

W/C Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023

# Walthamstow Montessori School

## Newsletter

### Happy Thanksgiving

all our American families. We all had a wonderful time coming together to celebrate here at WMS.



As well as learning what this festival signifies, the children reflected on what they were thankful for in their lives.

*'Cyan was thankful for his scooter'*

Lots of art was created surrounding

Thanksgiving. The children across the school also thoroughly enjoyed laying the table and preparing the food for their special Thanksgiving meal.



Concert on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Please ensure you diary the date, time and venue!

**'These letters can be found on our website'.**

### Spring Term Invoices

Your invoice for the Spring term 2024 was issued on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023. First instalment is due on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and the second instalment is due on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024. **If you did not receive an invoice please contact the office by the end of Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Every child will have an invoice.**

### Christmas Post-box

Class lists are available at the school doors for you to use for helping your child write Christmas cards for their teachers and friends. Don't forget to post your Christmas cards in our Christmas Post Box so that they can be delivered before the end of term!



Each class will take it in turn to be a 'sorting office' and deliver the cards to the children.

### Tea Towels Fundraiser

**We are expecting our delivery this week!**

**We have a limited number of tea towels left. Please let us know ASAP if you are yet to order.**

**Payment must be received for your pre-order to reserve your tea towels.**

### Fun Alpaca Visit

We are looking forward to a visit from two adorable alpacas in the New Year. The visit will take place on our 'well-being' day. Children will be able to stroke, feed and hug them!



#### FIVE LITTLE TURKEYS BY UNKNOWN

Five little turkeys standing at the door,  
One waddled off, and then there were four.

Four little turkeys sitting near a tree,  
One waddled off, and then there were three.

Three little turkeys with nothing to do,  
One waddled off, and then there were two.

Two little turkeys in the morning sun,  
One waddled off, and then there was one.

One little turkey better run away,  
For soon it will be Thanksgiving Day.

[weareteachers.com](http://weareteachers.com)



### Christmas Concerts

An email was sent last week with full details regarding your child's Christmas

## Snow Precautions

Can we remind you please that if we do have significant snowfall either this week or in the future, and you are wondering whether the school is open or not, the following procedure would apply:



**A Parent Text will be sent before 8.00am.** We will only find it necessary to close the school if the snowfall prevents the staff from getting to school, or we feel that it would be unsafe for the children. A decision is usually made before 8am and as such a parent text will be sent out to all parents. We are able to do this remotely.

We are unable to respond to individual messages or enquiries out of school hours, so this system has been devised so that all parents are informed as early as possible. If you do not receive a parent text message then the school is OPEN.

Please refer to our website [www.walthamstowmontessori.com/new-policies](http://www.walthamstowmontessori.com/new-policies) for our Snow procedure policy.

## Parent/Teacher Meetings

These have been running throughout last week and will continue this week too. Please follow the link sent to your email to book a slot.

## Decorating the Christmas Tree

On Tuesday 5th December, we will be having our special tree decorating day! This is one such tradition at WMS that is very special. We will be asking every child to hang a silver ball on to our tree. If your child does not attend on a Tuesday, they are welcome to hang their special silver ball on another day. We also have a small supply of silver balls to ensure everybody can be involved!



## Meet the teacher...



Please join us in welcoming Miss Shravani to the WMS teaching team. Shravani will be teaching in our nursery classroom.

We welcomed Miss Ana Maria to WMS last week. Ana Maria will be settling into the Penrhyn Children's House rooms and supporting in our Tea Timer club.



## Poorly children

It is that time of year and we have the usual coughs and colds. But just to let you know there have been confirmed cases of Chickenpox and one case of Hand Food and Mouth. Hygiene plays a big part of our infection control processes with children encouraged to wash and dry their hands thoroughly throughout the day.

## Road Safety Week



Last week was road safety week. We spoke to the children about the importance of road safety in groups using photographs.

We also enjoyed role playing situations with our school vehicles and road signage with our road safety officials!

Please encourage these conversations with your child on your way to and from school.

## Notice Period

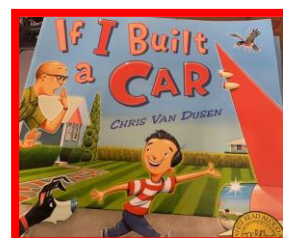
Please be reminded of your child's notice period as per your Terms and Conditions.

If your child is not returning for the Summer 2024 term (i.e. April 2024) then notice is required in writing (email would suffice) on or before January 5th 2024.

## Class Information:

### Book of the Week

**'If I Built a Car'**  
By  
**Chris Van Dusen**



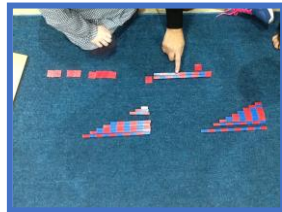
## Children's House Brookscroft



We started last week with a special visit from Firefighter Russ who told us about his work and the equipment firefighters use. The children showed great enthusiasm during his visit and were able to try on parts of his uniform.

