

WOODCROFT WEEKLY ARTS SPECIAL

Issue 294 - Autumn Arts Special

www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk

17th November 2017

AIM@Arts

Welcome



to the autumn 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. Arts and culture are thriving at Woodcroft and are central to our school life. The Arts 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.

Woodcroft Receives Highest Artsmark Award



**Artsmark
Platinum Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

In July Woodcroft was thrilled to receive the Arts Council of England's highest award for commitment and provision to arts education. We are currently one of only seven London schools to have achieved the Platinum award, and one of just forty five across the UK! Artsmark is the creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England. It provides a clear framework for teachers to plan, develop and evaluate arts, culture and creativity across the curriculum and beyond. In our award letter, Artsmark Award Senior Officer Amanda Rigler stated:

'Your school was commended for the rich arts and cultural offer which has been established over the long term, with strong leadership and commitment across the school. The engagement of pupils and use of an Arts Charter ensures full inclusion [and] is innovative.'

The Artsmark Platinum Award is a wonderful national recognition of all the incredible opportunities pupils at Woodcroft have to engage in a high quality arts education. We celebrate our most recent opportunities throughout this newsletter.

Arts Award

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 an audience member
- 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. Our termly Art Week enables all pupils to focus in depth on the visual arts. Pupils in Year 6 develop Arts Award portfolios that are then submitted to Trinity College London for accreditation for their Bronze Arts Award qualification. An amazing 51 pupils were submitted for and achieved their Bronze Arts Award last year!

Arts Badges and Woodcroft Arts Award

Last year, we launched our new Arts Badges which link with our Arts Charter. Every term, all pupils will complete each of these four areas as part of their national curriculum which will earn them their badge. Keep an eye out for these in your child's Homelink book. When they are watching, performing, learning new skills or researching artists they will be working towards these exclusive badges. At the end of the year, they will earn their Woodcroft Arts Award!



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 at Woodcroft are thriving and things have never been more exciting!

Highlights so far from this term...



- Our Year 2's opened the musical year performing brilliantly at the Barnet Infant Music Festival on 20th October
- We started the second half of term with an amazing Art Week, with visual arts created on

the theme of 'courage.' All the work is currently on display in the Gallery Corridor

- Our Year 6's collaborated with the Royal Opera House to create and perform their own version of Bizet's 'Carmen' on 9th November, and were visited by members of the ROH Learning and Participation Team
- We welcomed back our 2017 Year 6 group to celebrate their Bronze Arts Award success

Still to come this term...

- Instrumental concerts in November
- Early Years and KS1 Christmas Plays
- Whole school Carols Assembly
- Dance performances

Coming up next term...

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

- Woodcroft Dance Team will perform at the Barnet Dance Festival at Finchley Arts Depot and compete in the London regional finals of The Great Big Dance Off
- We will host our spring term Art Week and music concerts
- M&M Theatre will perform to KS1 & KS2 as part of Book Week

AIM@Music

Year 2 Infant Music Festival



On Friday 20th October our Year 2s performed brilliantly at the annual BEAT Infant Music Festival. The theme this year was 'Space' and pupils learned songs around this theme in their Music lessons. Woodcroft pupils also performed their own item entitled 'Blast Off!', composed by Mr Huckerby and Mr Guest. Congratulations to all our Year 2s for their fantastic performance!

Music Festival Report by Atifa, 2L

We learned lots of songs about space for our Music Festival. They were very fun. I liked all the songs a lot. The Music Festival was so much fun because lots of schools came and it was the best thing we've done in Year 2. We also learned a song that had some very hard words in it but we practised really hard and on the day it wasn't so hard.

Create and Sing Carmen



Year 6 performed their final production of George Bizet's 'Carmen' on the 9th November for family and friends, the school governors and invited guests from the Royal Opera House! Year 6 prepared their own version of 'Carmen' during their music lessons. The project, in collaboration with the Royal Opera House, allowed the pupils to involve themselves in every aspect of staging an opera; including rehearsing



the songs, choreographing dances, creating costumes, arranging the set, and lighting design. This project also forms part of their Bronze Arts Award. Congratulations to Year 6 on a wonderful production!

Parent's Guide to Supporting Instrument Tuition



Thank you for your continued support of Woodcroft's instrumental tuition. Since we started offering lessons in 2012, our programme has grown and we now have our largest ever number of pupils engaging in this incredibly valuable skill!

