

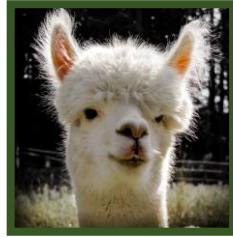
W/C Monday 5th February 2024

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter

Alpacas Visit to WMS!

We are looking forward to our visit from the alpacas on **Wednesday 7th February**. Please ensure the office has been notified if your child has an animal allergy.



Our last day of this half-term is Friday 9th February. We return to school on Monday 19th February 2024.

Walking Rope



The children are enjoying walking using the walk-o-dile between buildings for Early Risers and tea timers. Following practice in the garden, they demonstrate excellent road-safety awareness and independence when walking with the rope.

WMS Birthday Walks

At WMS we celebrate birthdays by recognising them with a special Montessori birthday walk. These allow the children to gain a greater understanding of the passage of time as they walk around the sun holding the Montessori globe. We look at photographs of the child at each age to understand what a birthday signifies.

If your child is celebrating a birthday, please let your child's teacher know so that we can arrange one of our birthday walk celebrations.



Parents' Corner



HENRY

At **HENRY** we have several workshops for families that can attend free of charge. The **Healthy Teeth Workshop** is an interactive workshop, where families can understand the key oral health messages. During the workshop free resources are also given to the families.

It gives families an opportunity to meet other families and answer any questions related to oral health. This workshop is suitable for any families with children up to the age of 5.

The workshops run online via zoom and face to face around Waltham Forest and welcome to bring their children along to the session. Please see the HENRY Waltham Forest website for more information.

CYCLING

All Abilities sessions offer relaxed cycling lessons for all ages. They are led by trained instructors with various types of bikes to be accessible for all abilities. Sessions are available in several locations in Walthamstow (Lloyd Park), Chingford and Leytonstone over half-term. Email cycling@walthamforest.gov.uk to register.



Chinese New Year

We are looking forward to celebrating the upcoming Lunar New Year. Miss Hatti's brother is a martial artist who frequently performs at Chinese New Year festivals. He will be visiting WMS on **Thursday 8th February** to show the



children his traditional costume and a child-sized Chinese lion head prop to show the children.

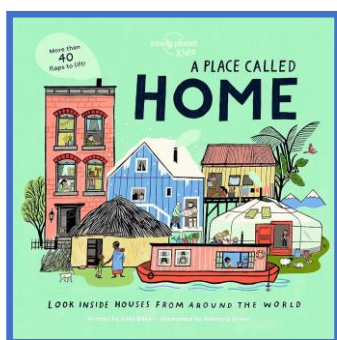
School Cutlery!

If you have any school forks that have come home in your child's lunch box please could you pop them back into their lunch box this week and we will retrieve. We have gone down from having over 100 to about 14 since September!

Class Information:

Book of the Week

A Place Called Home
By
Kate Baker



Children's House Brookcroft

Last week at Children's House Brookcroft, the children learned about the people who build houses. They discovered the work of the architect who draws up the plans, the plumber who installs the pipes, the electrician who comes to install the electric wires and more. We also learned about the different rooms in a house and each child tried to count the number of rooms they have in their own homes.



Some children have also been introduced to subtraction using the short bead stairs. This helps practice subtracting numbers using concrete ways using the tactile sense. Children learn to count the beads and associate the quantity by their colour and length.

Some children have also been introduced to the CVC

word puzzle where they had to find the missing consonant of the word. The children used pictures to help them read the words.

In our out-and-about session last week, the children tried to spot more birds in the garden and were very excited when they spotted a seagull.

An exciting week is starting; the children will discover how Chinese New Year is celebrated worldwide, the Chinese zodiac signs and much more. We will also be discovering how houses have evolved over the years. On Wednesday, we will all meet at Penrhyn to meet the Alpacas! Please note drop-off is at Penrhyn on this day, children will return for lunch and pick-up is at Brookcroft at 3pm unless your child attends tea timers.

