, identify them, see the process of life and to practice practical skills such as cutting, pouring, and arranging.

Each week at WMS a different child is the flower monitor for their class. The child will bring in fresh flowers for their class and spend time cutting and arranging them for display in their classroom. This is a lovely practical life activity for the children to engage with as well as a special and proud event for the flower monitor each week.

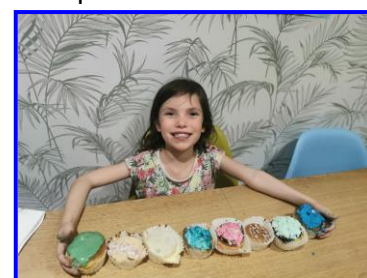
Thank you to Vivienne for the beautiful flowers in Oak Class last week.



Home Learning

It has been so wonderful to see the children so engaged by this term's 'Space' topic after just one week. We have had lots of feedback from parents already of children carrying this enthusiasm into their homes!

Esme baked some brilliant space-themed cupcakes. She baked 8 cupcakes and decorated them with various colours of icing -- one cupcake to represent each of the planets in our solar system!



Nirvana also continued her learning surrounding planets at home by creating a huge art project. Nirvana enjoyed sharing this



with her class in a presentation, talking through each of the 8 planets and their distance from the sun. The children were very engaged and enjoyed listening to Nirvana present her work.

We love seeing how children's learning is being extended and supported at home so please do feel free to email and share any lovely moments with us! Especially related to our exciting topic this term. 'WOW!' Sheets are available at the school doors which are another lovely way of sharing milestones at home with the school!

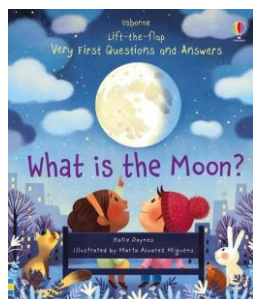
Class Information

Book of the week:

What is the Moon?

by

Katie Daynes



Children's House

It has been another busy week at the Children's House. We welcomed our new friend Nuala to our classroom.

The children have all been showing great interest and enthusiasm in our space topic. At home, Esme had great fun baking planet cupcakes, which she was so excited to tell the class about!

Nirvana was just as eager to present her Solar System Project to all of us during our 'Show and Tell' session. It was lovely to see all the children engaged, asking questions as well as sharing their knowledge on the planets.



how long it takes for Earth to orbit the sun. The

Last week we continued our topic on space, focussing on planet Earth. We learned some interesting facts about our planet and talked about why Earth is known as the 'blue planet'. They were pleasantly surprised to discover that 1 year consists of 365 days when we talked about

children were able to share how our planet is currently being destroyed and what they could do to save and look after our beautiful planet.

For our art session, the children used a pointillism art technique to create a celestial design of Earth using blue and green paint colours and cotton buds.



The concepts of measurement and capacity were also explored with a fun hands-on activity. The children created Space Bottles using their pouring, measuring and counting skills and classified their bottles according to full, nearly full and half full terminology.

For our out and about session, we decided to create the word "Earth" using different parts of the flowers.



We celebrated Roman's 4th birthday with our WMS birthday Walk. The children enjoyed looking at his pictures and learning about how he celebrated his special day.



During the week we continued to remember Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Some of the children expressed how sad they felt. We looked at pictures of the procession of the Queen's Coffin to Westminster Hall and discussed what the term "Lying in State" meant.



We ended our week with a simple science experiment that demonstrated the concept of gravity. The children were able to observe and predict how gravity works and how other forces could overcome it. We also talked about other forces that defy gravity.

This week we will continue to learn more about Space with our focus being on the moon. Our phonetic sound of the week is 'm'. We would like children to bring in objects beginning with the sound 'm'.



Kindergarten - Oak Class

It has been a very full week of learning about the planet Earth this week. Our display board is finished, and the class were excited to see themselves floating in space



as astronauts. We talked about how the planet is made up of land and water. We worked with the Montessori sandpaper globe, which introduces the child to land and water through

its texture: rough sandpaper areas of land and smooth areas of blue water.

We also created our own planet Earth by using cotton buds to create a beautiful and effective differentiation between the land and water. The children demonstrated excellent concentration as they patiently used the cotton bud to fill the water with blue dots and land with brown. It was a very therapeutic task.



The class really enjoyed our first show and tell session on Wednesday. This session not only increases your child's confidence by talking in a group but is also a good activity for turn taking and listening.

Thank you to a Vivienne for being our flower monitor this week. The sunflowers and irises really brightened our environment.