Here is how you can help your child make the most out of their instrument lessons:

1. **Support them to practise at home.** If your child completes 10 minutes of instrument practise 5-7 times a week, you will be astounded at how quickly they progress. It isn't always easy to find that 10 minutes in a busy day, but it is essential to your child's continued development and progress.
2. **Check their practise log.** Every child is given a practice diary by their instrument tutor which they are expected to fill in each time they practice. There is space for you to sign and leave any comments or questions you have for the tutor. Ask your child if you can see their diary and talk to them about what they're learning in their lessons.
3. **Always be prepared!** In a busy week children often forget to bring their instrument or materials into school for their lesson (or forget to take them home to practise!). When a child arrives unprepared for their lesson or follow up practise, it has a huge negative impact on their progress. Remind them the night before their lesson to make sure they have everything ready for the next day. The tuition timetable is published later in this newsletter if you aren't sure when your child's lesson is.
4. **Come along to a concert!** Woodcroft holds termly celebration concerts of the wonderful progress your child has made over the term. Dates and times are published in advance on the school website, weekly newsletters and on the parent calendar. The performances are a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to share their new skills with others, and the experience is enhanced for them when they have a familiar face in the audience. This is also an excellent opportunity to speak with your child's tutor or with Miss Sherring about any questions you have.
5. **Ensure your payments are made on time.** Learning a musical instrument is very expensive. Woodcroft recognises this and we are committed to ensuring costs remain as low as possible. We subsidise the cost of tuition and have managed to maintain cost to parents and carers at £40.00 per term (or just £4.00 per lesson). We are only able to continue to do this if payments are made regularly and on time.

AIM@Art

Art Week Autumn 2017




The school has already enjoyed exploring many elements of visual art this academic year! The emphasis on arts was propelled forward by Art week at the beginning of the Autumn term, using the theme of 'courage' as inspiration. Across the school the children participated in many different art forms to create pieces of visual art, and also studied the work of professional artists.



These skills will be built upon and new skills explored throughout the year. We are continuing to build on the successes of previous years' Art Weeks, which will take place each term. Each class will also participate in creating new works as part of their school curriculum. Art Weeks provide invaluable opportunities for pupils to develop their SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural)

education. We are promoting our British Values through art! As the year progresses there will be more and more visual art to feast your eyes upon. Keep an eye out when walking around the school and when exploring the Treehouse to see what pieces of visual art you can see!

Each year group researched an artist and studied their work. They learned new skills to produce their own art. Their work was shared in Key Stage assemblies, and is on display in the Gallery

Corridor and outside classrooms.

Class	Genre/Media	Artist	Cross Curricular Links
<p>Nursery</p> 	<p>Nursery created self portraits showing themselves with a brave and courageous face.</p>	<p>Keith Ross</p>	<p>PSHE study of how the children can show they are courageous</p>
<p>Reception</p> 	<p>Reception explored Transient Art Pictures during Art Week, which involved the creation of artwork using items found in the world around them</p>	<p>Andy Goldsworthy</p>	<p>English: Linked with the book 'Owl Babies'</p>
<p>Year 1</p> 	<p>Year 1's created their own superhero masks and cityscapes, then dressed as superheroes to fly over their city! They explored the courage of superheroes. They used digital photography and costume/set design for their art form.</p>	<p>Bob Kane</p>	<p>Studied work of Bob Kane and created own courageous superheroes</p>
<p>Year 2</p> 	<p>Year 2 created poppy pictures using the work of Georgia O'Keefe as inspiration. They learned about World War I and the courage of both the men and women who served and the people at home.</p>	<p>Georgia O'Keefe</p>	<p>History Study of WW1</p>
<p>Year 3</p> 	<p>Portrait Painting focussing on having courage and persistence despite challenges.</p>	<p>Chuck Close</p>	<p>Studied and researched the work of Chuck Close. Linked into their buzz word for computing and coding 'persistence'. Linked into writing instructions topic in English.</p>
<p>Year 4</p> 	<p>Year 4's learned to sign the alphabet in British Sign Language and photographed themselves signing their initial. They used digital photography to manipulate the images and explored a variety of interesting ways to display</p>	<p>Nancy Rourke</p>	<p>Linked with Science topic of Sound and communication</p>

	their images linked with courage, including incorporation of inspirational quotes that gave each child the courage to pursue their goals.		
Year 5 	Digital Photography linked with Black History Month. Year 5's incorporated their study of Black History Month to digitally manipulate images of themselves mixed with inspirational black people. They then designed their own backgrounds.	David Hockney	Linked with Black History Month research in Circle Time for PSHE
Year 6 	Year 6 created silhouette paintings to depict London during The Blitz in World War II. They conveyed the courage of everyday Londoner's in their paintings through contrasting the darkness of the silhouette against an ominous fiery background.	Charles Burns	WWII History Study: London during The Blitz

Clubs, Clubs, Clubs!

