

W/C Monday 4th March 2024

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter



World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day this

Thursday 7th March the children will

be invited to dress up as their favourite book character. There will be lots of fun and educational activities running throughout the week for the children to take part in to encourage a love of books and reading. Children will also receive book tokens to use in local bookshops.

Lion Dance for the Lunar New Year

The children enjoyed welcoming the Lunar New Year with a performance from a professional athlete and martial artist. Junayde has been training since he was 3 and has travelled many countries competing and performing. The children loved the performance and seeing the lion head costume up close!



Our last day of this term is Thursday 28th March at 12.30pm. Please note your child will not need a packed lunch on this day.

Red Nose Day

On **Friday 15th March** WMS will be fundraising for Comic Relief. We are busy planning lots of exciting fund-raising activities to help support this wonderful charity. All children and staff are invited to dress in red – you could even paint or wear a red nose if you have one!

Please bring a recommended donation of £1 to support this charity.



Parent-Teacher Meetings

You will receive an email this week containing a link to book your Parent-Teacher meeting with your child's lead teacher. If you would prefer this to be a phone call please advise.

St David's Day

On Friday 1st March, the children discussed St David's

Day and its significance. The children were able to recall that St David was the patron saint of Wales, and that Wales forms part of the United Kingdom. Some children enjoyed making daffodils to take home, learning that these are the national flower of Wales.



ASC Invoices

These will be issued this week for the period 29th January – 1st March 2024. Please note late penalties will apply where these invoices are not settled on time.

Math's Day

Thursday 13th March is



Math's Day at WMS! To celebrate this day please send your child in wearing a number or number-themed clothing! This could be as simple as pinning a DIY number to a top.

In a Montessori classroom, children always begin with sensorial experiences of quantity and operations. We will be enjoying lots of math-related games and activities throughout the day to engage the children's understanding and love of numbers!

Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month, a time to recognise the contributions of important females in history. This is a perfect moment to reflect upon Maria Montessori's work, and how she overcame barriers to develop the educational pedagogy used around the world today and that we feel so passionately about at WMS.

Montessori was one of the first female physicians in Italy and



the first woman to attend the University of Rome. Following her degree, a research program led her to closely observing the behaviours of children with learning differences. This was the beginning of Montessori dedicating her life and career to the development of a streamlined method of education, informed by observation and child development. Today, we see her observations and methods continually proved and supported by neuroscientific research.

This **Friday 8th March** we will be recognising **International Women's Day** with the children.

School Photographs



We have confirmed dates for our school photographs this year. A letter will be sent in the summer term with more information. There will be arrangements for all children to have their photo taken, even if it is not their usual school day.

Your child must have black plimsols and a WMS smock to have their photo taken.

Wednesday 15th May – Penrhyn

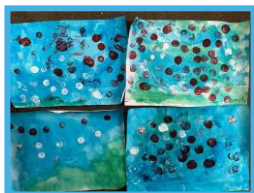
Thursday 16th May – Brookscroft

Class Information:

Children's House Brookscroft

It was a busy week at Children's House Brookscroft last week. The children enjoyed exploring the various habitats of animals. They found out and discussed the two main habitats: terrestrial and aquatic.

In literacy, we have practised identifying the sound and forming the letter "f" using the Montessori sandpaper letter and some children are writing this letter on a chalkboard or in their books. The children found many words starting with the sound "f", for example: fish, fun, fox, and farm amongst others.



Last week, some children were introduced to the teens board and explored the numbers 11-19. This activity helps the child to connect quantity, name and symbols from 11-19. It reinforces the place values of

tens and units as well as helps the child sequence the teens correctly.

In the art session, we learned more about the famous painter Claude Monet and we each made a representation of his painting; The Water Lilies.

One of our friends brought in a carnivore plant on Thursday and enjoyed showing their friends with some interesting facts!

This week, we will have we will have some parents joining us to read, for the occasion of World Book Day.

