

# The Old Cottage, 83 New Mill End, East Hyde, Beds, LU1 3TS T: Ruth M 07884 000 651

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Week beginning 29th January 2024

## Thank you

Every week the children are offered Montessori materials, teacher led art activities, yoga, nature walks, messy play, outdoor learning, stories and more. The richness and abundance is incredible and it is thanks to the dedication of the teachers, their creativity, commitment and expertise. Thank you, teachers, for the phenomenal offer you make to the children week after week to nourish their growth.

## This week's photo..



Sound bingo is helping develop aural refinement and social skills.

#### Reminders

Flowers in the classroom are a way to brighten up these dark months. But they also provide opportunities for the children to learn about life-cycles, growth and decay, care for plants, colour, shapes, aesthetics, cutting skills, shadows and so much more.

If you would be happy to provide a bunch of flowers or foliage one week then please sing up on the rota which is on the parent board above the pegs (or just bring some in).

### News

We have been through one cycle of our menu now and tweaked a few things that didn't work so well, either from a practical perspective or that too much was left uneaten. The menu is now up on MMC and we are beginning week one this week.

## Thoughts

The next section of our language development training was supported by some of you! Thank you. Taking 8 sentences written in languages spoken in the homes of Artisans children, I asked the staff to tell me what they said. Here are a couple of them;

من در گروه دایره آبی هستم به من ملحق شوید Já jsem viděla Tvůj kabát na chodbě

Without context, intonation, gesture, assonance rhythm it is impossible to translate something you don't know. Children learning language experience this all the time. We need to appreciate how much the non-word part of language contributes to communication. Mother-ese is valuable for newborns because it emphases these aspects; their value continues and we need to remember to give children the whole experience of language.

## Looking ahead

As I mentioned back last term, we are currently going through an accreditation process with two different Montessori Organisations. Montessori pedagogy has no patent, anyone can claim it. Therefore, we feel it is important to have our claim professionally validated. We found that one organisation focussed almost entirely on the equipment we use and the other mostly on the routines we embed; so we chose to do both! This Wednesday the first of those organisations is coming to visit, which is the third of a six part process. They will be with us all day and are hoping to talk to some of you and gather your feedback. They have asked us to select parents but we feel it is more genuine for you all to have the option, so we are leaving it up to you, please chat to them if you wish. https://montessoriapprentice.co.uk/

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