

W/C Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023

# Walthamstow Montessori School

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## Newsletter

### Black History Month Celebrations

Thank you to Saint's mummy and Naia's mummy for cooking some fabulous Caribbean food for the children in celebration of Black History Month. On the last day of term, the children enjoyed a range of Caribbean foods including plantain, dumplings, pineapple, mango, and roti. The children loved the flavours, colours and smells and were eager for second helpings! A lovely and memorable time for all.



### Robin at the Mushroom Festival

Robin enjoyed sharing in a News Group what he had seen at the Mushroom Festival before half term. He brought in a photograph of a 'bracket mushroom' and showed his friends his mushroom badge! Robin told his friends how he made mushrooms in clay and watched a film about mycelium being the heart of the forest. Thank you so much Robin for sharing this with your friends!



*Please note our Autumn term ends on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30pm. Your child does not need a packed lunch on this day.*

### October Holiday Club

The children enjoyed lots of autumnal activities during our two days of half-term club. They created themed snacks, baked cookies, decorated cakes, scrubbed pumpkins and created lots of artwork throughout the week.



### No Toys or Dressing-up Items

Please be reminded that children are not permitted to bring toys or wear dressing-up items to school. These are a huge distraction for children in the classroom and not part of your child's school uniform.

### Tea Towels Fundraiser



We are excited to receive our tea towels for our annual fundraiser. We only receive a limited amount and are unable to order any more so please pre-order to ensure you don't miss out! They make lovely keepsakes or Christmas gifts. An example from last year will be placed in the noticeboard.

**A pre-order booking form will be sent this week.**  
**Payment must be received for your pre-order to reserve your tea towels.**



### Christmas Holiday Club

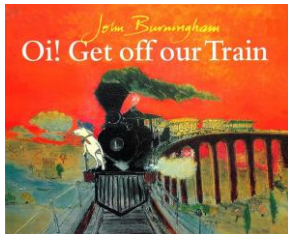
Booking forms will be sent today for our Christmas Holiday Club 2023. If you do not receive a booking form please contact the office. Please ensure your booking form is returned by the deadline to request a place in the club.

## Spring Term 2024 Invoices

Your child's invoice for the Spring term 2024 will be issued from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November. The first instalment will be due on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and the second instalment due on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.

## Book of the Week

Oi! Get off our Train  
by  
John Burningham



## Signs of Autumn

Don't forget to bring your child's Autumn Bag back this week! The children have already enjoyed looking at some of the lovely things their friends have brought back and will continue to do so in small groups throughout the week.



## Class Information:

### Children's House Brookcroft

Welcome back from the October half-term. Our focus in the final week before half-term in the Childrens House was water transport. Children learned about different modes of water transport such as different types of boats and also submarines.



The children are enjoying classifying modes of transport according to land, water, or air, as well as naming the vehicles and their parts and uses. In a Montessori classroom, children are shown the Sandpaper Globe to gain a sensorial impression of land and water.



On Thursday, we had a special visit from Saint's



mummy who brought in some delicious Caribbean food in celebration of Black History Month. There were so many

colours, smells and incredible tastes and the children all enjoyed the food lots. They all wanted more! Thank you, Aisha.

This week we will be discussing Guy Fawkes alongside our usual Montessori work cycle. We will be looking at land and water forms in closer detail and extend our learning with a 'sink or float' science experiment.

## Children's House Elm

Before the half term break, we enjoyed learning about water transport where we identified the various types of water transports including sailing boats. We explored and learnt names of the parts of a sailing boat such as the mast, main sail and deck. The children demonstrated great concentration skills throughout the presentation and were able to recall their parts when invited.

During numeracy, the children were reinforced 2D shapes as they made a boat using shapes. We also explored 3D boats in the water tray during our out and about session and had a boat race using paper straws to blow air for the boats to race to the other end of the tuft tray.



During literacy, we identified the phonetic sound 'm' in motorbike and also related it to other words like milk, mat, more, moon, etc. We also practiced tracing and writing the letter on our sand tray and chalkboard practising our fine motor skills and pincer grip from holding the chalk.

During group discussions, the children and adults shared their boat ride experiences and we looked at different pictures of people who have been on boat rides. "We can catch fish when we go on boat rides too," added Luca and we looked at pictures of people fishing on their sailing boats.



We celebrated Matilda, Maisie and Henry's birthday using the Montessori birthday walk. The children felt very special as they went round the sun holding the Montessori Globe. They also shared their pictures with the rest of the children and spoke about when they were little.

This week, we will continue to learn about water transport and celebrate Autumn whilst exploring the different signs of Autumn, such as using our prediction skills in a 'sink or float' experiment, using pumpkins and other collections from our autumn bags incorporating it with words such as heavy, light, float, sink and soon. Children will also be introduced to land and water forms such as island and lake using the Montessori materials. We will also look at Guy Fawkes and discuss the significance of Bonfire night. Our phonetic sound of the week is 'd' in digger.

## Children's House Oak

Last week in Children's House Oak, we were learning all about water transport. The children have been exploring different types of boats and have been learning about the difference between how a submarine works and how a boat works. This then linked into our Out and About session, where we learnt about items that sink and float. Our sound of the week was 'm', and the children had a fun time searching for things around the class that started with this letter.



Thank you to Naia's mummy who cooked lots of Caribbean food for the children in celebration of Black History Month. The children thoroughly enjoyed having this delicious food for their snack!

The children in Oak class have been really enjoying the colour tablets and extending this into other areas of the learning where we can match and identify colours and shades.



This week, we will be continuing our learning around water transportation and we will be linking that to our Montessori materials, by looking at what a lake and island are using the Land and Water forms. In our Out and

About session we will be exploring the vocabulary of 'weight' and 'heavy and light' through an experiment of how much weight a boat can take before it sinks and how weight affects flotation. We will also be decorating our class pumpkin and discussing Guy Fawkes with the children with some related art activities.

Our phonetic sound this week is 'd'. You can participate with your children by asking them to find objects around the house that begin with the sound, that they can then share at class circle time.

## Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

Our Nurseries had very busy week before the half term. Each day we looked at a different kind of water transport. On Monday we learned about Cruise ships. We discussed that they are big ships that travel to different countries for longer periods of time. Passengers have their own beds, there are restaurants and lots of activities they can do inside. This was also good opportunity to look at the globe and remind children that our world is made of land and water.



On Tuesday we were talking about the rowing boat. We looked at its size and compared it to that of a cruise ship. On Wednesday we learned about the submarine and on Thursday hovercraft. The children enjoyed decorating their own paper boats and explored how they move in the water when we blow at them.

We played action games like 'row row row your boat' and children enjoyed stretching their bodies while singing the song and using simple yoga postures. We also continue learning about shapes and creating different collages while sticking.



We will start this week with Autumn and Guy Fawkes, but we will also continue learning about water transport. There are lots of art activities prepared for the children. We will be extending our vocabulary by learning new words, doing sink and float experiments where we will be using words like heavy, light, sink and float. We will be exploring rhyming words, reading books and singing songs. Our phonetic sound of the week is "d". Please listen out for this sound in words with your child.

**Best wishes, WMS Admin**

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