# WOODCROFT WEEKLY

ISSUE 407 www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk 26th March 2021



**Together Towards Success** 

# New on the website

Lots to look out for on our website:

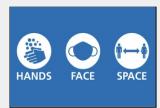
- Nursery Places for September
- Bookface Challenge Gallery
- Back to School Updates

#### **Twitter**



#### **NHS Advice**





#### **PSHE Theme**

In school we are thinking about ...

Autism Awareness Week ... Super 7 Challenge



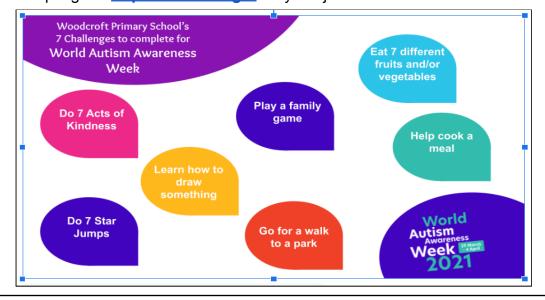


#### **World Autism Awareness Week**



The coronavirus pandemic has been particularly tough for many autistic people and their families. Services have closed and many people have been left stranded. One in every 100 UK school children is autistic and, without the right support, school can be a confusing and difficult place.

At Woodcroft we are going to join in with World Autism Awareness Week by attempting the <a href="Super 7">Super 7</a> Challenge! Why not join in at home?



#### **School Holiday Celebrations**

We hope that you have a good school holiday break. We finish at 2.00pm on Wednesday 31st March and return on Monday 19th April. While we are away from school lots of you will be observing special religious festivals.

#### **Passover**



Jewish people all over the world are observing the festival of Passover, a celebration of freedom and life. It is one of the most important dates in the Jewish calendar from 27 March to 4 April. On the evening before

Passover, a home service called a Seder will include a symbolic family meal. During Passover, Jewish people then do not eat certain foods.

#### Easter



Easter is the most important festival in the Christian calendar and is a time when Christians celebrate the belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. This year Easter weekend takes place for Christians from 2<sup>nd</sup> to

4<sup>th</sup> April. On Easter Sunday, Christians would traditionally attend church and then celebrate with a feast. Christians prepare for Easter during Lent when they observe a period of fasting and spiritual growth.

#### Ramadan



Ramadan is the holiest month for Muslims and begins on the evening of Monday 12th April and ends on Tuesday 11th May. Ramadan remembers the month the Qur'an was first revealed to the Propher

Muhammad (pbuh) called Lailut ul-Qadr. Most Muslims fast between dawn and sunset and devote themselves to their faith. After the last day of Ramadan, Muslims celebrate it's ending with Eid al-Fitr, the Festival of Breaking the Fast.

#### Woodcroft 'Book Week' Masked Reader Final!

We hope that you enjoyed watching the Masked Reader videos! Congratulations to Mr Guest - the eventual champion as voted for by the children in class. Take a look at the final unmasking video here ... <a href="https://bit.ly/397asQy">https://bit.ly/397asQy</a>

The purpose of Book Week is to promote reading. And you only get better by reading LOTS! The more you read, the more fluent you become, the more enjoyable it is. **Children should read aloud every day** to an adult or older sibling, even if it is just for 10 minutes! Make sure this is part of your daily routine.



# **ASDA Donates 10 Laptops To Woodcroft**



We are excited to inform you that Woodcroft has been kindly donated 10 fantastic, brand new Dell

laptop sets (including headphones and carry bags) by ASDA. This donation has been made possible thanks to ASDA Stores, ASDA Foundation and its partners Dell and Vodafone as part of its 'Laptops For Schools' programme. Woodcroft was kindly nominated by the wonderful staff at ASDA Colindale.

Mr Tallon (Headteacher) said "We can't thank Asda and Dell enough for choosing our school to receive these laptops, they will help us in our mission to break down digital barriers and support our pupils' learning!"

We are initially planning to use the laptops in our Acorns Afterschool Club provision in order to help pupils who attend catch up on any missed learning or complete homework assignments!





We have noticed that some pupils are not locking up their bikes before they leave them in the bike shelter. We ask that every bike or scooter stored on school premises is securely locked by the owner.

The shelters are locked during the day, but all bikes and scooters need their own individual lock or chain. We do accept responsibility for any bike left in school.

Please make sure that your bike is locked up every day! Thank you.

#### **Term Dates**

With the Easter break approaching it is a good time to check you have our up to date term dates. It is also worth remembering that not all schools share the same holiday dates!

- The last day of term is Wednesday 31st March at 2.00pm
- Nursery finishes the day before on Tuesday 30th March
- Pupils return to school on Monday 19th April

All of our term dates can always be found on our website:

https://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/term-dates/

#### **Attendance**

We have been very pleased with attendance since our return to school. We are currently averaging around **96.5**% attendance. Remember, every day counts!

