



Together Towards Success
#AIMvalues



New on the website

Lots to look out for on the website. Recent additions include:

★ Show Gallery

Forthcoming Events

Party Time

15th - Nursery & Reception

18th - Y3, Y4 and Y1

19th - Y5, Y6 and Y2

More details sent out by classes. Please see Party Food Guidance Sheet

19th Woodcroft Dance Show

19th Nursery Final Day

20th Last Day - 2.00pm Close

Twitter



Follow us on Twitter:

@WPS_Success

PSHE Theme

In school we are thinking about ...

Equality

Happy Hanukkah



Message from the Chair of Governors



On behalf of the Staff and Governing Body I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and successful New Year.



Liz Court (Chair of Governors)

A Sad Goodbye

We are saying goodbye to Mrs Shamash today as she leaves to start a new job after the Christmas break. Mrs Shamash has been a teaching assistant at Woodcroft for 6 years and has supported many pupils throughout the school. We thank her for all of her hard work at Woodcroft and wish her well in her new job

New FREE School App Available: Download it NOW!



Have you installed the new school app? All parents were sent a notification text on Tuesday. Set up is quick and easy if you already receive our school texts.

Follow the simple steps online and get school information on your phone.

Woodcroft v Goldbeaters: Football Match Report by Aisha, 6M
On Thursday 7th December, seven girls from Girls Football Club played a match at Burnt Oak Leisure Centre. The team included me, Lilly, Kleya, Erza, Michaela, Gemma and Yomade. I played in defence with Michaela and Gemma, while Erza and Lilly played in midfield, Kleya played striker and Yomade was in goal. Goldbeaters scored the first goal and we were a bit devastated - luckily, Erza and Lilly both quickly scored goals and put us in the lead. It was half-time and we were winning 2-1. Both teams took a rest and spoke with their team about strategies to use in the game. In the second half, no-one scored any goals and we were just defending with everything. At the end of the match we had managed to hold on to win 2-1 against Goldbeaters and everyone cheered for us. We were also so delighted to see that all of our friends had come to watch us play!

Reported by by Aisha, 6M

Nasal Flu Vaccinations: Rescheduled for 9th January 2018



Pupils from Reception to Year 4 were due to receive nasal flu vaccinations on Tuesday. Unfortunately due to the weather the NHS team were unable to visit Woodcroft. These important vaccines have now been rescheduled for 9th January 2018.

REMINDER: School Closes at 2.00pm on Wednesday 20th December

Online Payments Are Coming to Woodcroft



We are delighted to inform you that Woodcroft will soon be using the online payment system **SchoolMoney**. This means that you will be able to pay online for school expenses like trips, dinner money, clubs and uniform with your debit or credit card. The system will be starting in the New Year ...Look out for more information coming soon.

December Diary

Please note: Children can come to school in party clothes on their party day (no uniform required) - please ensure appropriate footwear and warm clothing is included.



- ★ 18th Y1, Y3 & Y4 Parties -
- ★ 19th Y2, Y5 & Y6 Parties - further details will be sent out by classes
- ★ 19th Festival of Dance 9.30am (families of performing groups will be invited to attend - more details to follow)
- ★ 19th Nursery last day
- ★ **20th Last Day of term - 2.00pm Finish**
- ★ Pupils Return to school on 3rd January 2018



Science Challenge - Can you make water walk?

Miss Stubbings and the Science Council are setting a prize science challenge over the Christmas break. You will need: water, glass cups, paper kitchen towels and food colouring. Copies of the challenge poster can be downloaded from the news section of our website. For tips on this experiment search 'Walking Water' on Youtube.

To enter, send a photo or video of your experiment to Miss Stubbings by Friday the 6th January, 2018.

Prizes will be given out on the 13th January 2018. Good luck!

(Well done Gayathri for spotting the date mistake in last week's Newsletter)



New Course For Parents at Woodcroft who are not working on Wednesday (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY TO WEDNESDAY)



Woodcroft will be hosting a fantastic new FREE course for parents starting in January. It will be provided by Barnet's Family Resilience Team every Wednesday morning for 10 weeks. Creche facilities will also be available at no cost. If you are not working on Wednesdays and are free to attend please sign up or express an interest. For more information enquire at the school office or speak with Ms Anna if you use the Foundation Stage entrance.

