

W/C Monday 19th June 2023

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

School Photographs

Reminder that you must order your school photographs using the unique code on your photo card by **Wednesday 21st June**. If your child had their photo taken and you have not received a card, please contact the office.



Warm weather

As the hot weather continues, please continue to send your child in with sun cream applied, wear a sun hat and their school smock to protect them from the sun when outdoors.



Meet the Teacher

We are really pleased to have Miss Daria join us full time. Daria has been doing her teaching placement at WMS once a week since September, and it has been a pleasure to have her. Daria has now passed her level 2 childcare qualification and will continue to support the class teachers at WMS.

Well done Daria, it has been lovely to watch you grow and learn at WMS alongside your college studies.

Important Diary Dates

- Beech Class Library Trip – Thursday 22nd June 2023
- Sports Week – w/c 3rd July

Summer concert:

- **Monday 17th July at 2.30pm – Sycamore Class**
- **Tuesday 18th July at 10.30am – Elm Class**
- **Tuesday 18th July at 2.30pm – Beech Class**
- **Wednesday 19th July at 11.45am – Acorn Class**
- **Thursday 20th July at 11.45am – Seedlings Class**
- **The Children's House concert will take place on Wednesday 19th July at 2.20pm at the Brookcroft building.**

We break up for the summer holidays on Thursday 20th July 2023. Please note school closes at 12.30pm on this day and your child will not need a packed lunch.

Tea Timers Requests

An email will be sent this week regarding Tea Timers booking requests for the **autumn term**. If you currently have a booked place this will automatically roll over unless you inform us otherwise. If you want to make changes to your booked days or would like to request a place in the club, please return the booking form by the given deadline.

Autumn Term Invoices

Invoices for the Autumn Term 2023 fees will be issued from w/c **26th June**. First installment is due by **7th July** and second installment due by **Monday 4th September**. School fees for your child must be paid in full by this date for your child's place to be secure and for them to return for the Autumn term.

WMS Smocks Donation

As we approach the end of the year we'd like to ask if any parents of children leaving would like to donate their smocks back to the school. These are very useful to have in stock for parents to purchase for a small donation, to keep as a spare smock or replace a lost one. Thank you in advance!

Parents' Corner

Early Years Newsletter:

The borough are updating their Family Hubs offer to include their Best Start in Life programme, but



also activities for children over five. For more information about the Family Hubs please visit the Waltham Forest gov website.

Policy of the Month

We will be focusing on our 'Medication' policy this month. Please visit the school website to review this policy. The school website has all our school policies available.

Class Information: Children's House

Last week we were learning about the continent of South America. The children were able to locate South America on the Puzzle Map. We talked about how many countries there were in South America and identified them. Rhea mentioned that Alanna is from Ecuador and we located Ecuador on the map. We looked at pictures of some of the famous places and sights in South America such as the Andes Mountains, Iguazu Falls, the Machu Pichu in Peru, The Glaciers in Patagonia and Christ the Redeemer in Brazil. The children were also introduced to some of the animals that are found in South America like the spider Monkey, sloth, toucan, piranhas, capybara, Galapagos giant tortoise, anaconda, jaguar and the anteater!

We discussed what a rainforest is and talked about the climate. The children learnt that the Amazon rainforest is the largest rainforest in the world. We looked at some pictures and discussed what it would be like in the rainforest – what types of sounds we would hear and what kind of animals and plants we would see. We also read a book about rain forests and the children learnt about the different layers of a rainforest, how the trees create a canopy, and the animals that are found in the different layers, types of animal calls and how animals protect themselves from predators. We also discussed what we could do to save and protect the animals and rainforest.

In Art, Miss Alex talked about the Brazil Carnival. She showed the children some pictures of the parade and celebration. The children enjoyed creating their own bright coloured carnival mask. We also created our special Father's Day Card. I hope all our dads had a lovely celebration on Sunday.



We have also been learning about what a compass is and how it can be used. Some of the children mentioned that it can be seen on a map and it is used to tell us the direction. We identified the cardinal directions – North, South, East, and West on the compass and the children created their own compass. Thank you to Theo for bringing in your compass and showing everyone how it can be used.



Our phonetic sound of the week was 's'. The children can confidently identify and associate the sound with lots of objects. Some have been reading a list of words that begin with this sound and writing it.

Lots of lovely numeracy activities have been introduced and explored by the children. They have been working with the introductory activities of the Golden Beads, Fraction Trays, Numbers and Counters and arithmetic operations of additions and subtractions.



In our 'out and about' session, we continued our learning of the compass. We did a simple science experiment using a magnet, needle and a milk bottle top to create a working compass that could be used to find cardinal directions. We then played a compass point game to reinforce the four points of a compass, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

Thank you Alanna for sharing your lovely photo book of Ecuador. Everyone enjoyed looking at the photos of the sights and animals that we have been learning about. Thank you to Rhea too for bringing in a compass whistle and some animals from South America. While showing her compass, she reminded everyone of the different directions on the compass.



In tennis, the children were introduced to serves. They learnt how to position their foot when serving and how the racket should be held. We have also started practising our lines and songs for the end of year concert.

This week we will be learning about North America. We will locate North America on the Puzzle Map and name some of the States. We will also be introducing the flag and talking about some of its famous landmarks, animals, culture, music, food and sports. Our phonetic sound of the week will be 'n'.

Kindergarten - Elm Class

Last week the children have enjoyed learning about South America. We located the continent on the Montessori Puzzle Map and learnt that Brazil is the largest country located within South America. The class enjoyed making their own Brazilian Carnival masks using a range of resources.



