WOODCROFT WEEKLY

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

Diary Dates

March

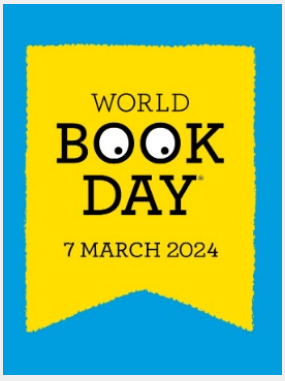
6th - EYFS Maths Workshop
6th - Barnet Dance Festival
11th - The Great Big Dance Off
11th British Science Week
13th - EYFS 'Stay and Play' all about Maths
13th - Y3 Egyptian Day
15th - Red Nose Day - *Are you 'Reddy'*

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@WPS_Success

PSHE Theme

We are thinking about
World Book Day



Year 4 WEBB Dodgeball Tournament





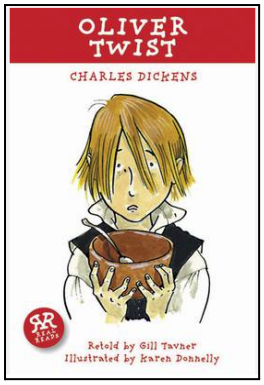


On Monday 26th of February, Woodcroft hosted a tournament that was a version of Dodgeball called 'Binball'. Year 4 competed against Edgware, Barnfield and Broadfields Primary schools. Each school entered two teams of 6 players.

Both 4T and 4S did very well in their group stage, coming second in each. Then, in the quarter-finals, both Woodcroft teams played each other. They were enthusiastic, and played fairly, but, at the final whistle, 4S were the winners. 4S then beat Edgware in the semis to go through to the grand final!

In the final, 4S had to play Barnfield. It was a very tense match, and with a minute remaining the score was all square at 2-2. Then, a remarkable catch by Eltsi won us the Championships. All Woodcroft's players from 4T and 4S did magnificently and were a credit to our school. Special well done to the winning team of Daniel, Rania, Kameel, Victory, Eltsi and Salwa. A big thank you to Mr Taylor for organising.

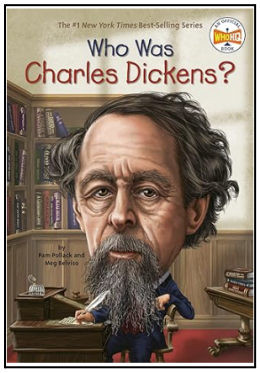
Woodcroft Book Week 4th - 8th March



Next week is Book Week where we shall be celebrating the joy of reading. Our focus text this year is 'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens. Class teachers have been reading the novel to their classes over the last few weeks ready for class activities based around this classic story.

M&M Theatre

On Monday morning, M&M Theatre Company will be performing the classic story, 'Oliver Twist' to Key Stages 1 and 2. This will be followed by a workshop for Year 6 all about the staging of the show.



Biography of Charles Dickens

During the week, we shall also be finding out more about the life of Charles Dickens. This will inspire KS2 to write their own Charles Dickens biographies. KS1 will use Oliver Twist as inspiration for their writing.

Other activities

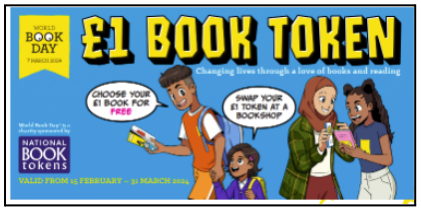
Other activities will include listening to the songs from the musical 'Oliver!', looking at and creating art from the Victorian period and finding out more about life during the time the story is set.



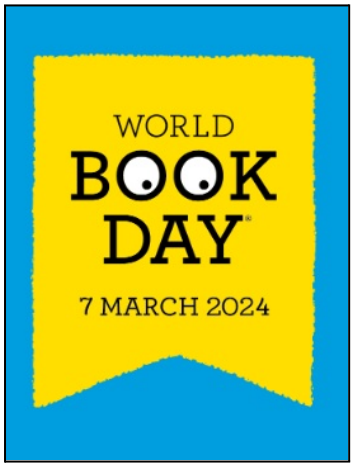
The Little Prince

Reception and Nursery have been reading 'The Little Prince' by Antoine de Saint-Expury and are doing different activities based on this story.

World Book Day, Thursday 7th March



The World Book Day Vouchers were sent home this week. They can be used in any shop selling books to claim £1 off a book or they can be exchanged for a free book at certain shops, including the major supermarkets. The list of free books is on the back of the voucher. The vouchers are valid until Sunday 31st March





***Note:* at Woodcroft we do *NOT* dress up as book characters** *as part of World Book Day. We believe that this results in one off purchases of expensive costumes at a time we are struggling with the cost of living. We still like to dress up and have fun, but we make our themes more generic and encourage making use of things we already have in our wardrobes at home. For example, Sports Kit Day or the upcoming Red Nose Day when you can just accessorise or wear something red!*

Barnet Council Spring 2024 HAF scheme

Spring BACE 2024 opened for bookings on Tuesday 27 February 2024 and runs until Sunday 17 March 2024. Vouchers will be distributed next week to eligible families. For more details visit … **https://barnetyouth.uk/**



BACE Holiday Activities / Camps run throughout the Spring Holidays from: 02 April 2024 until 12 April 2024.

Download the catalogue here: **https://bit.ly/48EXcOZ**

Children who are **eligible for benefit-related Free School Meals** within the borough of Barnet can attend a maximum of 4 fully funded activities/days throughout the Spring Holidays. Each child can attend a maximum of 1 fully funded (FREE) activity per day by supplying the Holidays Activity Voucher in your cart.

If you receive food vouchers via school you will also be eligible for activity vouchers and will be issued with a 16 digit BACE Holiday e-Voucher Code if you are eligible for a fully funded space at BACE. If your child is not eligible you can either pay to attend a BACE camp and book with the provider directly or access the fully funded (FREE) Positive Activities offer for all children book here.

GOV.UK

UK Government says NO to Mobile Phones for Children

Last week the Government requested that ALL schools prohibit the use of phones in school. It has issued new guidance: **https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mobile-phones-in-schools**



At Woodcroft we do not allow pupils to use phones on site. Our rule is simple. If we see or hear a phone it will be confiscated immediately and then only be returned to an adult. Our **policy on mobile devices** is available on our website.

However, the problem is much bigger than this and many parents are now realising that children accessing mobile phones is extremely damaging. A campaign is gaining momentum called **Smartphone Free Childhood.**

https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

A staggering 83% of 11 year-olds in Britain have a smartphone. This is despite ever increasing evidence that phones damage developing brains, contribute to childhood mental illness and expose pupils to inappropriate content. Take a look:

- SMARTPHONES ARE HIGHLY ADDICTIVE
- SMARTPHONE LINKS TO MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS
- SMARTPHONES EXPOSE CHILDREN TO HARMFUL CONTENT
- SMARTPHONES REDUCE ATTENTION IN SCHOOL

If you want your child to be healthy, safe and successful at school then our advice would be to delay smartphone use until their teens at the earliest. Giving your child a smartphone might seem a kind thing to do, but as the evidence is now increasingly showing, you are potentially harming your child.

Nursery and Reception ‘Writing’ Stay and Pay









On Wednesday 28th February Early Years parents were invited into the classrooms for a ‘stay and play’ session, following on from the Writing Workshop last week.

They were able to watch and take part in a writing lesson where teachers demonstrated how the children are taught to hold a pencil, form letters and build sentences orally using key vocabulary, before writing them on paper.
Parents also had the chance to explore the continuous provision activities which focussed on our Kinetic Letters handwriting scheme with a particular emphasis on the importance of developing whole body and hand strength.

We hope that this was a useful opportunity to think about how you can support your child’s writing at home, as well as having a sneak peek at some of the ways that we teach writing in the Early Years.

Remaining ‘Parent Workshops’ and ‘Stay & Play’ sessions				
Subject of Parent Workshop	**Date of Parent Workshop**	**Date of ‘Stay & Play’ session**	**Workshop leader**	**Supporting staff**
Mathematics	06.03.2024	13.03.2024	Ms Richards	Ms Khan



WASP SEN Group Coffee Morning
Woodcroft's Advice and Support for Parents

Wednesday, 20th March 9.00am - 10.30am

Ms Vanner and Mrs Smith are running this term's Coffee Morning for Parents with Children with Special Educational Needs on Wednesday, 20th March at 9.00am. It will be a time to find out about the latest information to support you and your child and a chance to meet other parents.

Diary Dates

March

4th March - 8th March - Book Week

4th March - M&M Theatre Production of Oliver Twist (for KS1 and KS2)

7th March - World Book Day (no dressing up)

6th March - EYFS Maths Workshop - Time Theme (Science Week Link)

6th March - Barnet Dance Festival - Dance Team Perform at the ArtsDepot Finchley

11th March Great Big Dance Off (Regional Finals) - Dance Team Perform at Milton Keynes

11th - 15th - British Science Week - Time

13th March - EYFS 'Stay and Play' all about Maths

13th March - Y3 Egyptian Day: Portals to the Past

15th March Comic Relief - Red Nose Day - *Are you 'Reddy' for Red Nose Day?*
Non-uniform day! Dress to make people laugh. Be as **red** as you can -
A red shirt, red hair, red face paint, red socks - it's up to you ;-)

18th March Y3 Ukulele Concert + Guitar and Piano Musicians

20th & 21st March Parents Evenings (in person on Wednesday and Thursday evening)

21st March Strings Concert - 2.30pm

26th March Easter Bonnet Parade (N, R, Y1) (Tuesday)

27th March UDOIT Dance Competition

28th March - Last Day of Term (2.15pm Finish)

29th March April to 12th April - Easter Holiday

(Easter Weekend Friday 29th March - Monday 1st April)

Pupils Return to school on Tuesday 16th April



The Birthday Book Club

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

Congratulations and Happy Birthday To
Kassandra (6G) age 11



Eggcellent Easter Raffle - Get Your Tickets Next Week!



Woodcroft's championship dance team are organising a prize raffle to raise funds to pay for their travel to this year's dance events.

Raffle tickets will be **sold on the playground on various days before and after school over the next few weeks.** There are some amazing Amazon prizes, all donated by our sponsors, Seventeen Recruitment.

- ★ **£125 (1st prize)**
- ★ £75 (2nd prize)
- ★ £50 (3rd prize)
- ★ Runners up prizes on offer will be a range of yummy Easter eggs.



The draw will take place on Thursday 21st March at 3.30pm in the main hall. Winners will be notified by text if not present. Good Luck!

Raffle tickets are £1, and if anyone would like to help selling raffle tickets please give your details to the school office. We will also be accepting Easter eggs prize donations at the school office for the next couple of weeks. Please donate if you can and support our wonderful dance team :-)

Thank you!

Mealtime Supervisor Vacancy

New Mealtime Supervisors (MTS) required to start during the Summer Term 2024

We are looking for enthusiastic people to join our committed team. Experience of working with children in play settings is desirable, but not essential. A calm manner, and desire to help others, however is required. 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).

https://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: Mealtime Supervisor Grade A
- Basic Annual Salary (Full Time Equivalent) £18.045
- Actual Annual Salary (Basic 6 ¼ hours per week) £3,230
- Start date: 16th April 2024 (pending vetting check confirmation)

Safeguarding

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, undertake a criminal record check via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and agree to social media vetting before they can be appointed.

Application forms can be downloaded from the website and should be returned to the school by 4.00pm on Thursday 14th March. If you require a paper copy of any forms please enquire at the school office. Click here to access the forms online: https://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/mealtime-supervisor-vacancies/

- **Closing date for applications: Thursday 14th March 2024**
- **Interviews will take place on Tuesday 19th March 2024**

Visits and More Information

Visits to the school are welcomed. For further details please contact the school office (02089593244) and asl to speak with Mr Russell (Deputy Headteacher).