#### **Art Week**

This term's Art Week theme was 'Futuristic Art!' which took place this week.

Each year group had a focus artist, art skill and an exciting project to complete. They researched a chosen artist, learnt and developed skills through creating their own piece of art inspired by the artist, and reflected on their art work.

There were some inspiring creations across the

whole school, the children should be very proud! (Photographs of the fantastic artwork created will be shared and available for you to see on the school website after Easter.)













The Art Week projects have been a fantastic way to celebrate the arts at the end of our Spring Term as part of our AIM@Arts Programs of enrichment.

We look forward to opportunities, enjoying more of the arts in the Summer Term!



# **Welcome to the Parent Portal**

Have you activated your **Arbor Parent Portal? 225** pupil accounts have now been activated by their parents and carers!

Everyone has been sent an Arbor welcome email to enable you to access your child's information page.

After the Easter break we shall be contacting those families who are still to activate their account. It is important for our future communication services that everyone is signed up.



IMPORTANT NOTE: parents who have tried this out for us report that it is quick and easy. However, you may need to use a tablet or laptop the very first time you login as some phones do not allow you to press the 'accept terms' button because of their screen size. Once this is done they say that it is easy to login using your phone.

# Childcare Choices

### **Nursery Places For September**

30 Hours FREE Childcare is available at Woodcroft Nursery

Now is the time to reserve your place in our Nursery ready for this September. Contact the school office to discuss enrolling your child on our register. Children born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 are eligible for a Nursery place at Woodcroft starting in September 2021.

#### \*\*\*Contact our school office to reserve your place\*\*\*

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**.







# **Woodcroft Project Praised By European Commission**

It is with great pleasure that we can inform our school community that the BEHAVE Project in which we have been involved over the past 3½ years has recently received an outstanding final evaluation from the European Commission achieving a fantastic **91/100 points**!

In September 2017 Woodcroft was invited to be a partner in a European Funded Behavioural Project - BeHave! The BeHave project aimed to promote a culture about the most effective strategies to approach pupil Social Emotional Behaviour Difficulties (SEBD's), in schools. This led to a smart application to record data and promote new practices and approaches in Evidence Based Education.

The other countries participating were from Italy, Portugal, Romania, Belgium. Each participating country hosted training: Italy (Feb 2019), Portugal (May 2019), United Kingdom - Woodcroft (Oct 2019), and Romania (Feb 2020). Unfortunately the Belgium (May 2020) training was cancelled due to the pandemic. You may remember news articles from when Woodcroft hosted a conference for 50 European teachers and academics back in October 2019.

Sadly, the project has now finished. But this week we received the final report from the European Commission informing the organisers of the 91/100 evaluation score! We are all proud to have been part of such a successful international initiative!



Some memories of our study trips to Palermo (Sicily), Timişoara (Romania) and Porto (Portugal).



#### ACORNS CLUB IS BACK FROM MONDAY 15th MARCH

Open every evening during term time from 3:30 - 5.30 pm

**DUE TO COVID19 ACORNS WILL BE RUNNING A MODIFIED SERVICE** 

For pupils from Reception to Year 6

| Arts & Crafts | Film Nights | Multi Sports | Games |

#### CALL THE OFFICE NOW - TO BE ADDED TO THE BOOKING PAGE

Thank you to everyone who responded to our survey - we had a fantastic response. As a result we have now reopened Acorns!

#### **Updated Pricing**

We listened to your feedback and have revised our arrangements to make the services as cost effective as possible. However, to make it viable, and keep running, we will need at least 12 children per session to cover our costs. For one hour until 4.30pm it will cost £5.00 per child, or for two hours until 5.30pm it will be £8.00 per child.

#### **Book Using School Money**

Parents who have previously registered will be now able to book sessions. If you would like to register your child for the first time you will need to call the school office so that we can add you to the booking page.

To ensure space for social distancing the club moved away from the Oak Suite and into the dining room area.

Due to Early Years staffing ratios we will only be able to accept pupils of statutory school age from Reception to Year 6. Unfortunately, we cannot accept children from Nursery.

Collection will now be from the back entrance of the school in Wolsey Grove and at two specified allocated times of 4:30pm and 5:30pm.

Should the demand for spaces exceed this availability then priority provision will be allocated to the children of key workers.

#### What to do next

- 1. Pre registered pupils can now book sessions (call the office if you can't see Acorns on School Money listed under clubs)
- 2. New children must be added to the Acorns register by calling the school office first
- 3. All sessions must be booked in advance using School Money
- 4. The charges are as follows:
  - 3:30 4:30pm = £5.00 (1 hour)
  - 3:30 5:30pm = £8.00 (Full session)
- 5. If you collect after your allocated time you will be charged the additional £3.00 Full Session price
- 6. Light refreshments are included in the price (but this is not a meal)
- 7. Collection is via the back gate in Wolsey Grove (**Not the main front entrance**)