

W/C Monday 12th December 2022

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter



End of Term

This will be our last newsletter of the Autumn 2022 term. Our last day will be this **Friday 16th**

December, and also the day of our Christmas Concert.

Remember school closes at 12.30pm - children DO NOT need a packed lunch on Friday 16th December

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year, where we will have some new WMS families joining us too!

Christmas Party

We all had lots of fun at our WMS Christmas Party last week. The children enjoyed lots of arts and crafts and party games and enjoyed some wonderful Christmas party food lunch plates!



The Oak Class children joined our Children's House children at Brookcroft for a day of festivities. They enjoyed lots of crafts, games and of course dancing!

We have many more festive activities to look forward to as the Autumn term draws to a close, including our Christmas concert on Friday!

Christmas Jumper Day

Don't forget it's Christmas Jumper Day at WMS on Thursday 15th December. Get your jumpers ready! We'd love to see yours too, parents!



Christmas Concert

Thank you for returning your RSVP slips for our Christmas Concert on **Friday 16th December 2022**.

The office will begin distributing tickets. Please keep your tickets safe. We will also have your name on a list on the day.



Christmas Diary Dates

Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 15th December

Christmas Concert – Friday 16th December

Christmas Post-box

Last Collection will be Thursday 15th December!



Parent Festive Art Sessions

We all enjoyed having parents in from each class to take part in our festive art session on Thursday. The children got very creative and made some beautiful creations.



Some of the children were even able to enjoy a lovely Christmas story read by our visitors!

Thank you for joining us for this special day.

Lost Property

Our lost property box will be placed outside the school gate at Penrhyn this week (weather permitting).

Please check it if you have any lost items.

This box will be emptied at the end of this week and any items will be donated to a local charity shop.

Parents Corner

You may have seen in the news over the last few days information regarding cases of **strep A**. Please refer to the NHS guidance which we have attached below for your reference.



If your child shows any symptoms, please notify the school and do not send your child in to school.

Seek medical advice via any of the usual methods (NHS helpline/pharmacy/GP) for further clarification if you are at all worried.

If your child has a confirmed case of scarlet fever, they can return to school after 24 hours of antibiotics.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-update-on-scarlet-fever-and-invasive-group-a-strep>

Spring Term Invoices

Spring term 2023 term fee invoices have now been issued. The first instalment was due **Tuesday 6th December** and the second due **3rd January**. Please ensure these have been settled.

Class information:

Children's House



A very exciting but busy week at the Children's House!

We had our Christmas tree decorating day, which is a very special tradition that we celebrate here at WMS.

The children were very excited to show and hang their decoration on the tree, some of which were very precious and handmade.

They have also been enthusiastically writing Christmas Cards to their friends and enjoy posting it in our post-box.



We also had some very special visitors join us last week – our friends and teachers from Oak Class! They had a chance to work in our classroom and we had the opportunity to show them some of our lovely activities and our routines at the Children's House. We are looking forward to them joining us in January!



Esme also celebrated her 6th birthday with us. She shared some lovely pictures of herself and family and the children enjoyed singing the birthday song while she did her Birthday Walk!

Thank you Nina and Jane for volunteering and helping us with the festive art. The children made some lovely Christmas decorations using their threading skills, displays for their windows and a reindeer card.



We also learnt more about Astronauts. The children were all able to describe what an astronaut is and were able to name the equipment that astronauts wear and use. We also watched a documentary about Astronauts living in the International Space Station (ISS). The children saw that the ISS is made up of different modules and they watched how Astronauts live, eat, drink, sleep and how they take a shower in Space. There is still lots more to learn about Astronauts so we will be continuing this topic this week.

The children love exploring the shelves independently and are always eager to try new activities. Joshua shows a huge interest in nature. He was intrigued with our flower pressing activity and decided to have a go with it. Needless to say, he can't wait to see the results!



Our phonetic sound of the week was "a" and we also looked at digraph "aw".

During circle time, the children came up with lots of objects and words beginning with 'a'. They were encouraged to think of objects that had the middle sound 'a'. The children have been doing a variety of literacy work. Some have been using the Large Movable Alphabets and reading cards. Others have been working with the preposition box. The children will be encouraged to work with these activities to give them further practise and confidence.

In Maths, the children are exploring a range of activities. We are encouraging them to repeat the activities that they have been introduced to so that they get further practice.

The older children are using the Stamp Game to do multiplications, whilst the others are working with the



Decimal System Activities. Some children have also shown an interest in Fractions. We have introduced them sensorially to our Fraction Material, which we will continue to work with this week.

We ended our week with a Christmas Party. Oak class once again joined us and it was a day filled with some learning, lots of fun crafty activities and an afternoon packed with games and dancing.

Please remember that Christmas Jumper Day is on Thursday and we will be having our Christmas Concert on Friday. We break up for the Christmas Holidays on Friday afternoon at 12.30pm. On behalf of everyone at the Children's House, we wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and hope you all have a lovely Christmas break.

