WOODCROFT WEEKLY

ISSUE 385



- Weekly News Videos
- Online School Guides
 COVID19 Visitor Info



NHS Advice



NHS

www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk

10th July 2020

End of Term Message

Well, I think we can definitely say there hasn't been a school year like it! However, despite all of the problems COVID19 has caused (and still is causing) the Woodcroft community has risen to the challenge. I am immensely proud of all of our pupils who have maintained their commitment to Woodcroft Online learning. Those that have returned to school have been exemplary in their behaviour and attitude. Our staff have gone above and beyond, not only to provide ongoing learning opportunities, but to maintain the Woodcroft spirit through the multitude of Google Classroom events, activities and competitions throughout the lockdown. Though it is interesting to note - Woodcroft hasn't been closed for a single day!

End of Term

The last day of term for pupils will now be Friday 17th July and we close at 1.30pm on that day.

It will be sad to say goodbye to three of our dedicated teachers, Ms Sherring, Miss Verstraeten and Miss Gibson. Look out on the Google Classroom next Wednesday at 2.00pm for some special posts!

A Safe Return In September

Pupils return after the summer break on Monday 7th September. The Government expects everyone to return to school. We are currently finishing off the planning and risk assessments for everyone's safe return. These will be posted on the website next week. Text updates will be sent in due course. Rest assured, everything is being done to ensure the school is ready to operate in the safest possible way.

Collect your child's PE Kits

If you haven't already collected your child's school bags since lock down. We have allocated a time for parents to visit to pick things up. Uncollected items will be sent home in September. **Please come to the Main Entrance** Nursery and Reception - Tuesday 14th between 10.00am and 12.00pm

Year 1 - Tuesday 14th between 1.00pm and 3.00pm

Year 2 - Wednesday 15th between 10.00am and 12.00pm

Year 3 - Wednesday 15th between 1.00pm and 3.00pm

Year 4 - Thursday 16th between 10.00am and 12.00pm

Year 5 and 6 - Thursday 16th between 1.00pm and 3.00pm

Meet Mr Mansour our new Year 2 Teacher

We got a chance to meet three of our new teachers in this week's news video, **<u>Episode 10 (click here)</u>**. However, Mr Mansour was busy with his current class so couldn't join us for filming. However, we have asked him to introduce himself to the Woodcroft Community.



Mr Mansour has kindly sent along a short video clip that can be viewed by visiting the News Page of the website and <u>clicking this link</u>.

Hello, from Mr Mansour

Year of STEM

Next academic year at Woodcroft is the year of STEM! We will begin with a whole-school summer Brain Builder focussing on STEM activities, and the rest of the year will be packed



with related activities. But what is STEM? **STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.** All these subjects are joined together as they teach you the skills you need to create AMAZING things in the future. Learning about STEM gives you the skills you'll need if you want to grow up to be a videogame designer, an astronaut, to design computers, smartphones, games consoles and more!

Brain Builder - All About Me!

Class lists for next year have now been shared to parents, but due to class bubbles children have not had a chance to meet their new teacher. This week's brain builder homework, shared in your child's Google Classroom, gives your child the chance to tell their new teacher all about themselves. Pupils could mention their favourite subject, any hobbies they have, what makes them special and unique and the things they are most looking forward to about their new class. Click on the poster to email your child's new teacher their work. The more creative, the better!



Year 5 Information About Secondary Transfer

Year 5 families need to start thinking about transfer to secondary school in September 2021! The school website has got all of the latest information from Barnet about the process. Take a look at ...

https://woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/secondary-transfer-2021/

Does your child have access to a Chromebook (or Laptop)



If you want to support your children both now and for the future, one of the best things we could suggest would be to get a Chromebook. A Chromebook is like a laptop but more suited to school work at Woodcroft. Everything we do in school is on the Google Chrome platform. Microsoft Windows laptops are fine to use but not as straightforward.

Phones and tablets are fine for watching media but they are not ideal for school work. We highly recommend using a device with a proper keyboard. If your child

has a chromebook they will be able to continue to use it for homework and study when we return after lockdown. It will be a good long term investment for your child's education.

£90 Summer Food Vouchers

Do you now qualify for Free School Meals?

