WOODCROFT WEEKLY

ISSUE 505 www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk 8th December 2023

Together Towards Success
*With our **AIM Values***

December Diary Dates

14/12 Girls Football v Holy Trinity

14/12 Year 2 Show #1
15/12 Year 2 Show #2

18/12 Y1, Y5 & Y6 Party

19/12 Y2, Y3 & Y4 Party

19/12 Reception Sing - along @ 2.45pm

21/12 Final Day Finish @ 2.15pm

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Follow us on X / Twitter:
@WPS_Success

PSHE Theme

At school we are thinking about …

Advent



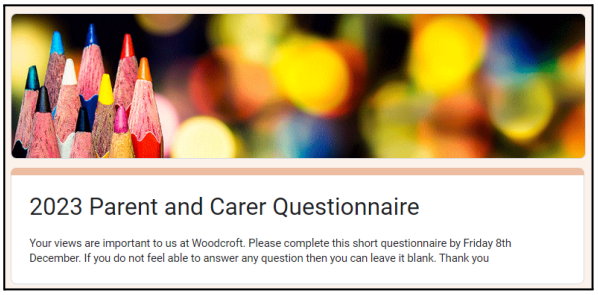
Strings and Brass - Autumn Showcase

Our strings and brass instrumentalists took to the stage last Thursday to perform their Autumn Showcase. For many this was their first live show!
Then players performed a repertoire of songs to an audience of KS2 and family members. Well done to all of our musicians and to our BEAT Teachers, Mrs Mclean (strings) and Mrs Reeder (brass) for all of their hard work.





Please let us know your views … Annual Questionnaire



We have been conducting our annual questionnaire. Thank you to everyone who has responded so far, your fantastic feedback has been well received so far. However, today is your last chance to respond. Please take a moment to answer a few multiple choice questions. Click here:
https://forms.gle/ZGNxpJVf1B6u8kif7

Book Fair Thank You for supporting our Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported our Book Fair last week. **We sold £650 worth of books**, enabling us to claim £260 worth of free books for the school library. Special thanks go to Mrs Smith for supervising the Book Fair each evening, and also to our Year 6 helpers: David, Gabby, Izzy, Jack, Julia and Sophia V, who did a great job selling books, stationery and encouraging people to come along

Our time at the Tower of London!
A Year 5 Trip Report by Chris and Theo

Historic Royal Palaces
Tower of London

On Tuesday 5th December, 5R and 5H went to the Tower of London as part of our Tudor topic, and it was wonderful! We started by walking to Burnt Oak Station, then we caught the Tube to London Bridge for about 40 minutes, and there we saw the Shard, which is the tallest building in Western Europe. We also saw the Walkie-Talkie and The Cheese Grater (which Mr Rees loved) before heading over Tower Bridge. We saw the HMS Belfast, and as you can imagine, we saw the luscious River Thames running below. Finally, we got to the Tower and when we entered the first things that we saw were the ravens next to the famous White Tower. Then, when we went in we saw Henry VIII's armour and we could pretend to be artillery, riflemen and cavalry. After that we ate our lunch, and also saw the Beefeaters.

After lunch, we went to see the world-famous Crown Jewels. We saw Queen Victoria's Crown and the Orb, the Sceptre and St Edward's Crown.Then, we went to the Gift Shop. You could buy swords, slime and lollies, and you could mint your own special Tower of London coins. Finally we came back to school to finish what was an amazing adventure.

By Chris and Theo





Christmas Cards

If you want to give Christmas cards to your friends and teachers we would like pupils to follow these simple steps.



Sending Cards

1. The card post box is placed in the foyer.
2. Please make sure to put both the person's name and class clearly on the front.
3. Cards will be delivered to class every day.
4. Teachers will give out cards at the end of the day for you to take home
5. Please open cards at home
6. Recycle your envelopes, and NEVER drop envelopes as litter on the ground. Thank you

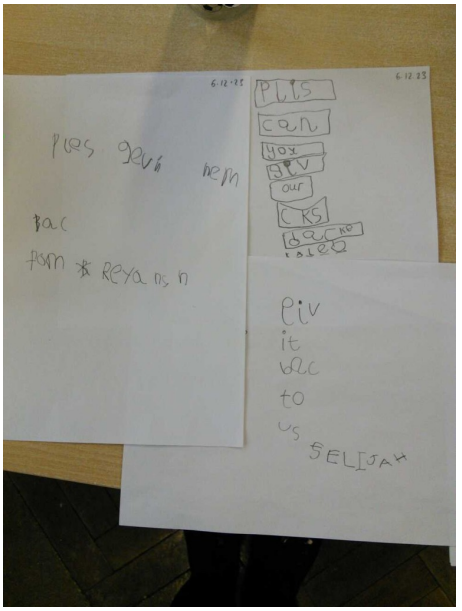
Early Years News - It Was Gingerbread Week



In Nursery and Reception this week we have been reading the story of 'The Gingerbread Man.' On Tuesday we read a gingerbread man recipe and together we baked our own biscuits. When we returned to school on Wednesday we realised that our biscuits had disappeared. Where had they gone? We went searching around school and wrote lots of messages asking for our biscuits to be returned. Fortunately, they were returned to us later that day ready to be decorated.