Sewing Club

Sewing Club provides pupils opportunity to learn a large range of sewing skills which are used to create a variety of products. The pupils work with Miss Jackson and Mrs Hurley on Wednesdays after school and are currently using cross-stitch to create bookmarks. Sewing Club is one of the many new clubs we have available this school year at Woodcroft!

Art Club

Art Club enables the children to explore a range of resources and materials where they can practice a range of techniques and skills involved in creating art. This term they have explored a range of 2D and 3D skills, most recently sculpting clay pieces which they painted and decorated.

Crafts Club

Crafts Club is run on Tuesdays after school by Miss Herbert and Miss Wray. The children have opportunities to explore a wide variety of crafts linked with seasons and special events on the calendar.

AIM@Dance

Dance Curriculum

Woodcroft is extremely fortunate to have the talents of a professional dance choreographer, Miss Williams, who works closely with our teaching staff to support our half-termly dance units. Dance is a compulsory aspect of the National Curriculum for PE and Sport, and Woodcroft pupils benefit from weekly sessions which support them with their fine motor skills, ability to listen and respond, physical development, and teamwork. Pupils work in large and small ensembles to create, explore and learn dance routines which they have the opportunity to perform. Dance units are linked with topics studied in class which provide pupils with a highly engaging learning experience, and allows dance to become an integral part of our creative curriculum.

Dance Performances

Pupils who choose to engage in additional dance and movement clubs such as Cheerleading and Dance Team have the opportunity to perform each term to the school. Their first performance of the year will be at our Festival of Dance which will be held on the 19th December. We look forward to seeing our dancers shine!

Woodcroft Dance Team

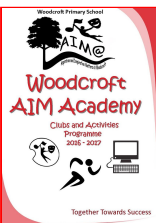
Dance Team will be building on last year's extremely successful year and have already started to work hard on their choreography in their weekly dance sessions. Working closely with Miss Williams each week, the pupils are challenged to consider real world events and issues which they portray through highly emotive and effective dance routines.

Dance Team report by Diana, 6M

Dance Team is so fun and what we do is we practice our routines. We hold auditions to see who makes it into the team. We rehearse as a whole team every Tuesday after school from 3:00pm - 5:00pm and in the playground and at home. The adults who help us are Miss Williams as she is the choreographer, and Mrs Clark and Ms Vanner who give us lots of helpful advice. I'm looking forward to putting all the routines together so that it can become all into one amazing dance and I'm also looking forward to all the festivals and competitions we will be doing.

Woodcroft AIM Academy

An Extended Curriculum - Enriching the National Curriculum



Woodcroft run an amazing number of extra-curricular clubs and activities. In fact, there are over 40 different clubs running this term. We call this our **AIM Academy**. Below is a timetable of just the Arts clubs and additional learning opportunities currently running in school this term. A copy of the leaflet was distributed at the start of term and can be downloaded from the school website.

AIM@Arts Clubs and Activities Time Timetable - Autumn 2017

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School	Woodwind Tuition (Paid)				
School Day	Woodwind Tuition (Paid) Whole Class Ukulele Tuition (Y3) Curriculum Dance (½ termly units)	Curriculum Dance (½ termly units)	Cello (Paid) Curriculum Dance (½ termly units)	Violin and Viola Tuition (Paid) Curriculum Dance (½ termly units)	Brass Tuition (Paid) Curriculum Dance (½ termly units)
Lunchtime	Senior Orchestra (by invitation only)		Junior Guitar Club*	Senior String Ensemble Flute Choir	Young Woodcroft Singers (*Spring Term start) Bronze Arts Award (Year 6 - paid)
After School		Craft Club Dance Team	Sewing Club Senior Guitar Club*	Art Club	Senior Choir

***Keep an eye out for Guitar Club letters when the club is starting!**



Dates for your diary:

Autumn Music Concerts

Thursday 23rd at 2:30pm: Strings led by Miss Blyth (Senior String Ensemble), Mrs Maclean (Violin and large string ensembles) and Mrs Hooker (Cello)

Friday 24th at 9:30am: Brass led by Helen Reeder, and Woodwind led by Sophie Boden