FAMILY LINKS (10 weeks starting Wednesday January 17th 2018)

For parents of children aged 2-11 years. The focus is on looking after yourself as a parent and to help understand your own and your child's emotional needs. The purpose is to help good communication within the family. Areas covered: family rules, behaviour management, understanding and managing feelings, nurturing ourselves, child development and problem solving.

Refreshments are provided and certificates will be awarded at the end of the course.

Whole School Attendance

↑ 95.8% ↑

We are getting closer and closer to our 96% target !!

Weekly Class Attendance Champions

Week Beginning 4th December 2017

KS1 Class of the week: 1H 98.6% Fantastic, keep it up!

KS2 Class of the week: 3B 100% PERFECT SCORE! TOP ATTENDANCE!!



PARTY FOOD GUIDANCE

At the end of term pupils will be celebrating with their annual Christmas Class Parties. This is a time for some festive fun and games. Food is an important part of any celebration, and families traditionally send in a plate of food for sharing. **We would like this tradition to continue at Woodcroft.** However, in school we have a number of important things to consider. These include children with allergies, vegetarian and religious diets, safe food preparation, government healthy eating guidance and the school food policy. *If only life was simple!* We do have a number of pupils with **severe nut allergies** currently in school, so we have to take these considerations very seriously.

Please note: If you DO NOT wish your child to participate in the food aspect of the class party please let your class teacher know in writing. We recommend that parents who withdraw their child from sharing food at parties send in a separately labelled lunch box with party food items for their child. These individual party box items must still follow the checklist below:

Party food checklist:

- Only provide items that DO NOT contain nuts – Woodcroft is a NUT FREE school
- No chocolate or chocolate products e.g. chocolate cakes and spreads
- No fizzy drinks
- Fruit juices with no added sugar
- Only pre-packed cakes and biscuits that come with ingredient lists (*So that means **no** home baked cakes even though they are the best!*)
- No cakes or items that require cutting in school

Suggested party food:

- Sausage Rolls or Veggie Sausage Rolls
- Sausages / veggie sausages
- Samosas / spring rolls (*veggie is best then everyone can share*)
- Pizza
- Sandwiches (various fillings) – no nut or chocolate spreads
- Crisps and Popcorn
- Cherry tomatoes / mini cucumbers / pre-packed carrot sticks
- Small fruits (satsumas, small bananas, etc)
- Non chocolate biscuits or individual cakes (in packaging with an ingredients label)

We understand the difficulties; however schools have got to consider the wellbeing of every individual. Thank you for your understanding and support on this matter.

Reminder about Birthday Bags and Treats – Please do not send in cakes and sweets for birthdays



Because of severe food allergies and individual dietary requirements we need to closely monitor all food in school. Unfortunately, this poses a problem when birthday treats and goody bags are brought in – often late in the day! For class parties staff specially set aside time to monitor the food sent in. However, this cannot be maintained or guaranteed on a daily basis in a busy classroom.

We therefore ask parents **NOT to send in sweets and cakes as birthday treats.** We realise that this can be frustrating, however please understand that teachers are responsible for the health of all of the 30 children in their class!

Mealtime Supervisor Vacancy for Spring Term 2018

A new Mealtime Supervisor (MTS) is required to start during the spring term 2018, details below...

We are looking for an enthusiastic Mealtime Supervisor to join our committed team. Experience of working with children in play settings is desirable and a calm manner essential. Our job description and person specification gives more details about the post. These are available from the school website on the Vacancy page (Information Section).

<http://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/mealtime-supervisor-vacancies/>

MTS Post Details

Part Time

Term time only

Hours per week: 6 ¼ (with opportunities for additional hours)

Pay scale (see below)

Start date: Monday 19th February 2018

Woodcroft Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Any successful applicant will be required to submit satisfactory references and undertake a criminal record check via the DBS before they can be appointed.

Application forms can be downloaded from the website and should be returned to the school by Monday 15th January. If you require a paper copy of any forms please enquire at the school office.

Closing date for applications: Monday 15th January 2017

Interviews will take place during the week of Monday 22nd to Friday 26th January 2018

Visits to the school are welcomed. For further details please contact the school office and speak with Mr Russell (Deputy Headteacher).

Mealtime Supervisor Pay Scales

The pay scales for school support staff changed on April 1st 2017 and are now part of the Barnet Unified Reward Scheme.

Job Title: Mealtime Supervisor Grade A

Basic Salary (Full Time Equivalent) £18,375

Actual Salary (without additional hours) £2,896



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Pupils return to school on Wednesday 3rd January 2018