



Together Towards Success
With our AIM Values



Diary Dates

See extra diary page

Social Media



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PSHE Themes

Congratulations to our
newly elected School
Councillors



2024 School Council

3M Ryleigh
3R Olivia L
4T Lerone
4S Maxim
5N Hamza
5R Jonathan
6C Rishi
6J Eric

Chair Of Governors Message

I have been a governor at Woodcroft for over 25 years, starting at the Infant and Junior Schools, and continuing when the schools merged in September 2004 to become Woodcroft Primary School.

Having served as Vice Chair for many years I took on the role of Acting Chair of Governors in December 2018 and then Chair of Governors in July 2019.

I have now decided to step down from the role as Chair due to competing demands on my time. It has been a privilege to serve the school as Chair and I intend to remain on the Governing body for the foreseeable future and to support our new Chair, Robert Kulawik and new Vice Chair, Carol Price.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Head, Craig Tallon, his Deputy, Mark Russell, and all the senior leadership team and staff at Woodcroft for the support they have given to me whilst being Chair of Governors. I pay tribute to them all for their hard work and dedication that make the school such an inspirational and creative environment for our children to develop their skills and learning.

Richard Burrows

Message From Our New Chair of Governors

I am honoured to take on the role of Chair of Governors at Woodcroft Primary School. I want to thank Richard Burrows for his outstanding leadership since 2009 and for continuing to serve on the Governing Body and my fellow governors for their dedication and support in guiding the school. Their commitment has been instrumental to Woodcroft's success.

I also want to thank Craig Tallon, Mark Russell, and all the staff for their incredible work, particularly their leadership in introducing the "Expanding Worlds Curriculum". As a parent of pupils in Year 6 and Reception, I have seen first-hand how it enhanced learning and knowledge retention. The "Woodcroft Way" continues to drive the school's positive culture and was praised in the recent Ofsted report as a key strength of the school. It's clear how much effort everyone puts into making Woodcroft a wonderful place for students to grow.

I look forward to working with everyone to continue building on these strong foundations.

Robert Kulawik
Chair of Governors
Woodcroft Primary School

Year 2 Christmas Show



Christmas Around the World

Year 2 performed their wonderful Christmas Show to audiences of Friends and Family this week. It was an extravaganza of acting, singing and dance that showed how children in different countries celebrate Christmas. Well done to all of the pupils and staff in Year 2 - what a show!

"I liked it when everyone said 'Happy Christmas' in different languages." Clara

"It was the best show ever because of the songs." Dunya

"I liked it when we sang 'Christmas Day on the Beach, Boys' because it made me happy." Grayson

"The singing was great because the sound was excellent." Stiliyan

"I liked the costumes." Vienna

"The show was wonderful and pretty." Yesheswi

Arts Award - Class of 2024



TRINITY
COLLEGE LONDON

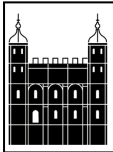
Twenty three pupils who left us in the summer had the opportunity to make a successful return to Woodcroft on Tuesday evening when they received their prestigious Bronze Arts Award Certificates. It was lovely to see so many of our Y6 Leavers come back for our annual Arts Award presentation party.

Year 3 Ukulele Showcase



On Monday, Year 3 performed a repertoire of songs that they have been learning as part of their music curriculum. Every pupil gets the opportunity to learn a tuned instrument at Woodcroft as part of whole class instruction. We teach ukulele to Year 3, and each term they showcase their musical skills to an audience of family and friends.

Year 5 at the Tower of London



Historic Royal Palaces Tower of London

On Tuesday 10th of December, Year 5 went to the Tower of London. To get there, we went on the London Underground. It was a 35 minute ride to arrive and was really noisy and busy. When we got there, we passed HMS Belfast and crossed Tower Bridge over the river Thames. When we arrived, the Ravens greeted us kindly and chirped loudly. When we were walking in, we saw Traitors Gate and many other interesting things. Our least favourite part of the Tower was the narrow, spiral stairs. Our favourite room was the games room in the White Tower. Overall we had lots of fun and saw many unique things.

Report By Rania and Yussra (Y5)



5 Nursery Book-Vent Calendar

Reading is at the heart of our Woodcroft Curriculum and at Woodcroft Nursery we love to share stories and rhymes to develop a love of reading.

The Nursery Class are enjoying counting down to Christmas with their Book-Vent Calendar. Each day, the children excitedly unwrap a festive book to share at story time and then have the opportunity to revisit these books during their continuous provision time.

Story time has quickly become the children's favourite part of the day and has enabled us to continue to foster a love of reading and of books.

The Nursery children have also been fortunate enough to participate in the targeted BookTrust Early Years Programme in which they all received a free Preschooler Family Pack to support more families to make shared reading a regular part of their lives. Don't forget: Our local library is FREE to join, FREE bhyto visit and FREE to borrow books!



Nursery and Reception visit the Postbox



Last week Nursery and Reception had a lovely, autumnal walk to the postbox to post our letters to Santa. We all drew a picture and wrote a short sentence asking Santa to bring us each a class Christmas present that we can share together. We can't wait to find out if Santa will write us a letter back, or even better deliver a class present to us in time for Christmas.



