

W/C Monday 9th October 2023

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter



Harvest Festival

Tomorrow, **Tuesday 10th 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. We would be very grateful to receive food donations for Mill Grove.

If your child attends our Brookcroft Children's House, please drop them off at Penrhyn on this day. Collection will be from Brookcroft at 3pm as usual, unless your child attends Tea Timers.

Please note our Autumn half-term dates. School finishes on Thursday 19th October (Tea Timers as usual) 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.

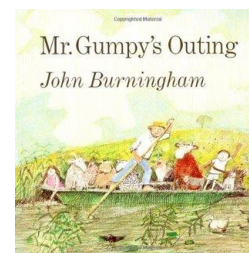
Signs of Autumn

Your child will be sent home next week with an Autumn bag, to collect signs of the new season when out and about during half-term. This is a lovely way to bridge home and school learning. We look forward to seeing what the children have found and how they have decorated their bags when they bring them back after half-term!



Book of the Week

Mr Gumpy's Outing
by
John Burningham



World Mental Health Day

Tuesday 10th October marks World Mental Health Day. At WMS, children are encouraged to speak about their emotions during group times, and as their vocabulary expands, they can express themselves and their feelings better. Encouraging these conversations is crucial in early years and aids children's understanding that it is ok to feel different emotions.

Class Information:

Children's House Brookcroft

Last week, in preparation for the Harvest Festival and in line with our discussions of the changing season, we created an Autumn board collaboratively in our art session. The children enjoyed painting the different parts and working as a group to put it all together, making a beautiful display.



The children worked wonderfully in our 'out and about' session, learning more about different kinds of vehicles used on construction sites. Sensorial stations with sand, diggers, foam and more fostered creativity and imagination as well as an environment for rich language acquisition.

Stirring a lemonade with lime juice, mint leaves and cucumber was very refreshing and made for a lovely afternoon treat.



We are continuing our work with Montessori materials such as the Pink Tower, screwing and unscrewing bottles, counting quantities and more. This is preparing the children for future mathematics by developing logical and analytical thinking skills.



This week we look forward to celebrating the Harvest Festival with our friends and teachers. We will also be looking at the history of land transport, such as the horse and carriage.

Children's House Oak

Children's House Oak had a busy and fun week last week. In small groups, we have been having discussions around different types of vehicles and using photographs to discuss Road Safety. October is Walk to School month and so discussions around Road Safety and not only relevant but important too! The children have really enjoyed having My Big Book of Transport in the book corner!

We also prepared for the children a sensory tray using shaving foam and cars, and the shaving foam was used to create a road and track for the children to drive through with the cars. For our 'out and about' session, the children watched and participated in a presentation on how varying heights affects the speed of a car and a marble going down a ramp.

The children also delighted in making lemonade from scratch, and participated in each step including squeezing the lemon, adding the mint and mixing them together.



The children have also continued to be introduced to more materials on the shelves. Here a child is working with the Montessori Teens Board, to introduce them to the names, symbols, quantities and sequencing of numbers 10-19. This material gives the child a visual and physical representation of how tens

and units create teens.

In our topic discussions we continued the focus of land transport. This week we will expand on this by looking at the history of land transport, such as the horse and carriage. We will also be singing lots of autumnal songs in preparation for our Harvest Festival on Tuesday. Please remember drop-off is at Penrhyn on this day.

Children's House Elm

As the week passed, we drew attention to the phonetic sound 'i' and looked at objects beginning with this sound. We also learned about different land transport vehicles, and continued working with materials on the shelves such as Practical Life to continue developing our coordination of movement, concentration and independence.



We are enjoying preparing for the Harvest festival. We made colourful scarecrows with whom we will sing autumnal rhymes and songs during our assembly on Tuesday.

This week will be Harvest festival, and the children will be practicing some songs to sing for a school assembly. We will recognise our fortune and why it is important to help those less fortunate than us. The songs we are learning at the moment are Big Red Combine Harvester, Mr. Scarecrow and Dingle Dangle Scarecrow. You can practice these with your children at home as well to help them memorise for the assembly.

We will also be continuing our land transportation topic and this week will be covering the history of land transport. We will be looking at things such as horse-drawn carriages and the first ever car. Our phonetic sound of the week this week is 'n'. Please practice the sound with your child and try to find things in and around the house that begin with 'n'. We will also continue to have discussions and presentations on Road Safety.

Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

Another busy week has passed at the nursery and the children have settled well into their routine. During last week, we continued a focus on land transport. The children were able to identify and name the different land vehicles and participated in discussions around how different vehicles are used. The children in the nursery have also discussed and shared their experiences about how to stay safe on the road, using images to support.

In Art lessons, we have been doing some craft activities to prepare for our celebration of the Harvest festival which will take place this week.

The children had lots of fun squeezing lemons to make "lemonade" to enjoy with our snack during the week. We mixed the lemon juice with still water, cucumber and mint to make a delicious drink. Using the juicer is a great Practical Life skill, encouraging the children's independence as well as fine motor skills, coordination of movement and concentration.



This week, we will continue focusing on land transport and we will explore the first mode of land transport. The phonetic sound we will be drawing to the children's attention this week is "n". You can support your child's learning by playing Sound Games at home.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

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