

# WOODCROFT WEEKLY

## ARTS SPECIAL

Issue 237 - Spring Arts Special

[www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk](http://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk)

31 March 2016

### ***Providing an Enriched and Extended School Experience through The Arts at Woodcroft***



*Welcome* to the spring issue of the Woodcroft Arts News Special. We believe that The Arts promote self-confidence, concentration and resilience as well as inspiring, motivating and developing empathy. So much of what children learn through the Arts provides the basis for a successful life.

Woodcroft is a thriving school with arts and culture central to school life. This enables our pupils to express themselves confidently and creatively. With so

many exciting things happening in school we want to celebrate this through this Arts News special issue.

#### **AIM@Arts - A Programme of Enriched and Extended Curriculum Opportunities**

Woodcroft pupils are offered an Arts programme of outstanding opportunity that extends beyond the National Curriculum. We call this AIM@Arts. The Arts are thriving at Woodcroft and things have never been more exciting!

#### **Highlights from the spring term...**

- Woodcroft hosted training for the MMA (national music teacher association) with performances from our strings ensembles
- 4 week samba music residency with Ollie Tunmer
- Every pupil visited the Unicorn Theatre as part of our Collaborate Partnership
- Our J Rock Dance club performed at three events:
  - The Great Big Dance Off (Wimbledon Theatre)
  - Rock Challenge (Stevenage Arts Centre)
  - Barnet Dance Festival (Arts Depot)
- M&M Productions performance of 'The Railway Children' to KS1 and KS2
- Woodcroft hosted a combined strings concert with Frith Manor School
- Year 3 Ukulele Concert
- Spring Music Showcase Concert by the choir, brass, woodwind and guitars
- Wow Factor Talent Show
- Visual Art Week

#### **Coming up next term...**

We have lots of exciting things planned for the summer term:

- J Rock dance club compete in the National Finals of The Great Big Dance Off & Rock Challenge
- The Choir perform at the Barnet Music Festival
- Year 5 project with Pavillon Opera perform Macbeth
- Summer Music Showcase Concerts
- Year 6 Leavers' Show

## AIM@Art

### Art Week 2016



This week is Art Week at Woodcroft. Each year group has planned an exciting project that supports our SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) Curriculum. We are promoting our British Values through art!

Each year group will research an artist and study their work. They will learn new skills to produce their own art. Classrooms will then be transformed into galleries

YEAR GROUP	Genre	Value Theme	Artist
FOUNDATION STAGE	Painting	Individuality	Sandy Garnett
YEAR ONE	Sculpture	Aspiration	Ben Dearnley
YEAR TWO	Weaving	Unity & Respect	Sonia Boyce
YEAR THREE	Printing	Celebrating Others	Andy Warhol
YEAR FOUR	Mixed media	Overcoming challenge	Willow Bascom
YEAR FIVE	Drawing	Individual talents	Stephen Wiltshire
YEAR SIX	Photography	Determination	Jane Wenger

### Art Week Gallery Display - 3.00pm Thursday 31st March 2016

#### An Invitation

Parents and carers are invited to our Art Week Gallery Display Afternoon

On Thursday 31st March

From 3.00pm

Parents can arrive at school from 3.00pm, collect their child and then take a tour around the school, visiting classrooms to see the wonderful artwork produced during Art Week.

### The ArtsAward at Woodcroft

Woodcroft are proud to be an accredited Arts Council ArtsAward Centre. We have developed an Arts Charter that guarantees for every child that each term they will :

- Participate in an artform
- Be part of an arts event
- Research and investigate artists
- Share their arts with others



Across the year pupils explore the range of art forms; dance, music, drama and visual art. Art Week enables all pupils to focus in depth on the visual arts. Pupils in Years 6 develop Arts award portfolios that are then submitted to Trinity College London for accreditation towards their Bronze Arts Award qualification.