I hope your child spoke about our out and about learning last week. The outcome of this activity was to start to understand capacity. We learnt the terms empty, half full and full. Children took it in turns to fill a jug with the instructed amount and then it was lured into a plastic bottle. Once this bottle was 'full' we then added 8 pom poms to represent the 8 planets. Stars were also counted and placed into the



bottle together with 5 drops of food colouring and 1 tablespoon of glitter. We then named our Lego astronaut 'Tim' who we counted down to enter our water-filled galaxy. This then gave the children a sensorial activity as the bottle was tipped from one end to the other. If you could provide your child with a small empty screw top plastic water bottle, we can continue this activity where the children will be able to bring their own galaxy home.

This week we will be learning about the moon and its properties. We will talk about the first man on the moon and extend our learning by talking about light and dark. Our phonetic of the week will be 'm'.

Kindergarten - Elm Class

We've had a very busy week in Elm class exploring Space as well as engaging with our Montessori materials available in our classroom. The children have enjoyed learning about planet Earth – our home. We identified Earth as the third planet from the sun in our solar system. We did various Earth activities such as making a collage of the earth, and we identified the land and water on Earth using the Montessori sandpaper globe. We discussed the importance of taking care of our planet and linked this to the care of oneself, a crucial part of the Montessori curriculum.

Furthermore, we experimented using magnets to explain gravity, as gravity is why we don't float all the way up to space! The children thoroughly enjoyed taking turns and observing what happens to the magnetic balls they worked with.



The children enjoyed working together as they created a sensory galaxy bottle using star confetti, water, pompoms (representing our solar system), food colouring, some glitters, a toy astronaut, and a tiny bit of baby oil. They took turns adding the materials into the bottle and observing what happens afterwards. We also had an astronaut toy who came to visit our class. The children decided to name him Mr. Astronaut. He was placed in a box and we watched carefully as the stars inside changed. We have also continued to



practice our planet song which all the children enjoy singing along to! This week, we will continue to learn more about Space and our focus will be about the moon.

During Italian class the children enjoyed listening to Miss Benedetta. They sang along with the use of props and learnt some fruit names!

In relation to our Space topic, the children baked star flap jacks which they were very excited about. Cooking contributes to the children's personal, social, and emotional development by providing opportunities for exploration, developing skills and confidence. It helps the children to follow recipes, independence as well as problem solving skills.



A big thank you to Jasper for being our flower monitor of the week. The children all took turns to practice their cutting skills, arranging the flowers in the flower vase as well as taking care of the plants throughout the

week.

Our phonetic sound of the week is 'm' which we will hear lots as we focus on the moon. We would like to encourage your child to bring an object beginning with the sound 'm'. This can be brought in any day this week as we continue to learn the phonetic sound throughout the week. This helps us relate our class learning to home.

Sycamore Class



We enjoyed our second week back at WMS. It was a week full of exciting activities and learning. We continued to learn about our solar system and more specifically the planet we live on, planet Earth. In our lesson we discussed how to keep our planet clean and happy. Our phonetic sound of the week was 'e'. All the

children used sand trays and Montessori sandpaper letters to trace and practice writing the letter. We also

had fun using the Montessori sandpaper globe to identify land and water and discussing all the continents of our world. The children showed great understanding of land and water as well as what kind of transportation we can use to get from one place to another.



We continued our activities by practicing the skill of pouring. The children successfully poured water to half full and then full, learning these concepts of measurement. By adding food colouring, glitters, stars and planets into the bottle we created a space sensory bottle that we can now explore every day.

Our week ended with a music lesson and simple yoga postures where we stretched our bodies and practiced breathing techniques.

This week we will be learning about the moon. Our phonetic sound of the week is 'm'.

Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

Another week has passed at the nursery, the children are settling well and are enjoying getting back into their routine. They are all so enthusiastic about learning about our solar system. Last week the children had a closer



look at planet Earth. They have been able to differentiate between land and water by looking at the Montessori sandpaper globe; the rough sandy texture representing the land and the smooth blue for water.

The children also made beautiful rockets using pieces of card and paper. They used glue to stick the pieces together to create the rocket. During a group discussion the children also shared with their friends which planets they would like to visit if they were an astronaut!



We also decorated rich tea biscuits using icing sugar to represent the water and land of the Earth.

This week we continue our topic by focusing on the moon. Our phonetic sound this week will be 'm' for moon.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

Important Numbers



To contact the school office dial:

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Facebook and Instagram pages!**