

Woodcroft Primary School

Goldbeaters Grove Edgware Middlesex HA8 0QF

· Email: office@woodcroft.barnetmail.net

Headteacher: Mr Craig Tallon

Tel: 020 8959 3244 Fax: 020 8959 0736

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SCHOOL FUNDING CONCERNS

Dear Parents / Carers

Barnet Headteachers are extremely concerned about the amount of funding given to schools. All schools are now finding it very difficult to pay for adequate staffing, sufficient books and equipment, and the upkeep of their buildings.

At Woodcroft, our Governors have had to make significant cuts this year; we even had to make staff redundant in the summer so we could balance the budget and not go into the red!

The local authority is also facing significant funding shortfalls. They are finding it difficult to pay for essential services for schools. Barnet are now proposing to cut school budgets further in order to pay for these services.

Barnet Headteachers feel that this proposal, added to the current state of school finances, is a major problem. We feel that parents, the council and our MPs should be made aware of these serious concerns. Headteachers have written a joint letter in response that is included for parents today.

This is a complicated financial situation, with lots of contradictory information in the media. However, from our school's position it is VERY serious! We are being asked to do more in schools without the money to do it properly. This is going to affect the education of ALL children; not just in Barnet, but nationally!

We ask that you read the letter, and, if you share our concerns, then contact your MP or councillor. Rest assured, the staff at Woodcroft are working even harder to ensure that your child's education is not affected. But with less staff, less resources and buildings that need maintaining, we cannot guarantee that this will not have a serious impact in future years!

Yours sincerely

Craig Tallon Headteacher