

Walthamstow Montessori School

Our Weekly News



Music Week at WMS.

Music Week is fast approaching at WMS and we are very excited about all the musical activities we have planned for the week beginning Monday, the 14th October.

As it is also Black History Month, the children will be introduced to Jazz, Gospel, Blues and Hip Hop.

Do you play an instrument? We would love to have parents and family members come in to play musical instruments for the children to enjoy. If you would like to join in, please let your child's teacher or the office know as soon as possible.

1

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Tomorrow, we are joining together to hold our Harvest Festival Assembly. This is only for the children who attend Tuesdays and parents do not attend.

2

HARVEST DONATIONS

Details on how to make your Harvest Donations have been emailed to you, as well as timings to drop your child off at Penrhyn for the Harvest Festival.

3

PARKING

Thank you once again for parking thoughtfully by the school. Please remember the area in front of the garages must be kept clear for staff to access at all times.



Half Term

Begins Thursday 17th October at 3pm. Early Risers & Tea Timers clubs will run as usual on that day.



Our Book Of The Week.

'Hello Autumn' by Jo Lindley, a book about seasons, friendships and feelings.



Autumn is coming!

The children have begun noticing signs of Autumn. At half-term, they will bring a bag home to fill with Autumn treasures and bring back to show their friends.

Acorn & Seedlings

Our Nurseries had another great week last week. We learned about the Sun and started the week with an activity, which helped the children understand how planets orbit the Sun.

We used a circular plate with a cut out sun in the middle and added different sized balls representing the planets. By gently rotating the plate, the children had the opportunity to understand that each planet is slowly rotating around the Sun, and it takes them the whole year to come back to where they started. We also talked about shapes and the children are becoming more familiar with 3D shapes. Last week, we learned about spheres and we will continue adding new shapes throughout the term. All the children enjoyed holding the sphere and describing what they liked about the Sun. Some of the words we used included were 'big, round, yellow, centre, golden and light glowing'.

We looked at the primary colours and some children started to learn about light and dark shades, using the Montessori material called Colour Box 3.



We used primary colours and experimented with mixing some of them together. This was a lovely activity to discuss Autumn colours.

The children also enjoyed a puppet show and they had lots of fun learning about day and night through the story. It was an amazing experience for them, and they sat with interest throughout the whole show!

As we will have our Harvest celebration this week, we have continued to discuss Harvest and we learned about the life cycle of the seed. We looked at different vegetables and fruit and we all enjoyed vegetable printing, whilst discussing different Harvest traditions around the world.

We are looking forward to celebrating Harvest with our friends and teachers. This week we will also start learning about planet Saturn. We will be discovering how Saturn is different from other planets.

Children's House Elm

Last week, we focused on learning about the Sun. We discovered that the Sun is a massive star that provides light and heat.

Using a model of the Sun, we explored how it is a rotating ball of hot gas. We also looked at pictures and read stories to help us understand the concepts of daytime and nighttime. To deepen our understanding, we created various arts and crafts projects centred around the Sun.

During our outdoor session, we observed how planets orbit the Sun. To reinforce this, we acted out the movement, with each child representing a planet as they walked in orbit around the Sun. Additionally, we used a tray with a Sun model in the centre and a marble

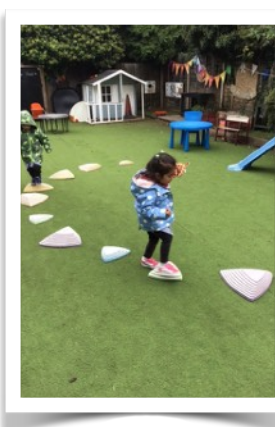
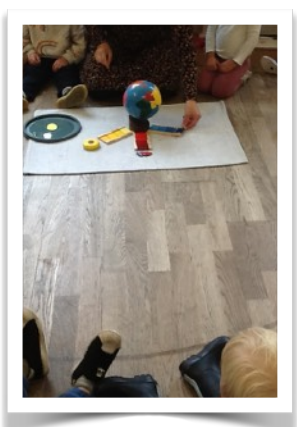
Parent Corner

Henry Waltham Forest are committed to helping babies and families get the best possible start in life and grow with a healthy smile.

They have recently updated their dental list for the local area. [Find the link here.](#)

Please note that although all these practices are offering routine appointments and accepting new NHS patients, there may be a waiting period before your first appointment.





representing the Earth. By gently tilting the tray, the marble planet circled the Sun, giving us a hands-on understanding of how Earth orbits. This activity also helped us practise patience, hand-eye coordination and spatial awareness. We discussed how sunlight is crucial for life on Earth, providing warmth and energy for plants to grow. We further expanded this learning by adding more marbles to represent all eight planets, observing how they orbit the sun in a similar fashion.

In phonics, we learned the letter sound 's'. We practised identifying words beginning with 's,' such as sun, sand, solar system, and silver.

On Thursday, we had fun baking cupcakes. We practised identifying ingredients, measuring, scooping, and mixing before placing the cupcakes in the oven. Once baked, we decorated them with shooting star designs.

In addition, we had a 'Show and Tell' session, and everyone took turns showing items from home. This activity helped us practise our listening skills and boosted our confidence, as we waited for our turn and talked about each item.

