

W/C Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024

# Walthamstow Montessori School

## Newsletter

### Welcome Back

Welcome back to our summer term 2024. Please join us in giving a very warm welcome to our new families at WMS; we hope you are all settling in wonderfully.



We have a very busy term ahead with lots of exciting things to look forward to. Class 'welcome back' letters have been sent so please do let the office know if you haven't received one. These are full of details and plans for the term so do take the time to read them.

Our term and diary dates have also been updated and are available to view on our website and noticeboard.

*Our last day of this half-term is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May. School will resume on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Tea Timers*

### Easter Bonnets

We were amazed by your efforts for our Easter Bonnet day on our final day of the Spring term. Some highlights can be found on our WMS Instagram!



### Easter Holiday Club

We had a lovely and successful holiday club during the Easter break. The children took part in lots of Spring and Easter-related art activities and baking

both indoors and outdoors. We hope you enjoyed seeing what they had made individually and as a group at the end of each day!



### WMS 23<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

Please join us in wishing WMS a very happy 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday! Miss Lorna founded the school 23 years ago today and we are all so lucky to be part of such a wonderful school. We'd like to give a special thank you to Miss Lorna for the love and dedication she has invested in the school over the years; she has made a difference to the lives of so many families and children who hold the school close to their hearts.

We have ordered a gluten free, plant-based, Allergens: **soya and gluten free oats and MADE IN A NUT FREE SITE.** We hope that all our children will therefore be able to enjoy together.

### Artist of the Term

This term we will be looking at Georges Seurat. Seurat is considered to be one of the most important post-impressionist painters and is famous for his pointillist style.



There are some Seurat original paintings in the National Gallery in London Please do go and visit them so that your child can see the real paintings.

If you have any books or prints of Seurat's work please do send them in for your child to show us.

## Key Diary Dates:

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Penrhyn Photographs

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Brookscroft Photographs

## Notice Period

Thank you for providing notice if your child is not returning for the Autumn 2024 term. Formal acknowledgement will follow this week by email with a notice letter and parent form to be completed and returned. If you do not receive this this week, please ensure you inform the office.

## WOW! Sheets

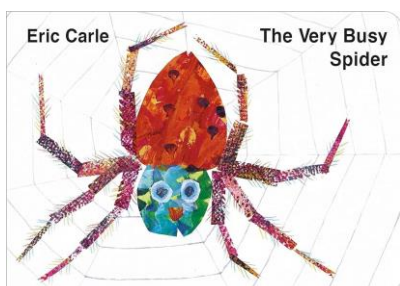
At WMS, we love celebrating your child's achievements. WOW! Sheets are freely available at the school door or can be downloaded from our website, which also has more information about WOW! Sheets. (Under School life, Learning Journeys).

## Meet the Teacher

We are looking forward to having Miss Rebekah and Miss Bibiana joining us at WMS this term. Photos will follow shortly so you can recognise them around school!

## Book of the Week

The Very Busy Spider  
by  
Eric Carle



## Class Information:

### Children's House Brookscroft

We are all happy to be back at Children's House Brookscroft.



The children have settled in well and eager to learn. This term, our topic is about minibeasts. Last week we started discovering more about spiders. We learned some fun facts about spiders; they do not have eyelids and their blood is blue!

In numeracy, some children have been introduced to the decimal system while others continue to work on their addition.



In literacy, the children have practised writing their names whereas others have focused on their phonetic sounds. We have practised the letter sounds "s" and recognising this in 'spider'! The children also enjoyed our book of the week and had a good laugh at the fox who was all sticky.

In art lessons, the children have made spiders' webs with handprints, and they took home a spider made from playdough and pipe cleaners.

This week, we will continue to discover more about the spiders and continue to work on our phonetic sounds through sound games. The book of the week is "The Very Busy Spider".

A gentle reminder that show and tell is on Thursday. Please make sure that your child does not bring any toys, books or other objects to show their friends on any other days so we can save them for our special group!

## Children's House Elm

It has been a lovely week welcoming our children back after the Easter break. This week Elm class were introduced to "mini beasts" - why they are known as mini beasts, where can we find them and awareness about the creatures that fall in this category. The children are showing a great level of interest and curiosity to learn more. Rhymes, songs and stories about this topic are helping create a good vocabulary bank and fostering language development in the class.

During our out and about session, we used sticks and spades to dig the soil and search for some of these amazing mini beasts. Children took great efforts and



searched for centipedes, ants, snails and worms. We observed each one of the found beasts, discussed their colours, similarities, and differences. We even took turns to look after them until afternoon in the garden, ensuring they have enough moisture around and offering them a fruit snack to enjoy!

Outdoor learning helps children learn through what they do, through what they encounter and through what they discover. The children used their imagination and memory to remember which mini beast they found in the garden to create one with salt dough. Some made other bugs and worms too. It was warming to see how children could retell their experiences while moulding the dough into lovely creatures. We extended our learning about spiders by understanding their fun facts, body features, knowing in which continents they are found in and which they are not!

Some children have been introduced to the Number Rods. Instead of looking at red rods and recognising length, now they are learning to recognise quantities.



We reinforced the phonetic sound 's' and related this to 'spider'. Some children traced the sound with their fingers whilst others are writing it on chalk or on paper.

This week we are celebrating the 23rd birthday of our school along with St George's Day. We will also look at a spider's body parts, how and what parts help it spin a silk web and much more about this creature, in detail.

## Children's House Oak

We had a lovely week welcoming back our children to Childrens House Oak, and introducing to the class some of our new friends who joined us from the both Acorn and Seedling classes. We had a great start to our topic this term which is all about minibeasts. The children have all really enjoyed learning about spiders this week, we have been talking about what a life cycle is and looking at the life cycle of a spider. The children have learnt that a spider is not an insect and learning the word 'arachnid' because they have 8 legs.

We had some lovely art activities to start our term of, the children made their own spiders out of salt dough and wire and later in the week the children made handprint spiders. Our phonetic sound of the week was the sound 's'! The children enjoyed extensive lessons

around the sound 's' as they tied in beautifully to our lessons. We also looked at different spiders around the world and read a fact file all about spiders. Our out and about was a lovely session looking for spider webs and spiders which the children were very excited about. The children were amazed to know that the only place in the world you cannot find spiders is in Antarctica!

This week, we will be continuing our learning around spiders and the sound 's'. We will be looking at the different parts of a spider, and how spiders spin a web.

One of our parents very kindly sent in some lovely model minibeasts to discuss and name with the children.

It will be St Georges Day this week so we will be discussing why we celebrate St. Georges Day and having some activities around it. We are also looking forward to WMS's 23d Birthday!

For our Out and About session we will be making our own spider webs on the floor out of chalk to play a very fun physical educational game.

## Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

We had a busy first week after our Easter. Both classes welcomed new children who are settling in and getting to know their new environment.

The children shared their experiences from the Easter break with others and everyone enjoyed talking about Easter egg hunt.

This term we will be learning about Minibeasts. We were learning about spiders, and we had some discussions learning facts, their life cycles and the names for their body parts. The children shared their feelings about spiders, and they were provided reassurance if they expressed fear or discomfort. The children were observing the spiders when outdoors and we learned new songs about them.

During our 'out and about' session we enjoyed digging the soil and looking for any minibeasts we could find. We found a few worms, snails,



spiders, and centipedes. We also practiced our balance, concentration and physical development through a game called Spider web walking. Children exercised their balance and coordination by walking along the taped line web-like pattern with different paths. We will continue developing our skills through the game again this week.

Our phonetic sound of the week was “s” and we looked at different objects around the classroom beginning with this sound. We practiced how to write this letter in the sand using sticks, but some children also used sandpaper letters which guided them on how to write it.

In the classroom we continue introducing new activities to the children to practice different skills.

Last week we concentrated on practical life activities and children practiced their skills of pouring, spooning and transferring. We are continuing to reinforce limits of the classroom such as using one activity at a time, or putting our work back when we finish.



This week we will continue learning about spiders. We have some fun art activities and games prepared which will help children to understand and learn about the life cycle of a spider.

We will also celebrate St. George's day on 23<sup>rd</sup> April as well as the 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday of our lovely school where we will be enjoying cake for snack!

**Best wishes, WMS Admin**

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