

W/C Monday 2nd October 2023

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

Children's House Tour

We hope you enjoyed seeing your child's classroom on Saturday morning at our Children's House visit. Parents came along and were able to see the two new Children's House classes and to understand a bit more about how they help a child become more independent and to experience an environment that offers such a lot of space and



unique opportunities for child-led growth. Miss Lorna explained the layout of the areas, the materials, and their purposes, as well as demonstrating several of the Practical Life and Sensorial materials.

ASC Invoices

The first set of extended session invoices (Early Risers, Lunch Club, Tea Timers) for this year will be issued today. Please ensure these are settled by **Friday 6th October** to avoid incurring a late payment fee.

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



Black History Month

October marks Black History Month. We will be discussing with the

children some of the outstanding contributions that people of African and Caribbean descent have made to our country.

We would really encourage for you to let your child's class teacher know if your child or family

has anything they would like to share with us on this topic.



Parents' Corner

A parent would like to know if there are any possible childminder-sharing opportunities. Please do let us know if this is something you are interested in so we can put you in touch.

Class Information: Children's House Brookscroft

The children in our Brookscroft Children's House are enjoying the topic this term of transport. Our phonetic sound of the week was 'p' and the children enjoyed thinking of words with this sound. In our 'out and about' session, we reinforced this sound and linked to our learning with the word 'plane', and used twigs to replicate the letters and reinforce their symbols.



We continue to introduce children to various materials on the shelf. Here a child is introduced to working with Colour Tablet Box 3. This is a visual exercise, following the pairing of

colours in boxes 1 and 2, where a child is required to grade tablets from darkest to lightest. This exercise develops a child's visual discrimination of colour and supports the development of their chromatic sense.



The children are enjoying working with the transport-themed Montessori materials in our classroom, such as this one where a child matches the initial sound of an object to the letter symbol.



This week, we will be focusing on land transport in our topic discussions. This will include road safety; please do encourage these conversations at home and on your walks to and from school.

Children's House Elm

We value the learnings of yet another fruitful week in the Children's House! This week has been all about air transport. The children were so enthusiastic during classroom discussions surrounding family travels on aeroplanes, as well as discovering hot air balloons, jets, rockets and more.

We used our drawing and colouring skills to make lovely hot air balloon bookmarks with different chalks.

Our 'out and about' sessions focused on listening and identifying different sounds and sirens made by vehicles. This was followed by a fun game of pretending to be a particular vehicle, imitating it's sound and working collaboratively with one another by moving around as a part of that vehicle chain. This entire session developed attention span, listening skills, gross and fine motor skills and of course lots of social skills.



Indoors, children are working with Montessori materials and this week's highlights have been the dressing frames that isolate the challenge of buckling, buttoning, zipping,

lacing to name a few, for the children to practice over again.

The children thoroughly enjoyed measuring ingredients, mixing, and decorating delicious pizzas. We could observe children actively engaging and developing skills such as - mixing, kneading, rolling, spreading and alike.



We wish Lily a very happy birthday as we celebrated her special day with a Birthday Walk. Montessori walks aim to help a child understand the passage of time as they walk around a sun holding a globe to signify the passing of a year, one round for each year of their life.

This week we look forward to learning all about land transport through fun and interesting ways such as counting, singing, stories and more. We will be hearing the phonetic sound 'i' and revising the others covered previously.



Children's House Oak

Last Week in Children's House Oak, we learnt about the History of Air Transport and more specifically the children have been learning about the Wright Brothers and the first Aeroplane. One of the things they have loved learning about is that The Wright Brothers aircraft had no seats and Orville Wright had to lie flat on the wings to fly it. We have also been reading about different types of aeroplanes and other aircraft. Last week's phonetic



sound of the week was 'p', and the children spent the week exploring different words beginning with this sound. The children also made their own aeroplanes from card and made their own pizzas. For our 'out and about' session, the children played follow the leader where they took turns being the leader and pretending to be different modes of transport.



This week the children will be learning about land transport such as cars, lorries and excavators. You can have discussions about land transport with your child at home and as you come to and from school, as you see vehicles when they pass in the street. We will also be talking about road safety with the children, how important it is to stay safe when crossing the street and walking down the road.

Our phonetic sound of the week will be 'i', you can practice finding objects around the house and outside with your child that begin with 'i'.

We have fun and educational activities planned for the children such as a science experiment seeing how fast cars go down ramps when at different heights, and mark making with different types of transport wheels and paint.

We continue to introduce children to Practical Life materials, preparing them for writing by refining their coordination of movement and also aiding the development of concentration. The children will enjoy singing 'The Wheels on the Bus'! We will also be learning a song called "We All go Travelling By" which introduces the children to different modes of transport and has a lovely tune.



Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

We had a busy week in the Nurseries. The children continue to settle in really well and they are enjoying talking about transport.

Last week we continued learning about transport and its history. The children enjoyed looking at pictures of different forms of transport and we had very long discussions about how transport has changed over time. We were concentrating on air transport, and learning different parts of an aeroplane, helicopter, and hot air balloon. Children enjoyed sharing their experiences from being on the aeroplane when going on holiday.

On Tuesday we concentrated on the phonetic sound "p" by looking around the classroom and choosing objects beginning with "p". We looked at what 'p' looks like with Sandpaper Letters and some of the children practiced tracing this letter in 1-1 presentations with a teacher. This helps children to understand how the letter is formed and reinforce the



sound by seeing, hearing and feeling the letter at the same time. We also made pizzas, and the children loved having this as their snack.

We had discussion about what 'air' is during our 'out and about' session. We looked at what happens to a full pierced water bottle with a lid compared to without the lid. Children were fascinated by this experiment and enjoyed testing it themselves!

Our main focus in the classroom in Nursery is on the practical life activities where we are learning to care for our environment. These are activities like pouring, spooning, sweeping, cloth folding and many more. Children have opportunities to practice different skills and developing independence, responsibility, coordination, concentration, respect for one's self and their environment. We are also enjoying small group lessons where we enrich children's vocabulary by introducing new objects. Last week we learned about parts of a jug when pouring.



This week we will be learning about land transport. Children will be naming different types of vehicles, talking about road safety, and developing our creativity using different art techniques. Our phonetic sound of the week is "i"

Best wishes, WMS Admin

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