The phonetic sound for this week is "a".

Children's House Oak

Last week in Oak class, we were learning all about the different rooms in houses. We spoke about what rooms we find in the house, and what those rooms are for.

We have a beautiful new activity set up in the classroom which the children love, a wooden diorama of a kitchen and a nursery for the children to explore. We used these dioramas alongside two others of a bedroom and a bathroom to discuss the different types of furniture we find in our rooms. We also have



small wooden letters to match the initial sounds with the pieces of furniture which the children really enjoyed doing.

We also had a wonderful playdough activity set up where the children had cut pieces of hand draw furniture to use with the dough and create their own living spaces.

We celebrated Daisy's birthday with a WMS Birthday Walk on Thursday, happy birthday Daisy!

During our Out and About session, we explored the different textures we find outside and used chalk and paper to make chalk art. We also made pizza in the afternoon and the children enjoyed measuring the ingredients and kneading the dough.



This week we have a very fun week and busy week planned as we have Chinese New Year, Wellness Day, Valentines Day, and we will also be looking at different houses through the ages.

We will be doing some art-based activities around Chinese New Year and talking about the different zodiac signs. We have some very exciting activities planned for wellness day, we have alpacas coming in and some yoga exercises to do plus some small spa treatments! In our Out and About session we will be continuing our wellbeing with some exercises outside to connect with nature. We are really excited for the week ahead and we hope the children are too!

Children's House Elm

This week has been all about extending our learning about houses and homes, becoming expressive and engaging in hands on activities to further strengthen our knowledge.

The class discussed the different rooms found in a house, what makes each room different and what activities are carried out in each. The children were able to name things found in their environment and their uses. In the garden we used chalk to draw homes and objects inside them. It was very fun and engaging for all of the children to take this learning outdoors.



We explored rooms in a house further using miniature dioramas that have been beautifully made for us. We

used these objects to give a sensorial grounding of houses and homes and they lead onto further discussion and learning.

Alongside this learning, in the classroom children are being continually introduced to materials during the work cycle. These physical concrete materials facilitate a deep concentration and curiosity about the world.

Our phonetic sound of the week was 'r'; all children could hear the sound in some words, and some are able to trace the sandpaper letter and practice writing it on chalk or in sand. The children could identify hearing the sound 'r' in roar, right, red, ruler and more. This week we will focus on the sound 'a'.

We wished Teddy a very happy birthday as he took his birthday walk and shared photographs through his childhood. Thank you for the delicious cupcakes!

Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

We had another busy and successful week. The children are enjoying discussing different rooms in their houses and we are spending lots of time learning and extending our vocabulary. Learning vocabulary for things found in our environment helps a child to orientate themselves and better understand their surroundings as well as develop language. We were talking about different objects in different rooms such as kettle, cutlery, sofa, chest of drawers and many more.

We were counting how many rooms are in our house and talking about people that work on the interior of the house such as the architect, painter, electrician, etc.

Our favourite activity this week was building a city using different shapes. All the children had so much fun and showed great concentration while gluing and sticking. This activity helped us to discuss shapes we see different sizes, follow prepositional language, talk about colours and discuss details we see in the city.

The children enjoyed a sensory tray where we explored different construction vehicles and had a discussion about how houses are built.



This week will be a busy but

fun week with lots of events before we break for half-term. We will be talking about Valentine's Day and children will have the option to make cards for loved ones. We will also be learning about Chinese New Year and have a special visit from a martial artist who will show us a special Lion Dance!

We will have our wellbeing day on Wednesday 7th. February where we will plan some relaxing activities.



Children will enjoy learning new yoga poses and relaxation breathing exercises. We are planning to talk about emotions and feelings and show children how they can do hand massage to relax. We will help children to express emotions through acting out stories and drawing. Everyone is also excited for a visit from some alpacas!

Best wishes, WMS Admin

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