The Birthday Book Club

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

**Happy Birthday to Denis (RK) age 5 and
Yassin (1D) age 6**



Christmas Cards

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

Sending Cards

1. The card post box is placed in the foyer.
2. Put both the person's name and class clearly on the front.
3. Cards will be delivered to class every day by Y6
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



pupils



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD



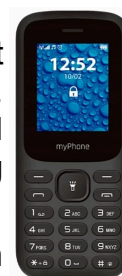
Woodcroft is going Smartphone Free

We want your child to be healthy, safe and successful at school. We believe that for primary age children a smartphone has the potential to do significant harm. As a result, the Governing Body of Woodcroft has decided to make our school smart phone free from April 2025. This means pupils will not be allowed to bring a smartphone to school.

If older children absolutely need a phone for safety when travelling independently to and from school then they will be allowed to bring a traditional feature phone that allows calls and texts only.

Click here for a list of alternative phones approved for school use:

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/alternatives>



Applications for Reception Class starting September 2025

REGISTER NOW!

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 2020 and 31st August 2021.

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/>



Household Support Fund - December Food Vouchers

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>

TRUMPET & VIOLIN MUSIC LESSONS - NEW ARRANGEMENTS



The booking procedure to sign up your children for violin and trumpet instrumental tuition is changing. Parents and Carers will now book and pay for lessons directly with the Music Service, BEAT (Barnet Education Arts Trust).

Booking and payment for instrumental music tuition for the Spring term 2025 is now open. Please go to:

<https://beatrust.org.uk/learn-to-play/school-based-tuition/>

Applying for music tuition is simple:

1. All parents need to click **'Apply as a new student'** (even if you are currently receiving lessons)
2. Select **'Tuition Provided at Schools'**
3. Complete the online form

All current pupils are guaranteed a place to continue.

New pupils will be put on a waiting list and contacted within two weeks to confirm their place. Please find attached BEAT's Instrument Tuition and [Music Academy flyer](#) and their terms and conditions can be found [here](#) on the website.

Please note: we currently only offer **Trumpet** and **Violin** through the BEAT music service at Woodcroft. If you have any further queries, or would like to speak to the school regarding music tuition, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Savova in the school office or BEAT directly.

GITAR & PIANO LESSONS WITH ROSS HUGHES

Changes to Tuition Payments



Your child can now sign up to begin or continue to learn piano, guitar or ukulele with Ross Hughes in school during the Spring term.

Bookings will now be done directly through Mr Hughes, with payments sent before lessons begin for the term. If you currently have lessons with Mr Hughes you will now need to confirm continuation and payment directly with him. If you wish to enquire, please send a message to:

therosshughes@hotmail.com

The lessons will take place during the school day and will begin on Monday 13th January.

If your child is learning guitar or ukulele and already has an instrument please make sure that they bring it to school, with their name clearly labelled on the day of their lesson. If they do not have an instrument the school may be able to lend your child an instrument.

- Lessons are charged at £21.00 per 30 minute session or £10.50 per session for a shorter 15 minute session
- There is also limited availability for ½ price paired 30 minute sessions.

The total cost will vary term to term depending on how many weeks are in the term. In the Spring term there will be 11 sessions so the cost will be £231.00 for individual sessions or £115.50 for short / paired sessions. If pupils forget their musical instrument they will take part in musical theory and aural skills during the lessons

We look forward to your child beginning/continuing their musical journey! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Hughes or speak with Mrs Savova in the school office. Thank you



Party Time on Monday and Tuesday

On party days, pupils do not need to wear uniforms. We only ask that sensible shoes are worn and clothes are appropriate for the weather.

- Y1, Y3 & Y5 Party Day is on Monday 16th
- Y2, Y4 and Y6 Party Day is on Tuesday 17th

****Note: parents DO NOT need to provide any food for party days****

EYFS Xmas Stay and Play Activity Day

EYFS Xmas Stay and Play party is on Tuesday 17th (Nursery & Reception)

- Nursery AM stay and Play - 8.45-9.30
- Nursery PM Stay and Play 12.15-1pm



Festival of Dance

Our dancers take to the stage to showcase this term's routines. Friends and family are welcome to attend on 18th December at 9.30am in the main hall.

Woodcroft Panto

Oh yes it is! The Christmas Panto takes place on Thursday 19th December.

End of Term Finish

The final day of term is Friday 20th December. We finish 1 hour earlier on the last day at 2.15pm.

Spring Term Start

Pupils return for the Spring Term on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Cricket opportunity for Girls in Barnet

Funded places available for girls to play Cricket - Ages 9y to 13y

Canons CC invites Girls in school years 5 to 8 to come, train and play cricket. There are limited spaces which are fully funded.

- When? Saturdays AM and Sundays AM, from November to April
- Where? Kingsbury NW9 8AQ Indoor multi sports hall
- RSVP- canons.cc.mdx@gmail.com



**Whole
School
Attendance
94.0%**

Weekly Attendance Awards

Y1/Y2 Class of the week: 2B (93.0%)

Y3/Y4 Class of the week: 4S (94.0%)

Y5/Y6 Class of the week: 6C (92.5%)

🏆 4th TOP WEEK