On Thursday the 7th of March, all children are invited to dress up as a character and bring their favourite book to share with the class.

The phonetic sound for this week is "r".

Children's House Oak

Last week in Oak class the children enjoyed learning all about animals and their habitats. We had a fantastic week of learning about different climates and how animals are adapted to their habitats.



We enjoyed baking some oat cakes and the children explored the different textures and smells of the ingredients, helped measure them out and stir them in.

We also had a lovely Out and About session as well as we explored insects and their homes, we collected sticks and leaves and made our own "bug hotel".

For our sound of the week, some children brought in a small item beginning with the letter "f" sound which was really nice and we would love for them to do it again this week.



This week we have a very busy and exciting week ahead of us! We will be having our first trip to the library which we are all very excited about.

We have **World Book Day on Thursday** so children can come in dressed as their favourite book character and they can bring in their favourite book. We are looking



forward to seeing all the lovely outfits!

We are also going to be talking about Mother's Day, and International Women's Day in groups. Our phonetic sound of the week is going to be "r".

Children's House Elm

Last week, we were learning about the habitats of different animals. Using different pictures cards and books, we were able to understand that animals have their homes and it's called a habitat. We identified some of the various homes of farm animals. For example, a horse lives in a stable and chickens lives in a coop, cattle lives in a barn and birds lives in a nest!

To broaden our knowledge, we also identified the 7 continents and their climates and with adult support were able to find where some animals originate from. In addition, we listened to animal sounds and were able to identify the animals and its habitats.

We enjoyed baking session as we demonstrated our concentration skills by identifying all ingredients and using our fine and gross motor skills to scoop and measure some flour, sugar, butter, and raisins before mixing the rest of the ingredients to make a cookie dough. We also cracked the eggs ourselves whilst demonstrating good hand eye coordination and problem-solving skills as they can be quite tricky! We patiently waited for it to bake in the oven, and we were happy to see the end result.



Some of our friends brought in objects to share with the class last week. Luca and Zofia brought in their binoculars to demonstrate to their friends and Marty brought in a wind up torch that was fascinating for us all to explore. Etta brought in a rainbow she made with her mummy with "beautiful colours" while Cora brought in a multi-use object that consist of a magnifying glass, binoculars and compass. Zach wore his gruffalo crown and showed his friends.

During art sessions, we made a wand using some twigs and coloured ribbons and practised making large

circular movements as well as other innovative movements to practise using our gross motor skills.

This week, we will be busy celebrating World Book Day, Mother's Day and International Women's Day and looking at why we celebrate them.

Your child can dress as a favourite character and bring their favourite book to school on **Thursday 7th March for World Book Day.**

Our phonetic sound of the week is 'r'. Please kindly reinforce this sound at home and also play the I Spy game.

Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

Another busy week for our nurseries as we were learning about animal habitats. This is a very board topic as there are loads of animals in the world that live differently. Each day we learned about different types of animal habitat.

We started with animals living in the forest. The children enjoyed reading a book by Julia Donaldson, The Gruffalo, and this helped us to discuss different animals living in the forest and rainforest.

We discussed animals living in the sea and ocean, as well as the Sahara desert and Arctic animals. We used thermal-descriptive language like hot, cold, icy or dry and we enjoyed having discussions about different natural environments of animals and plants.

We looked at the Montessori globe of continents and children showed confidence recognising land and water. We learned that almost every place on Earth from the hottest desert to the coldest place is a habitat for some kinds of animals or plants.



We observed animals in the garden, looked for worms, bird nests and discussed requirements that all animal needs for survival.



We also continue using Montessori materials in the classroom. Last week we used

lots of washing activities as well as dressing frames where children practiced the skills of buttoning, Velcro and zips.

Our book corners are currently always busy with children exploring different books or puppets in small groups.

We are very excited for **World Book Day** this week and don't forget to encourage your child to dress up as their favourite book character on Thursday!

We will also be celebrating Mother's Day and international woman's day this week. Children will be engaged in lots of art activities.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

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