Nursery admissions now from age 3 years old

Woodcroft Nursery now accepts applications for children to start from the age of 3 years old.
We enrol children at the start of each term when they are three:

- For a **September** start date a child must turn 3 before 31st August.
- For a **January** start date a child must turn 3 between 1st September and 31st December.
- For an **April** start date a child must turn 3 before the last day in February (28th/29th)

Children can then apply to start our Reception class from the September of the year they will become 4 years old.

Apply Now

Applications for Woodcroft Nursery are made directly to the school. You can register your child for our waiting list at any age. Please contact the Main Office to register or book a visit.

For the current 2023 – 2024 academic year the key admissions dates are:
September 2023 start – born between 1st September 2019 to 31st August 2020.
January 2024 start – born between 1st September 2020 to 31st December 2020
April 2024 start – born between 1st January 2021 and 28th/29th February 2021

Applications for Reception Class starting September 2024



Parents of Nursery age children should now be thinking about applying for your child's Reception class place for next September. Generally, these will be children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020.

Online applications are now open and all pupils need to apply by Wednesday 15th January 2024. Please remember that attendance at our Nursery is not a guarantee of a place in Woodcroft's Reception classes. For more information visit: **https://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/reception-class-admissions/**
Applications can be started at **https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/**

Christmas Lunch

We enjoyed a wonderful school Christmas lunch on Thursday 7th December! Thank you to all of our catering staff for preparing such a feast. Take a look …
















If you would still like to donate £2 to the charity **Save The Children** then go to …

https://jumpers.savethechildren.org.uk/pay



All bookings to be made by the 15th December Deadline

There are still spaces available to children and families to secure holiday activities through the BACE Holiday voucher programme. Vouchers were issued earlier this term to eligible families who qualify by being in receipt of benefit-related free school meals (not Mayor's funded KS1 and KS2 meals programme). Please check your emails and messages on November 3rd. Families who were eligible on this date were automatically sent the digital voucher.

Please note: bookings for Winter 2023 will close on or around 15th December 2023.

Take a look at the new Winter edition of the BACE brochure. Here you can find family-friendly activities, advice, support and information about the BACE Holiday Camps available during the Festive Holidays! Eligible families in receipt of benefit-related free school meals (not Mayor's funded KS1 and KS2 meals programme) will be sent vouchers. Other families can still enquire about availability.

Find out more about BACE here: **https://barnetyouth.uk/BACE-Holidays**

Read the brochure here

https://cdn.realsmart.co.uk/25c98ca8121dcecef8a222e01ee12a53/uploads/2023/11/01105119/023875-BC4031-BACE-Winter-brochure-2023-DIGITAL.pdf



Be Punctual For School

ALL children must be in school for registration by 8.45am

Doors and gates open from 8.30am for children to enter class. Pupils who arrive after 8.45am will be issued with a late mark.



The Birthday Book Club

We are always happy to hear about pupils who have enjoyed recent birthdays and celebrate by donating a book for their Class Library.



Happy birthday to Ali (1S) age 6



Festive Events

December

- Year 2 Show #1 Thursday 14th at 9.30am
- Year 2 Show #2 Friday 15th at 2.00pm

Final Week Festivities

- Monday 18th - Festival of Dance: Cheerleaders and Dance Teams perform at 9.15am

Class Party Days (Y6 and Y3). Updated dates

Y3 and Y6 party days have changed. Please take note of the new date.

- Y1, Y6 & Y5 Party Day - Monday 18th
- Y2, Y4 & Y3 Party Day - Tuesday 19th

Note: *On party days children do not need to wear school uniform and can dress in party clothes. Please ensure they wear sensible footwear and clothes appropriate for the weather.*

- Reception Christmas Sing-a-long - Tuesday 19th 2.45pm
- Christmas Assembly - Wednesday 20th December - KS1 & F AM , KS2 PM
- Reception Christmas Party Wednesday 20th PM
- Nursery Christmas stay and play party - Wednesday 20th
    - Nursery AM stay and play 8.45 - 9.30am
    - Nursery PM Stay and Play 12.15 - 1.00pm

Last Day

- Final Day of term - Thursday 21st December
  School finishes at 2.15pm
  The Nursery Last day will now be the same as the whole school on Thursday 21st December

Spring Term 2024

- Pupils Return on Tuesday 9th January (first day of term)

Household Support Fund - December Food Vouchers

BARNET LONDON BOROUGH

The Government provides local authorities across England with funding to support families most in need to help with significantly rising living costs. This is called the Household Support Fund.

The fund supports households who would struggle to meet food costs during the school holidays by providing supermarket vouchers. Families need to be eligible for benefit related free school meals in order to qualify for the vouchers. We shall be distributing a December voucher to the value of £42.30 next week.

Check here for more information: **https://www.barnet.gov.uk/householdsupportfund**