## AIM@Drama

### Unicorn Collaborate Partnership



Woodcroft was honoured to be chosen as the Unicorn Theatre **Collaborate** partner primary school for the 2015-2016. This partnership ensured every pupil from Nursery to Year 6 attended 2 professional performances at this prestigious children's theatre.

We also enjoyed a 6 week residency with award winning performance artist Greg Sinclair in the autumn term.

### The Railway Children - Theatre Production

As part of our Literacy Week this term, on Tuesday 1st March, we were joined by M&M Productions, collected our tickets to Oakworth Station, and enjoyed a fantastic theatrical performance of The Railway Children.

We watched how the three children saved a train after a disastrous landslide, helped nurse their mother back to health, then saved their father from a terrible injustice and reunited their family for an emotional ending.

After the show the actors also gave a special stagecraft workshop to Y6.

## AIM@Dance

### Professional Dance Choreography

Dance continues to go from strength to strength at Woodcroft. During the year every class benefits from a unit of dance lead by a professional choreographer. This is with Lemon Jelly in Foundation Stage and Year 1, or with our very own Miss Williams throughout Years 2 to 6. This enables dance to become an integral part of our creative curriculum topics.

### J Rock Dance Club Achieve National Success!



Our J Rocker dancers have had a successful term and have made it through to two national dance finals - what an Achievement!

They will be travelling to Portsmouth for the J Rock finals and then to Birmingham for The Great Big Dance Off!

Fundraising has already begun. Last week Friends of Woodcroft raised an amazing £565 through the raffle and cake sale - well done.



**Mega Movers:** Mega Movers is a dance club run by Miss Stubbings every Thursday for dancers of all abilities. The aim is for the children to have lots of fun learning new moves, improving their coordination and being able to dance to a beat. We hope to have a growing amount of boys taking part and really look forward to our upcoming performances!

**Lemon Jelly:** Lemon Jelly is a specialist dance company who work with 12 of our children to help them develop their confidence and coordination. After their amazing first performance in the Autumn term we look forward to their next one!

## AIM@Music

### Samba Residency

Woodcroft's musical year has started off with a bang! Some of our KS2 classes had the incredible opportunity to work with renowned percussionist Ollie Tunmer from 'Beat Goes On' on a four week Brazilian Samba drumming residency as part of their PSHE curriculum, learning about Olympic Values through music, as 2016 is year of the Rio Games.



### Combined Orchestras



Woodcroft and Frith Manor Orchestras joined together on Friday 4th March to take part in a special collaborative string concert.

Last year Woodcroft visited Frith Manor to play, and last week it was their turn to visit Woodcroft. Both schools performed an accomplished set including joint pieces involving musicians from both schools.

### Y3 Ukulele Performance



Every pupil in Year 3 learns to play a musical instrument and every term the pupils work toward a performance. On Monday 14th March we were treated to their excellent spring ukulele concert.

### Spring Music Concert

On Friday 11th March our percussion club, woodwind and brass players, plus senior guitar group performed to family and friends. All of the pupils played with confidence, including our younger musicians who impressed us with their developing skills.

### Meet the music team at Woodcroft:

**Miss Sherring:** Music Coordinator: leads both curriculum and extra-curricula music, including the wonderful school choirs, arranging performances and trips for our young musicians.

**Miss Blyth:** Strings Coordinator, leads our fantastic Senior String Ensemble

**Mr Huckerby:** Guitar Lead for both Guitar Clubs arranging many performance opportunities throughout the school year.

**Mr Gagen:** leads Percussion Club who gave their premiere performance during our spring showcasing concert.

**Mrs V Maclean:** Violin/Viola tutor. This is the 3rd year Mrs Maclean has been part of the Woodcroft Music team, playing a key role in our instrumental collaboration projects

**Mrs C Hooker:** Cello tutor who has expanded our cello programme this year with her expertise.

**Mrs H Reeder:** is our Brass tutor, teaching trombone, cornet and trumpet. The brass musicians have now given two performances.