Monday 27th at 11:00am: Year 3 Ukulele led by Mr Hughes and Mr McAtominey



Christmas

Wednesday 6th December: Year 2 Christmas Show

Friday 8th December: Year 1 Christmas Show

Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December: Nursery and Reception Christmas Show

Thursday 14th December: Year 6 WWII Experience

Pupil Voice

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

Taking part in 'Create and Sing Carmen': *"Over the last few weeks I have learnt a lot about singing. One of the few things that I learnt is that when you want to sing loudly and powerfully you have to open your a mouth a bit more. I have learnt new musical terms as well (vibrato). What I love about this project is that everyone can participate, everyone gets a role and everyone sings lovely whilst we are doing the songs. I am also practicing the moves and the songs. Therefore, I LOVE this project and to have Kim Waldock see us sing was AMAZING."* - Eddie 6M

Art Week: *"At Woodcroft we have an Art Week every term when we make wonderful pieces of art. Our artwork links in with topics we are studying in other subjects. We also use different artists to get inspiration and we study their artwork to use ideas from that art piece. We get to be very creative in Art Weeks which is great!"* - Tiyana 6M

Senior Choir: *"In Choir we learn songs that are happy and fun. We learn heaps about music and we get to enjoy being with other students. The songs we learn to sing all mean something. When we perform we really hope you'll enjoy it. We all work hard in Choir and try our best."* - Vera 4J

Singing Assemblies: *"In Singing Assembly we always start with a warm up which Miss Sherring usually lets children lead. We have lots of different ones that we like. Then we do a couple of songs. We practice songs for special events and we have lots of other songs that we love. When we come in Miss Sherring plays different songs and pieces of music. At the end our teachers tell Miss Sherring who impressed them. Woodcroft Singing Assemblies are great!"* - Felix, 4G

"I like Singing Assembly because it is fun and the songs are beautiful and sometimes funny! I like it when everyone sings together, especially when we do the Woodcroft Song!" Fatimah and Zahra A, 2L

Sewing Club: *"Sewing Club is brand new this year. We're currently making bookmarks using cross stitch. Every week we learn a new skill. Mrs Hurley and Miss Jackson have been helping us. Sewing Club is really fun and exciting. Our teachers help us a lot; they are amazing!"* - Chloe 4J

Crafts Club: *"Craft Club is very fun. We've made autumn trees and pumpkins this term! We*

go to Craft Club every Tuesday. Miss Wray and Miss Herbert help us; they are very kind. They teach us fantastic things and they help us when we are stuck. Sometimes when we are painting we get very messy! We love Craft Club!" - Kiyana and Danis, 2L

Instrument Tuition "In instrument lessons we learn how to play instruments we wouldn't get to learn otherwise. It's really fun; you learn so much!. I know that if I keep practising I will be amazing. You also get to take the instrument home and get a folder full of music to practise. I really love learning my instrument." - Sebastian, 4J

Dance Team: "If you think that all we do in Dance Team is dance, you're wrong. Dancing is, of course, a big part of it, but we also go on trips, enter competitions, and we get to show off our own moves in dance offs! That might sound scary but it's actually really fun!" - Gui 4J

Woodcroft Website and Treehouse

www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk

Have you visited the website and logged on to the Treehouse (via your child's account) 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.



You can also keep up to date via our school Twitter account! Follow us at **@wps_success** to see all the exciting opportunities your child is engaging with at school.





CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

This award certifies that The Year 6 Class

From Woodcroft Primary School

has successfully completed

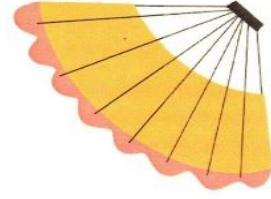
Create and Sing Carmen

Congratulations on behalf of the Royal Opera House!

Jillian Baker

Director of Learning and Participation Date: 09/11/2017

Create and Sing Carmen is supported by Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Ernest Cook Trust, David and Elaine Potter Foundation, Mohn Westlake Foundation, Teale Foundation and an anonymous foundation.



Illustrations designed by freepic.com

This is
to certify that

Woodcroft Primary School
has achieved Artsmark
Platinum

2017



NICK GIBB
Minister of State for
School Standards



MATT HANCOCK
Minister of State for
Digital and Culture



DARREN HENLEY
Chief Executive,
Arts Council England

*Artsmark inspires young people to
create, experience and participate
in extraordinary art and culture*