We have ordered the summer food vouchers for eligible families. However, If your circumstances have changed, and you think you may now be eligible, we need to know NOW! Please check your status on the government website and then call the school office as soon as possible:

https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

We will then arrange for you to provide your evidence so that we can order your vouchers!

Department for Education

Free School Meal Voucher Scheme Option A summer shopping voucher worth £90 to spend at supermarkets

will be sent to your smartphone!



***Please note**: eligibility for Free School Meals is different from the Universal Infant Free School Meals normally given to every KS1 and Reception pupil. You must be in receipt of certain benefits to claim your voucher. Check using the website above and get in touch as soon as possible.

Nursery Places for September 2020



30 Hours FREE Childcare is available at Woodcroft Nursery It is now time to book your child's place in our Nursery for September 2020. A few places still remain! Contact the school office to discuss putting your child on our register. Children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 are eligible for a Nursery place at Woodcroft starting in September 2020.

Woodcroft offers the FREE flexible 15 hours provision for all children, with the option to pay for extra sessions as required. Parents of three and four year olds that are registered with Woodcroft's Nursery can also apply for the government's **30 hours free childcare** offer through the Government website **www.childcarechoices.gov.uk**.

Communicating while wearing a mask

We are not wearing masks in school (unless staff are providing close care e.g. first aid). But we recognise and support parents wearing masks at collection time. We have published some guidance produced by UCL on our website (in the News section along with this issue <u>(click here)</u>)





Children's Centre Timetables Important children's services are now beginning to restart, and some are continuing to offer online support over the summer.

In the News section of our website you will be able to find a comprehensive timetable of all of the events and activities being offered in and around our local area.

What is happening in September?

All children are back to school in September. This is vital for children's learning and wellbeing. We are planning to make school life feel as normal as possible. However, we are arranging things so that it is as safe as possible. More information will be provided next week. But here are a few things to think about:

- All Pupils return on 7th September (Nursery and Reception pupils have different individual start dates)
- We will have a staggered start pupils can arrive any time between 8.30am and 9.00am and go directly to class
- Full School Uniform is expected
- Classroom's will be arranged according to Government safety guidance
- Pupils and Staff will stay in 'Year Group Bubbles'. This means:
 - Teachers, Teaching Assistants and MTS only work with the same group of pupils
 - Pupils will not mix with other year groups. We will have staggered break times and no whole school activities such as assemblies
- Strict hygiene routines will still be in place
- Lessons will finish at 3.00pm and children can be collected from the playground between 3.00pm and 3.15pm
- Social distancing routines will apply to all adults on premises. A one way system will operate at the beginning and end of the day

How can I get ready for September?

It will be important to prepare your child for school in September, especially if they haven't returned since March. But please note, we have had 120 pupils every day in school from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 Year 6 and Key Workers and everyone has been safe and happy!

These are some things you can do:

- Make sure you talk about school in a positive way
- Discuss how things are being made safe for everyone
- Check your child's uniform everyone will have grown!
- Make sure your child has a personal water bottle. Schools will not be supplying water bottles and communal water fountains are not allowed to be used.
- Get your child their own pencil case with essential equipment (this will reduce anxiety). Pupils will NOT be allowed to share equipment with each other.

Pencil case essentials:

- Pencil and sharpener
- eraser
- Ruler
- Basic colours

Optional extras

- Glue Stick
- Protractor
- Children's Scissors
- Handwriting Pen



Annual Reports

Your child's Annual Report from the teacher is now available for collection. Those in school will be given theirs today. Otherwise, parents can visit the Main Entrance to collect them (no appointment necessary, just ring the buzzer). Why not visit at your allotted time for PE Kits next week and collect both at the same time next week?

Can we apologise for the confusion over emails. We thought this would be an easy way to send them. Unfortunately, Data Protection (GDPR) Regulations state we need to get signed permission to send them this way and we did not have this on record.

Wishing you a safe summer

All of the Staff and Governors at Woodcroft would like to wish you all a safe summer. We look forward to seeing everyone back to school in September. Good Luck to all of our Year 6 who head off to secondary school, we will be thinking about you!!

SCHOOL CLOSES AT 1.30PM ON FRIDAY 17TH JULY

AND

SCHOOL REOPENS ON MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER