

W/C Monday 15th July 2024

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter



End of Term

This will be our last newsletter of the summer term. We are fast approaching the end of term and our last day will be on **Friday 19th July**, when the school will close at **12.30pm**.

Please see below your child's class pick up time on this day.

Seedlings	12.20pm far door
Acorn	12.20pm main door
Oak	12.30pm main door
Elm	12.30pm far door
CH Brookcroft	12.30pm front door

The children will **NOT** need a packed lunch on Friday but will have morning snack at school. The teachers have lots of fun activities planned for the children's last couple of days of term including our class concerts – you really are in for a real treat!

Goodbye and Good Luck



We will sadly be saying goodbye to some children who are moving on, and we would like to wish them all the best in their new schools. If your child is leaving us, please ensure you take all their belongings home on their last day at WMS and that you have returned your leaver's form.

We have new families joining in September including many siblings! I know you will show them all a warm welcome.

Sports Week

We all really enjoyed our sports week. Now we are looking forward to showcasing our dance and summer concerts to you this week! As you will see we have been busy!



Our last day of this term is Friday 19th July 2024. Please note school closes at 12.30pm on this day so your child will not need a packed lunch.



Hand, Foot and Mouth

We have had several confirmed cases of Hand, Foot and Mouth. Please keep an eye out for any signs or symptoms and inform us if you have confirmation of the infection. Your child can return to school if they feel well enough.

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 Spring 2025 term (in January 2025), then notice is required in writing (an email would suffice) on or before September 2nd, 2024.

Autumn Term Invoices

Please ensure your autumn term invoices are settled by the given instalment dates. Please refer to the email sent to parents sent last week for a reminder.

Penrhyn summer concerts

- **Monday 15th July at 2.20 pm – Elm Class**
- **Tuesday 16th July at 2.20 pm – Oak Class**
- **Wednesday 17th July at 11.45 am – Nursery Acorn**
- **Thursday 18th July at 11.45 am – Nursery Seedlings**

The Children's House summer concert will take place on Friday 19th July at 11.45 am at the

Brookcroft building. Please arrive at 11.40 am for a prompt 11.45 am start.

Leavers' Assembly

The children will have a short leavers' ceremony at the end of their Summer Concert to say goodbye to those that are sadly moving on from WMS.

Leavers' reports

End of term summer reports for the children will be sent out at the end of term.

Lost Property

Our lost property will be placed outside the school doors at Penrhyn this week. Please check if you have any lost items. Any items left at the end of the term will be donated to a local charity shop.

Concert Letters

Last week you will have received an email with finer details about your child's summer concert and leavers assembly. If you did not receive this, please notify the office.

Past and Present

As you support your children at WMS, so our families support us too and it is much needed in the roles that we have. It has been an incredibly sad and difficult time recently as both Wendy and I have lost a close family member. Wendy's Mother-in-Law Maureen used to help with our Early Risers group and was a lovely warm and loving person to have with the children.

My Father-in-Law Ron brought me to school by car every day for 4 months the other year, a round trip of 90 miles and at the age of 82 when I had a serious arm injury and couldn't drive.

He would bring Cooper the dog for the children to see and became a familiar face to the staff and children.

We are both so grateful for all that they brought to our lives and to WMS.



On a happier note, we are incredibly proud of Miss Florence who has just graduated and received a first in her Early Years Teaching and Learning degree. Huge congratulations to her!

We are also incredibly proud of Miss Florine's daughter Alisha, who was one of the very first WMS pupils and celebrated her graduation last Monday. Alisha is officially now a doctor! We were delighted that Alisha came back to visit Miss Lorna and WMS last week.



Summer Holiday Club

If you are booked onto our summer holiday club, you will receive a text this week to confirm your sessions. In the unlikely event that your child's name isn't on the register when they arrive for a booked day, you can use this text message to show staff confirmation of your place.

Toilet Rolls please!

We have planned lots of art and craft activities for our summer holiday club. We are in need of empty toilet rolls if you could please save some and bring them into school! Thank you!

Autumn Term topic

We are delighted to share with you that our topic for the Autumn term will be space. By learning about space, children can develop a host of valuable skills to serve them throughout their lives. They will learn to think critically, work collaboratively, and to approach challenges with confidence and creativity. We will be exploring topics such as night and day, the solar system including the eight planets and what makes them unique. The natural inquisitiveness that children possess will spark eager research and discovery about our universe. We will also incorporate experiments around gravity and extend the children's learning to discuss how important it is to protect and care for our planet. Please take the summer break as a chance to talk to your child about the topic. There is also a space theme exhibition running at the science museum that you may wish to visit during the holidays <https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/see-and-do/exploring-space> and maybe a trip to your local library to find space theme books would be an idea too!

Tea Timers and Early Risers

All sessions booked through to Friday 19th July will be invoiced on Monday 15th July. We ask that to avoid late fee penalties, all payments are sent to the school's bank account before the end of the school day on Friday 19th July. As the school ends it's financial year it is important that all accounts are settled. Thank you.

Class Information:

Children's House Brookcroft

Last Monday we had our class trip to the library where the children had a lovely time listening to stories and sharing books.