**Mr P Sharpe:** Woodwind, teaching flute and clarinet. Now busy working towards their third concert of the year in the summer.

**Mr R Hughes and Ms M Cingo:** Mr Hughes and Ms Cingo have been a valued part of the Woodcroft music team for 3 years now, teaching whole class ukulele to Year 3.

We will also be welcoming back **Mr J Shaverin** in the Summer term to run a whole class African Drumming project with our Year 2s!



## An Extended Curriculum - Enriching the National Curriculum

Here is a timetable the Arts clubs and additional learning opportunities we currently have running at the school:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>School Day</b>	Whole Class Ukulele Tuition (Y3)	Lemon Jelly Dance		Violin and Viola Tuition (Paid)	Brass Cello Woodwind Tuition (Paid)
<b>Lunchtime</b>	Senior String Ensemble	Senior String Orchestra  Curriculum Dance (½ termly units)	Junior Guitar Club (Yrs 2-4)  Senior String Ensemble	Percussion Club	Young Woodcroft Singers
<b>After School</b>	KS1 Drama Club (Y1 & Y2)	J Rock Dance	Senior Guitar Club (Yrs 4-6)	Art Club  Mega Movers  J Rock Dance	Senior Choir

More information about all the clubs on offer at Woodcroft can be found on the school website.

### WOW Factor 2016



On Wednesday 23rd March our talented finalists from each year group performed in a nail-biting final of the 2016 Woodcroft WOW Factor. Our amazing singers, dancers, magicians, gymnasts, cheerleaders and comediennes took to the stage to perform acts developed and rehearsed by the pupils themselves. We were incredibly lucky to have the judging talents of none other than Jessie J, Taylor Swift and Simon Cowell (well that's who they introduced themselves as?!) to help us pick our KS1 and KS2 winners on the evening. Well done to all our finalists and a huge congratulations to our KS1 winner: Subrina (2W)

and KS2 winner: Mehran (6M) who definitely WOWed us with their cheerleading and magic respectively!

### Upcoming Events

Here are some of the exciting events taking place at Woodcroft over the next term:

#### **Verdi's opera of *Macbeth***

In the Summer Term we will be welcoming the Pavilion Opera Education Trust into school, who will be performing Verdi's opera of *Macbeth*. Further information about this exciting performance will be announced in future newsletters, or visit <http://www.pavilionopera.com/>.

In addition to these, we will continue our termly celebration concerts with our summer concert performances from our dancers and musicians.

## Treehouse & Website

Have you visited the website and logged on to the Treehouse yet? There are videos, photos and pieces of work showcased across all the pages of all the incredible things going on in school. You can practise music learned in class, re-live performances, discuss what you're doing and review special events you've seen or taken part in! Take a look at our special Arts, Music, Dance and Drama pages to see all the wonderful opportunities that are happening in school.



## Arts Council

As part of our pupil leadership programme, pupils in Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to represent the school as a member of the Arts Council. Pupils participating in extra Arts activities in school will be nominated by their session leader and will meet every half term with Miss Sherring to plan and implement ways to improve Arts in school even further.

## Pupil Voice

Here's what our pupils have to say about participating in the Arts at Woodcroft:

*"Art Club is like a whole new world! In Art Club we do a lot of painting and drawing; the fun never ends!"* - Art Club members

*"Art Club is a place where you can take your imagination and run wild!"* Art Club motto

*"I love Drama Club!"* Carson, 5V

*"It was so awesome having the opportunity to work with Ollie Tunmer"* Kleya 3R

*"Choir is for people who like to sing, want to get more confident, and want to express their feelings through singing - we have fun and love to sing!"* Marina and Sara, 6M

*"J Rock was the most amazing experience!"* Hadia, 6M

*"I am so proud of myself for having the confidence to take part [in J Rock]"* Suvechya, 5P