We talked about the Amazon rainforest and why it is important to save our rainforests, one reason being that it is home to many endangered animals such as jaguars and dolphins. We discussed what will happen if we continue cutting trees from the Amazon rainforest. The trees there provide us with oxygen and absorb harmful gases which keeps them from our atmosphere.



We worked hard last week on learning our cardinal points of North, East, South, and West and incorporated this into our 'out and about' session where the children were invited to identify each of the points. We also practised our Brazilian dancing in the garden which the children really enjoyed!

We continued our reinforcement of the compass points by making our own compasses where we used the vocabulary opposite to place South opposite North and East opposite West.

This week we will be learning about North America. We will compare the size of North America to South America and talk about famous cities in North America such as New York, San Francisco, and Washington. A popular sport in North America is basketball and children will be shown how to throw a

ball into the basket. Our phonetic sound of the week will be 'n' for North in North America.

Kindergarten - Beech Class

The children have continued to demonstrate their knowledge about continents. Last week, we looked at South America and identified the continent on the globe and puzzle map. With the use of picture cards, the children learnt about the Amazon rainforest and its importance. We discussed how vital it is to keep the trees and what can happen if we keep cutting down trees in the Amazon. Namely, it being home to many endangered animals and trees being important in keeping us all alive.

Furthermore, we looked at the culture, food and languages that are spoken in South America as well as some of the animals that can be found such as the jaguar, sloth, crocodile, pink river dolphin and toucan bird. We also looked at pictures of the popular carnival in South America called the "Rio Carnival" which is held every year in Brazil. The carnival is marked by colourful costumes, samba music and dance. Afterwards the children decorated their carnival mask and pretended to be in a carnival.

During phonics, the children were introduced to the phonetic sound 's' in South America. We also tried to think of other words that begin with 's' and the children used their thinking skills to think of some more words. Playing sound games at home is a great way of reinforcing starting sounds of words in preparation for reading and writing.

We extended our literacy by using some nature-themed mark making cards to further develop our fine motor skills. We used our creativity to make up different patterns and shapes using natural materials such as conkers, pebbles, and making marks in wet sand using sticks.



One activity available to children on the shelf is cutting following a pattern. This activity continues to support the children's fine motor and cutting skills as well

as good level of concentration.

In numeracy, the children practised shape repetition patterns and colours. This activity enables them to practise identifying shapes, to create a simple repeating pattern and identify which shape comes next in their repeating pattern.

During our "Out and About" session, the children were introduced to a compass and how to use it. We briefly looked at the cardinal directions North, South, East, and West and located these directions on the map and around us as we pointed out the direction. The children enjoyed playing this as a game.



On Thursday, the children baked a tomato and mozzarella pizza together. This activity enhances their turn taking skill as they patiently waited for each other, as well as the practical life skills of measuring, pouring and mixing.

This week, we look forward to learning and identifying North America on the Continents Globe and the Map of the World. We will also talk about the culture, food, music, and art in North America. We will look at some countries and animals that resides in North America. Our phonetic sound of the week is 'n'.

We also look forward to our library visit this **Thursday 22nd of June 2023** to Higham Hill Library. Please ensure you have returned your permission slip for your child to attend.



Sycamore Class

Last week we had new friends join our class; the children have enjoyed welcoming Margaux and Siyana. We were learning about South America. We started the week by looking at the continent shape, and the colour it is represented by on our globe (pink). We discussed what language people communicate and looked at some pictures of people, houses, and nature.

On Tuesday we continued learning about Amazon rainforest. The children enjoyed participating in a discussion about what a rainforest is, what kind of animals live there and how they live and survive. We looked at Brazil and its landmarks.

On Wednesday we talked about the largest carnival in Rio de Janeiro. Children were fascinated by the costumes that people wear and music that they dance to. On Thursday, we made carnival masks using glue and colourful paper to decorate. Friday was filled with music, singing and dancing!

We continue learning through our Montessori materials. Last week some Children were introduced to Numbers and Counters, where they gain a visual representation of odd and even, and practice forming quantities 1 to 10 with loose counters.



We all enjoyed water play activities in the garden as the weather becomes warmer! We practiced our pouring skills and learning about ocean animals in our activities set up in the garden.

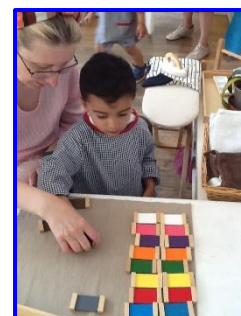


This week we will be learning about North America. We will be looking at countries like New York, San Francisco or Washington. Our phonetic sound of the week is "n". Please help your child at home to think of some words beginning with this phonetic sound.



Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

The nursery children enjoyed their week last week. We have been learning about South America and enjoyed looking at pictures from the geography folder of this continent. The children were invited to identify where South America is on the Montessori Continents Globe and the Map of the World. We named some of the countries in South America and talked about the cultural monuments, music and animals in this continent. The children were presented pictures from the Amazon rainforest. We talked about the importance of the





rainforest to the climate of our world. The children enjoyed watching a short video of the carnival in Brazil and we created our carnival masks as well.


Alongside our topic activities, we were also very busy practicing the songs for our

assembly and the children really enjoyed singing and doing the actions to them.

The children also enjoyed making cards for their loved ones ahead of Father's Day.

Next week we will explore the continent of North America and enjoy a variety of activities related to this.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

**Important Numbers
to contact the school office** 

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