

Walthamstow Montessori School

Newsletter



Welcome Back !

We hope you all had an enjoyable and restful half-term break. This part of the term is a very busy one at WMS so please ensure you read all your emails! You will receive updates and reminders on events such as The Big Toddle, Sports Day and School Summer Concert. Some classes also have the Waltham Forest Music Event in July so please check with us if you get a little confused.

Please note the last day of term is Tuesday 17th July. Our Summer concert is on Friday 13th July. We are not on site that day as the whole school and parents will be at the summer concert which is being held at Chingford Assembly Hall. Full information will be sent home with your child on this event in due course.

This week your child should be coming home with a letter regarding Big Toddle (Lower School), Sports Day and their school photo. Important letters such as these will also be emailed to parents. Please make sure you make a note of all deadlines for returning permission slips/orders.

Please note that we close for the summer holidays on Tuesday 17th July at 12.30pm. Early Risers will run on this day but Tea Timers' will not as there will be staff training taking place.

Wellbeing Week

Our Wellbeing Week will be running **Monday 4th - Friday 8th June**. Across the week there will be a wide range of activities taking place within the school day. Many of them very simple but all are aimed at creating positive feelings of wellbeing within our school. We are lucky that the Montessori ethos already has large amounts of practice that fully supports and underpins wellbeing and good self-esteem.

The ideas and activities that we have chosen for our Wellbeing Week will, we hope, help to scaffold good mental health in our growing

children. Please see the attached timetable for related activities to note.

We have a very special guest joining us at the Upper School tomorrow! I am sure you will hear all about her.

WMS Summer Holiday Club

Booking forms and payments are due back by Friday 8th June for your child's place to be secure as well as us being able to ascertain that take-up has been sufficient to run the club on all of the planned days. If you haven't returned your booking form and payment and do need a space, then please return your form by 3pm on Friday 8th June. Places are being allocated to those requests as received so please don't leave to the last minute if you require a space. There are some great themed days that are always very popular!



Autumn Term Fees

Invoices will be issued from 22nd June 2018. Payment for school fees, if being made by cheque would mean that both instalment payments would need to be received on or before Monday 2nd July to the school office. The first instalment cheque would be banked on Friday 6th July with second instalment banked on Wednesday 5th September. Please post-date accordingly.

Payment by Bank Transfer or child-care vouchers/cash should be made on or before Monday 2nd July to secure your child's place for the Autumn term and then second instalment on or before Wednesday 5th September.

All school fees must be paid in advance if the school term.

School Photographs

Your child's school photo proof will be distributed ASAP. Photo orders will need to be returned by Friday 15th June. We will send the proof home with a covering letter with instructions for



ordering. After this date, you will need to make your own arrangements with the photographer for ordering so we urge you to do it through the school office so we can ensure you receive them before we break in July.

Summer Concert Music CD's



We only have a limited amount available for the 'Bee Musical' and they are selling fast. If your child is in Reception, Prep or Elementary then you might like to purchase one. If so please send £3.50 in cash in an envelope marked for the attn: Miss Katie with your child's name and class marked clearly on it. It would really help if you sent in the right money. We are sure you will enjoy practising these 'catchy' tunes with your child.

Summer School Uniform

Just to let you know that the girl's summer school dress is in stock and available from our supplier Speedstitch if your child is in Prep or Elementary.

Children can wear the school summer dress if they are in Reception too but it must be the official school dress.

Children can wear the summer uniform right up until the October half term. So well worth purchasing now.

Sports Day Friday 29th June

A letter with full details will be sent home this week? Please return your slip indicating attendance.

Each year, sports day is a great success, lots of fun and lovely family day. We end the event with a family teddy bears picnic.



Please remember school is closed on this day as we will all be off site at the George White Sports playing field.



Design the sports day programme cover.

All children are invited to draw a themed picture and send in to the school office by Friday 15th June – attn Miss Katie. The winning entry will have their picture

on the front cover. Please ensure these are portrait in layout.

Lost Property

There are lots of unnamed articles of clothes, shoes and other items in the green tub that is located daily outside at Penrhyn. Please take the opportunity to look through this week. After Friday, we will be disposing of all items or donating to charity.

Brookscroft Open Morning - Monday 18th June.

Parents with children in Oak, Sycamore and Beech classes are invited to visit our Brookscroft building. We will be running one tour during the morning which will commence at 10am. Places on the session will be limited and the session will last approximately 40 minutes. Children will be working so we do want to try and keep disruption to a minimum, so we kindly request that children or younger siblings do not attend. To book yourself on the 10.00am tour please respond to this email, along with your child's name.

Please RSVP by Wednesday 13th June.

Class Information

Elementary

Before the half-term break, Elementary children went on a school trip to Half Moon theatre to see a play called, The Owl and the Pussycat. It was great for children to see live theatre, to examine how the actors use their imagination to create believable characters, and how the costumes, scenic elements, lighting and stage direction all bring the playwright's work to life. Elementary children have been working on creative story writing as well as reading the school play, The Bee Musical and plays by Shakespeare, as well as books in class. Children have been working on ideas of showing rather than telling when writing a story and learning how to use descriptive images in their writing.

Children have also been rehearsing for the school play. It is a collaborative effort as all three classes are performing in the play together. This gives all of the older children an opportunity to work with the younger children, and provides hands-on opportunities for team work.

Scripts will be coming home over this half-term, and I would encourage your children to read the play with you and discuss their parts. Some children have asked to be in the play, but didn't wish to have any specific lines, so they will be part of the chorus, saying lines with others as a bee, and singing and dancing, and even if your child has a smaller role in the play, they will be singing and dancing and saying lines with the chorus.

