

W/C Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

# Walthamstow Montessori School

## Newsletter



### Harvest Festival

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October we will celebrate Harvest Festival. The children will join

at Penrhyn in the morning for their Harvest assembly. Please note this is for children who attend on a Tuesday only and parents will not attend. Information on food donations will be shared in due course.

### Jeans for Genes Day

Thank you for your generous donations on Friday for Jeans for Genes Day. The funds will be donated to this wonderful charity for children with genetic conditions. The children enjoyed recognising this day by wearing denim clothing, and fundraising by creating art with donated pieces of denim.



### Parents' Corner

This week is Cycle to School week, organised by

the Bikeability Trust. We will be supporting this by discussing how cycling can be better for the environment than travelling by car. Please join us in cycling to school if you are able to and talking to your child about transport and the planet.

*Please note our Autumn half-term dates. School finishes on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October and resumes on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.*

### Class Information:

#### Children's House Brookcroft

In our Children's House, the children continue to enjoy being introduced to new materials and learning more about our topic of Transport.

Here a child is working with the Numbers and Counters activity, where the child is required to recognise and order numbers 1-10 and lay out the equivalent quantities underneath each numeral. This activity is also used to introduce a child to the concept of odd and even.



We also continue to expand our phonic knowledge. The children have been enjoying finding objects beginning with each sound after being introduced to a new Sandpaper Letter. You can support this learning at home by playing spontaneous sound games, such as 'I Spy' using phonetic sounds.

In the garden we enjoyed using a cardboard box to create an aeroplane. As we decorated each part we discussed the vocabulary for each part of this air vehicle.



The children continue to enjoy and make excellent progress in our weekly tennis lessons with Miss Hillary.

On Friday, we recognised Jeans for Genes Day by wearing denim and creating some artwork which we linked to our topic by making vehicles out of various shapes. We took this opportunity to talk about genes with the children and how they are what make us all unique, giving us our hair/eye/skin colour

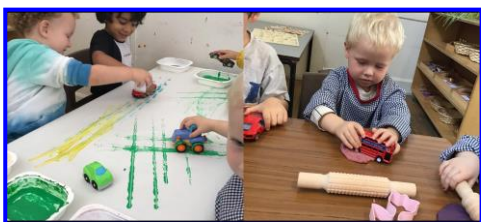


for example. Thank you all for your donations.

This week in our topic we will focus on air transport. Our phonetic sound this week is 'p'.

## Children's House Elm

The children have continued to enjoy the topic for this term on Transport. Last week, the children used various transports and playdough to make trails and we discussed what pattern they can see. We also incorporated different coloured paints to see the patterns and trails made when the wheels were put through the paint.



During PE sessions, the children practised walking on the beam. This activity helps improve the child's vestibular balance and coordination of movement. They also climbed up and jumped off the climbing frame, as well as played the obstacle course game.

In addition, we have continued to explore all different areas of the Montessori classroom to help develop our concentration, hand-eye coordination as well as our fine and gross motor skills to mention a few.

On Wednesday, we all enjoyed baking cookie wheels where we practised our coordination of movement skills by scooping, measuring, pouring, mixing, kneading, rolling and cutting the cookie dough.

On Friday, the children learnt more about Jeans for Genes Day and also decorated their heart shape jeans.

This week we will continue to learn more about Air Transport where we will look more at the air transports, incorporating some nursery rhymes such as 'Five Little Men in a Flying Saucer'. Our phonetic sound for this week is 'p'. Please continue to reinforce this phonic sound at home such as playing the I Spy game.



## Children's House Oak

Last week Childrens House Oak had been learning all about different types of air transport. In particular, we talked about aeroplanes and hot air balloons. Children

were invited to make their own hot air balloon using a paper plate. The children learned that hot air balloons work because hot air rises. By heating the air inside the balloon, it becomes lighter than the cooler air on the outside. This makes the balloon float upwards.

For our 'out and about' session we carried out an experiment to see how air pressure works. We used a plastic bottle filled with coloured water and pins. Children were amazed to see that when the pins were removed from the bottle no water escaped. However, by unscrewing the cap it created a tap effect with the air pressure change. The children really enjoyed this activity which I hope they shared with you.

As a class we also completed an assault course that was set up in the garden where children could role model driving a car, being in an aeroplane or being a train through the tunnel.

This week we will be continuing our learning on air transport and in particular looking at air transport through time and how an airport works. We will look at differences of the aeroplanes and which ones do we think fly faster. We are learning the song Five Little Men in a Flying Saucer which you can also practise at home. Using fingers to represent the numbers one to five invite your child to join in with the song to show the number of aliens left in the flying saucer after each verse.

Our phonetic sound of the week is 'p.' Please continue to work with your child on naming words with this beginning sound.

## Nursery - Acorn and Seedlings

It's been another busy week in the nursery as we continue to work on the transport topic. Last week we focused on air transport, and the children continue to practice grouping vehicles into land, air or water.

We learned about the different types of air transport such as hot air balloons, aeroplanes and helicopters and found the differences and similarities between them.



In art groups, the children have been making hot air balloons using cards and paper. They have also been baking and decorating cookies in the shape of wheels.

This week, we will be finding out about the history of air travel, the invention of air transport and how it has changed through time. The phonetic sound for this week is "p".

**Best wishes, WMS Admin**

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