We continued on our topic "transport". We focused on engineering and design and discussed the work of people such as designers, engineers, machinists and other people who are involved in vehicle construction.

In numeracy, the children have been introduced to addition using the small number rods. This activity is a fun way to learn addition. With the number rods, children learn how to add numbers visually in a hands-on and engaging way.



On Thursday, we all sat down for our Thanksgiving lunch. The children shared with their peers what they were thankful for. Some were thankful for their parents, some for unicorns and toys.

This week we will be doing some junk modelling. The children will share their ideas about how to design a vehicle and what materials they will need. Our letter sound for this week is "K".

## Children's House Oak

Last week we had a Firefighter come in and talk to the children about what a Firefighter wears and his equipment. At circle time we spoke about what cars and other vehicles are made of and we then discussed junk modelling. The children loved making different types of transport out of the recycling. We celebrated Thanksgiving last week and on the days leading up to that, the children made their own placemats with coloured leaves and a drawing of a turkey. This week was also Road Safety week, and for our Out and About session, we role played different scenarios in the garden with our zebra crossing. Some of the children were the drivers, some children demonstrated crossing the road safely and some played as the traffic lights or lollypop person. The children are also doing really well with the Christmas Concert practice, and we encourage parents to join in at home with practicing.

This week, we will be re-visiting what we have been learning this term and going over the different types of transport we have been learning about. Our sound of the week this week is "k". We will continue to focus on our practical life and sensorial activities in the class. For our Out and About Session, we will be doing hide and seek transport. Children will have to find the different small world vehicles hidden around the garden, act out the sounds of the transport they have found and then bring it to the basket. After that we will do a polishing/cleaning activity with these vehicles. We are also going to continue practicing for our Christmas Concert.

## Children's House Elm

Last week the children had a busy and exciting week. We learnt more about Transport, this time focusing on junk modelling where they got to use their imaginations to build different types of transport.

Thank you to all that provided us with lots of recycling materials the children were able to use this opportunity to further develop their creativity and were happy with their end product which has also increased the children's self-esteem. Emmy after building hers said "my aeroplane has wings made of plastic bottles", Aila on the other hand made a toilet seat using a yogurt pot inside her built-up train. She said the toilet is for the passengers to use. Sebastian put toilet rolls inside his built-up aeroplane model saying "this is the motor part of the engine." There was lots of input from all the children as they demonstrated great concentration building their vehicle.



We were excited to have been visited by firefighter Russ on Monday. We demonstrated our good listening skills as we listened to what his job was like. He showed us his fire helmet, gloves, torch, radio, fire suit, boots and even the fire engine. We were also able to try on his hat! We

learnt why the fire engine makes noises and why they have blue lights on. We also learnt what they carry in their tank and why. We increased our vocabulary with new words such as, hose and emergency. We were told how important all these gadgets were especially during a fire.

On Thursday, we celebrated Thanksgiving by sitting together at the table. We listened to a story about Thanksgiving and said what we were thankful for. We also decorated a placemat which we placed our plates and cups on when having our Thanksgiving meal.

Maisie worked with the Short Bead Stair, this activity aims to generally familiarise the child with the colours of the short bead stair. The child learns how to build the beads into a stair and recognises that each bead represents a number.

The children practised learning to identify phonic sound "o".

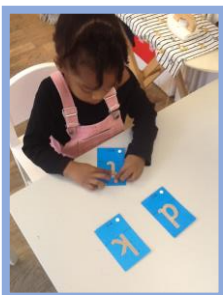
This week, we hope to continue learning more about transport, we will discuss the kind of transports around us and where it can be seen. We will also look at how we can safely move around where they're transport with an adult. In addition, we will explore 2D and 3D shapes and start making our Christmas crafts.

## Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

We had a very busy week. We were learning about engineering and designs. We talked about how the vehicles are made. We have learned that car have 10,000 parts and we were learning the names of some of them by using classified pictures. Children enjoyed learning in small groups or having individual lessons with their teacher.

There were art activities and junk modelling, where children created cars.

All children enjoyed their thanksgiving snack where we all sat together in our dining room. We had discussions in the classroom, learning about why people in America celebrate Thanksgiving. We looked at the globe of the continents of the world and told children a story about British people sailing on the boat for such a long time. They came to America, but they ran out of all of the food. Local people taught them how to grow their own fruit and vegetables and they started to have their own gardens where they grew sweet corn, carrots, potatoes and many more. It all ended with a big celebration where they were eating food they prepared. We talked about what we are thankful for. Most of the children were thankful for their families.



Our letter of the week was letter "c". We looked at objects around the classroom that began with c. Children practiced writing the letter using the sandpaper letters or sand tray.

This week we will continue learning about different materials we can use to build a vehicle while using junk modelling materials. Please feel free to bring some to the school for us to use.



*We break up for the Christmas Holidays on Tuesday 19th December at 12.30pm and school resumes on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024*

**Best wishes, WMS Admin**

**Email:**

**[office@walthamstowmontessori.com](mailto:office@walthamstowmontessori.com)**

**Please also like and follow our Facebook and Instagram pages!**