Kindergarten – Oak Class

A very busy and exciting week in Oak class. We started the week by the children placing their own bauble on our lovely Christmas tree. We continued our learning around the topic of astronauts. We looked at spacesuits and identified important parts such as the helmet, temperature control, oxygen control, boots and gloves. We talked about the astronaut Tim Peake and the class watched a video of him cleaning his teeth on his latest space mission. We started to make our own class rocket backpack which we will complete next week, and we also finished our own rockets which were decorated securely placing the cone of the rocket with glue.

On Wednesday, the children enjoyed their first visit to the Children's House. The positivity amongst them all was amazing. They all enjoyed the lovely environment inside and outside engaging in activities well.

The first frost of the year saw us making footprints in our 'out and about' session! We also talked about the weather change and temperature as well as listening to instruction and moving around the garden as astronauts.

It was lovely to share your child's work with you all at parents evening where you can see how well they have progressed and this will only continue to develop as they transition to the Children's House.

We enjoyed a lovely art session with Theo and Louis's mummy's on Thursday afternoon where we



made our own Christmas cards and decorated baubles.

A very happy 4th birthday to Jaś, who celebrated his birthday on Wednesday.

Our week finished with the class enjoying our Christmas party with the Children's



House. Children participated in craft activities of making peppermint creams and making a Father Christmas from shapes and of course finishing with dancing with

friends.

Next week we will be doing Christmas crafts as well as our final rehearsals for our Christmas production, 'A Christmas Star'. It has been a pleasure having your lovely children in my class and I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Kindergarten - Elm Class

Last week, we learnt about Astronauts. We looked at pictures of how astronauts prepare themselves for the trip to space, what they wear, things they will need and

also discussed what they may do in space, such as to spacewalk! We then listened to a short video about an astronaut in space and how they safely go on spacewalks, how they heat up their food in their special microwave, the kind of food they eat and why. Afterwards we read a book called "If I were an astronaut" by Eric Braun.

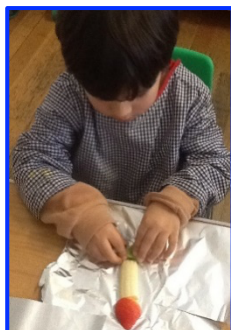
During our 'out and about' session, we used some white cut-out shapes to create our astronauts and made movements as if we were in space. We linked this to mathematics as we all took turns to identify the shapes such as circle, oval, and square.

The children were invited to the school's Christmas tree and took turns to decorate the tree using their beautiful decorations. They chose the area they wanted their decorations to go on the tree. children demonstrated good self-control by patiently waiting for their turns.



During our phonics sessions, the children were able to identify the phonic sound "a", where they later on practised tracing the letter 'a' in their literacy book as well as using the Montessori Sand Tray.

On Wednesday, we made banana rocket using banana, strawberry and kiwi. We pretended the strawberry was the nose cone, the banana was the rocket body, and the kiwi was the engine. We also discussed the shapes seen before and after cutting the fruits.



The children enjoyed spending time with Rhea and Jasper's mummies, who kindly came in last Thursday to make some lovely Christmas decorations. Thank you once again for coming, the children had lots of fun working with you both.



We ended the week with lovely Christmas party where the children engaged in various Christmas themed activities and a beautiful lunch together.

This week, we will focus on more Christmas themed activities and getting ready for our Christmas concert on Friday.

Sycamore Class

We all started to feel very festive and enjoyed a week full of discussions about Christmas, the cold weather as well as continuing learning about space and astronauts. We all enjoyed talking about what we will take to space if we were astronauts and we also created plenty of space crafts.

Thank you to Ronnie & Matilda's mummies for joining us for our Christmas art afternoon. It was very special for all of us and we really enjoyed having them joining our group.

As the term draws to a close we have been reflecting on the immense amount of learning the children have done across the term on our space topic. We really are very impressed with how much they have taken in! They are confident to name all planets and they enjoy having discussions about gravity, spacecrafts, rockets and astronauts. We have learned some interesting facts about each planet, and we hope that you enjoyed this topic with us.

It is our last week of the winter term and we will be discussing Christmas and preparing for our Christmas play on Friday at 11:15am. We hope to see you all there. All of the parents should have received the slips with information about their child role on the Christmas play. Please speak to Miss Petra if you haven't received any information.

We are looking forward to seeing you all celebrating Christmas with us on Friday. Wishing you all magical Christmas and looking forward to seeing you all in 2023.

Note: we will be sending important reminders regarding the Christmas Concerts being held on Friday to you mid-week.

Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

The Nursery children enjoyed a week full of festive activities. On Tuesday each of the children enjoyed placing their special ornament on our WMS tree, as part of our annual tradition.

On Friday we had our exciting Christmas party, where we made lots of Christmas decorations and enjoyed a Christmas lunch all together.



Thursday was a special morning where we invited parents in to join us for a festive art session. It was lovely to have you in our classroom and the children were even able to enjoy a special Christmas story.

The children are really enjoying the rehearsals for our Christmas nativity play and becoming more confident with singing the songs.

Our phonetic sound of the week was "c" and we enjoyed the story "Santa is coming to London".

This week is our final week of term. We will continue with our festive activities and I am sure we will enjoy learning about and playing in the snow.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

Important Numbers



To contact the school office dial:

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