Friday's music session with Miss Hatti was lovely, as we all enjoyed listening to musical rhymes and rehearsing harvest songs. We have also started creating artwork in preparation for our Harvest Assembly tomorrow, Tuesday 8th October. Please remember to dress your child as a farmer or with a straw hat, or any hat, for our class Harvest Presentation.

This week, we will explore Saturn and learn fun facts about the planet. We'll also review the phonics sounds we've learned so far this term.

Children's House Oak

Last week in Oak class, we had a wonderful week of adventure and creating. Our focus for the week was the Sun and the Harvest Festival.

The children were excited to learn about how important the Sun is to our solar system and what the Sun is made of. We also learned what the word 'orbit' means and had a small experiment using a marble and a plate, to show the children how planets orbit the Sun. The children also enjoyed sponge painting a plate with the colours of the Sun for their scrapbooks, and have loved making their Harvest Festival artwork, ready to be displayed on the day.

Our baking session this week involved making cornflake cakes and decorating them to look like stars, using grey food colouring and edible silver glitter. The children practised their mixing and learned about measurements as they helped to measure the ingredients.

Our 'Out and About' session was particularly exciting for everyone, as we went on an imaginary adventure to the "International Space Station". Using sound effects like the noise of a countdown and blast off, space ambient music and display pictures, we were able to create an immersive experience with the children pretending to suit up as astronauts and embark on an adventure using an obstacle course. We also looked at a video of an actual rocket blasting off, and the children were very amused to see how astronauts eat & drink in space.

For our Sound of the Week, we revisited the letter 's', which a lot of the children remembered from our first week and we also reviewed the numbers 1, 2 and 3.

This week, we are beginning our focused learning on individual planets, starting with Saturn. We will be learning about the atmosphere on this planet, and about its famous rings. We will be creating artwork of Saturn as we continue to add pieces to our beautiful display board. For numeracy this week, we will reinforce counting to 8 using the planets. We will also practise writing the number 8 using the Sandpaper Numerals and the mark making tray. Our sound of the week is the letter "t".

We continue to practise our songs for the Harvest Festival this week on Tuesday; the children have worked really hard on learning the songs and actions and have also made beautiful art pieces to be displayed on the day.

In the classroom, we will continue to focus on helping the children with classroom etiquette, such as practising sitting at circle time, tidying away activities and taking turns with our peers. We will also be focusing on Practical Life skills, a core element of Montessori designed to help children develop independence, coordination, concentration, and a sense of responsibility.

Children's House Brookcroft

We started our week in the Children's House introducing the Sun by reading a poem about how it shines brightly throughout the day after rising in the East and setting in the West.

The children helped to decorate our autumn tree display, each sticking their colourful printed leaves onto the painted branches – it looks wonderful!

Ballet continues with the lovely Miss Tracey as the children learn co-ordination, balance and work on perfecting their body movements.

The children have been working hard throughout the morning work cycle, and the new children have been learning from the older children through continuous group work. A mixed-aged environment is typical of a Montessori environment,



reflecting society by learning to interact with those older than yourself. Our groups, comprising of songs, grace and courtesies, sound games, question games and cultural discussions aim to re-focus the children to be able to independently choose their own work during the work cycle.

On Wednesday, we had fun during art creating a big tree and vegetables out of coloured tissue paper to contribute to the Harvest Assembly before practising our Harvest Festival songs and poem. We're continuing to make the most of our autumnal weather during our 'Out and About' sessions in our lovely garden. This week we made little conker hedgehogs following the theme of our book of the week "The Hungry Hedgehog."

We ended the week with music groups of 'Walking on the Line' as the children practised controlling their body movements, developing their awareness of others and concentration. They are continuing to appreciate various pieces of classical music, as they find their own unique natural rhythm.

Need to contact us?

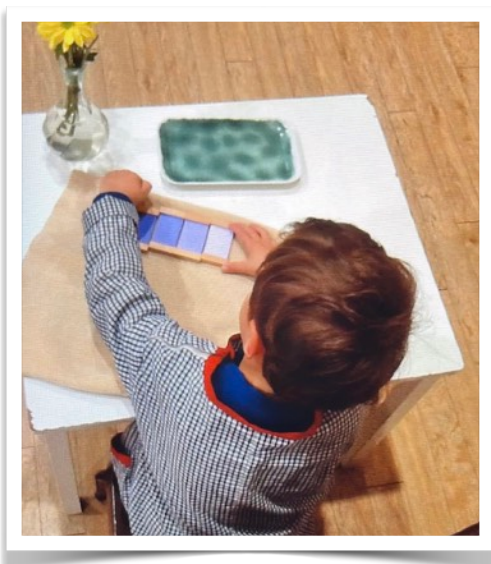
Here are all the important details you need-

To contact the office, dial:
020 8523 2968

Or email:
office@walthamstowmontessori.com

Don't forget to follow us on Instagram too and look out for regular posts of what we are doing.
([@walthamstowmontessori](https://www.instagram.com/walthamstowmontessori))

Download a 'Wow Moment' form here!



Puppet Show

Miss Ana Maria put on a show at Penrhyn. The children loved it and with a little help from other teachers, she will write stories for future shows.



Policy Of The Month

Please read the [Health & Safety Policy on our website](#). WMS is committed to providing a safe, healthy environment for all. We have robust procedures for identifying hazards and reporting and dealing with accidents and incidents.



Tea Towels

We will soon be fundraising by asking the children to help us design a unique WMS tea towel. More details on how to buy one coming soon!