We will be sending home costume ideas after the half term as well. Children are also practising for the Waltham Forest Music festival. They will be learning five songs to sing as part of a choir of other schools singing together. It is a lovely experience for the children to listen and hear other schools perform, as well as participate in the performance. In maths, some children worked on elapsed time telling skills and operations with decimals, while others worked on multiplication with the checkerboard, and forming numbers in the millions with the large bead frame. Other language and literacy activities included for some children learning the adverb and preposition, where other children were learning to identify the subject, predicate and direct object in sentences. We also explored ideas of farming around the world and the impact and importance of bees on our world's food growth.

Children participated in an out and about session on communication, as a fundamental need of humans. Children needed to come up with ways to communicate to their "village" using items from nature only, as we refereed to our history of writing lessons, and explored the use of language or communication's beginnings.

Next week is half term, so I hope you all enjoy your time away. On our return, we will be working more on botany, insects and ancient civilisations, play rehearsals, Waltham Forest music festivals, as well as continue our weekly lessons in math, literacy and PSHE. Children will also participate in a variety of activities in class to help promote self-confidence, self-awareness, and ways to explore their feelings, and solve challenges by participating in a mental health awareness week.

Prep

Welcome back! Hope you all had a good break. This second half of the Summer term will see Prep class being very busy! We will start the week celebrating our 'wellbeing week'. On Monday children will be looking to emotions and feelings and Prep class will role play around the

subject. For Tuesday we have our pyjama day so come in with your most comfortable clothes on! On Wednesday we will be writing something friendly for our friends using the 'friendly post box' so everyone receives something positive by the end of the day. Thursday children will need to come to school wearing something green in relation to mental health. This day every child will be allocated with another child's name and by the end of the day children will give presents to others. On Friday, we will have a trip to the park and we will all play games and finish our celebration for 'wellbeing week' with an ice-cream. During the week Prep, will continue learning about volume and shape in maths and grammar in literacy using the Montessori grammar symbols.

Reception

Welcome to the last half term of this academic year. A very warm welcome to all the reception children and to the new ones that will join Reception class this term.

We have a very busy few weeks ahead and the first week will be all about feeling and emotions and how well we can portray our feelings to ourselves and others.

This week will see many activities in place to ensure the meaning of this wellbeing week is fully understood and further activities will continue throughout. We will also continue with our topic and this week we will look at the submarine, at its main parts and missions as well as other maritime vessels travelling across the seas and oceans. We will look at the cargo ship, tankers and at the bulker and analyse what they transport and the risks associated with their cargo.

Kindergarten:

Oak:

Before the half term break, Oak class focused on the different types of corals. The children learnt the names of the three corals; mushroom, finger and brain as well as their characteristics. Children explored the pictures and identified the colours. In addition, the children learnt that the corals are animals and not plants. They enjoyed colouring the finger coral which helped to reinforce their pincer grip when using the colouring pencils.

The children learnt the names of the 3D shapes such as a cube and a rectangular prism. This was reinforced by exploring the pink tower, which

consists of 10 cubes and the brown stair which has rectangular prisms. Mathematic language was encouraged through the presentation to build upon their vocabulary. During our Italian lesson, the children learnt how to say red, yellow and green in Italian.

This week, we will be learning about submarine and commercial vessels. Our letter of the week is 'g'.

Sycamore:

Before the half term break, we explored the coral reef with much engagement from the children. They enjoyed learning about different types of corals including the brain coral. Most were able to recite prior learning with their teachers and peers by explaining that when a coral dies it turns into a white powdery residue.

We also explored some exciting facts about different coral reef species including the puffer fish. The children produced some beautiful artwork during our pufferfish art activity.

The children really enjoyed their trip to the library on the last day of the half term. The library has invited us back again this Friday. They will be reading the story 'A busy day for birds' by 'Lucy Cousins'. The children will be able to make an Owl headband that they can take home.



Our out and session saw an amazing creation of our stick vase which is proudly displayed in our classroom here at Walthamstow Montessori school. There was much enthusiasm as the children explored their outdoor environment to collate as many sticks as possible. After constructing their vase with a lot of concentration and hand eye coordination, the children went on a hunt in the garden to locate as many different shades of foliage. All shades of green were matched and paired by the children using colour box three of our Montessori materials.

This week we will be exploring submarines and commercial vessels. There is an exciting science experiment planned where the children will learn about air pressure. They will also be given the opportunity to explore their expressive art and design skills by participating in various submarine craft activities. We will also learn about different parts of a submarine.

We will be focusing on the letter 'g'. Please continue the excellent work in locating different objects in the environment with your child relating to the letter of the week.

Beech:

The week before the half term break, Beech class had been learning facts about coral reefs. We look at 3 different types of corals; brain coral, mushroom coral and finger coral. Children had the opportunity to discuss in a group and feel a coral reef from our fish tank! Children enjoyed making a dough coral reef where they were able to manipulate the dough by using fine motor skills and demonstrated their creativity.

We made finger corals in our 'Out and About' session using sticks and tissue paper.



This week, we will be learning some interesting facts about submarines.

Nursery:

Before the half term break, children learned about air transport. They had lots of fun making aeroplanes out of lollipop sticks and hot air balloons. The children then shared their experiences of going on holiday and being on aeroplanes.

For our Out and about session, the children displayed their creative skills by making pictures on the logs using various natural objects.

This week, we will be continuing with our topic, focusing on land transport. The children will have an opportunity to compare the three modes of transport, learn the main parts of a car, train, bus and bicycles and engage in imaginative role-play and create various crafts relating to the topic.

Please help your children by finding fun ways together at home, to support their work in school.

Best wishes, WMS Admin



Important Numbers

To contact the school office dial:

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Please follow us: [@wmse17](#) and we will follow
you back!