Throughout the week we continued to work on our topic, minibeasts, and learn a little about how we can help bees such as putting some sugar water outside for them to drink, which resembles the sweet nectar they get from flowers.

We were very busy preparing for our summer concert. The children have been practising daily and we have made headbands to wear during the concert.



The children participated in an obstacle course on Wednesday as part of our sports week. This included balancing, jumping, climbing and throwing activities which encouraged the children to coordinate their gross motor movements. On Thursday afternoon the children enjoyed some relay races!

We also enjoyed having our new friends from Penrhyn come to visit on Tuesday for the whole day. They enjoyed a work cycle with us and had their first tennis lesson with Miss Hillary.



On Thursday morning, we had a cooking lesson where we learned to make flatbread. The children enjoyed measuring the ingredients and making the dough.

We look forward to seeing you on Friday 19th for our summer concert and leaver's assembly which the children have been preparing for. Those who attend a Monday are also excited to have parents watch their ballet lesson in the afternoon. We have planned lots of craft and garden activities for a fun final week of school.

Children's House Elm

Our highlight last week was our Sports Day! The children patiently waited for their turn and participated in the beanbag race, water race, and egg and spoon race. These activities aim to engage the children in physical exercise, encouraging teamwork and coordination. Through these games, they also practise their gross motor skills, balance and develop concentration. The children enjoyed the games and cheering each other on.



On Wednesday, part of the class embarked on a minibeast scavenger hunt in Lloyd Park. Using

our keen observation skills, we searched the area for various minibeasts. As we found each creature, we practised our fine motor skills by circling the pictures on our bug hunt sheet. *"I found the snail and I will circle it here,"* said Solar, whilst observing her environment and circling the snail picture.

Furthermore, Miss Karen spotted a cracked egg and upon looking up at the tree, we noticed a bird's nest. Miss Karen used this opportunity to explain what the cracked egg signifies. The children learned that a bird must have hatched from the egg and this short lesson prompted us to understand more about the life cycle of birds, the concept of birth, and the care that parent birds provide for their young.

We observed various minibeasts such as caterpillars on leaves, butterflies, worms and woodlice. At the pond area, we saw different kinds of birds, including moorhens, pigeons, and mallards and observed how they swam in the pond.



After our scavenger hunt and snacks, we enjoyed a pleasant walk back to the school where we shared our experiences with friends and teachers. We have also continued our lessons on bees; we have learnt about their crucial role in our environment and how they produce honey. Additionally, we have been preparing

for our summer concert and we eagerly look forward to our parents joining us.

Children's House Oak

Last week, in Children's House Oak, we had a very exciting week as it was Sports Week! The children also enjoyed the lovely weather and played various games outside in the garden. The children practised their gross motor skills and focus, as they played games like balancing a beanbag on their head and getting to the end of the garden as quickly as possible. They also practised their critical thinking skills during the hoop and cone race, as they picked up their hoop and placed it on the corresponding-coloured cone, before racing to the end of the garden. Our last game had the children throwing a beanbag into a hoop on the floor, practising their throwing skills.



On Thursday we had our second trip to Lloyd Park, which went beautifully. The children enjoyed being out in nature, observing wildlife. They were incredibly excited to be able to see various stages of the life cycle of a ladybird. They showed fantastic listening skills as they walked carefully down the road singing the summer concert songs as they went along. On Friday, we learned about the body parts of a bee, and to really support the children's learning we watched a very interesting video of a bee collecting pollen to make "bee bread". We also played some more sports games, this time incorporating the Montessori "walking on a line" activity, as the children attempted to balance a beanbag on their head and walk on a line.



This week, we will be doing continued practice for our upcoming summer concert and lots of summer activities. We will also be reviewing all the minibeasts we have learnt about so far. It has been such a wonderful topic to discover and learn and the children have learnt so much, even the teachers have learnt some new things about all the different minibeasts! We wish everyone a lovely summer holiday and to the children who are leaving us, we wish you all the best in your new setting. We look forward to seeing the rest of the children in September.

Nursery – Acorn and Seedlings

We had a wonderful sports week last week, full of fun exercise and learning about how important it is to keep our bodies healthy. The children enjoyed an obstacle

course in the garden where they refined their gross motor skills through running, jumping, throwing the ball and much more. This was also a great opportunity to interact as a group, taking turns and working as a team. The children did really well and followed instructions while completing different tasks. We also learned new yoga postures and breathing exercises.

On Friday we enjoyed playing parachute games in the garden which the children found lots of fun. We were also learning about our body and what happens when we exercise.

In the art area, the children had fun mixing black and white paint to discover how they can make a new colour: grey. We also continued discussing the life cycle of bee and how honey is made.



The children are using lots of practical life activities in the classroom, where they are continuing refining their fine motor skills and concentration.

This week is our last week of the term. We are very excited for our summer concert, to share with you what we have been learning throughout the term. There are lots of art and craft activities prepared for the children and we will have lots of fun discussing what we learned this term. We would like to wish you lovely summer and look forward to seeing you back in September.

Best wishes, WMS Admin

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