WOODCROFT WEEKLY

ISSUE 544 www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk 10th January 2025

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

Diary Dates

January

15th Y3 Egyptian Day

22nd EYFS Phonics Workshop

27th Y5 Chick Project

27th Reception & Y6 Height and Weight

29th Lunar New Year

29th Cheerleaders cake Sale

29th EYFS Stay and Play

Social Media

Follow us on Instagram:
@woodcroft_primary

PSHE Themes





Welcome back to the start of the Spring Term. I am pleased to report that all of our pupils have come back to school ready to learn! They have been demonstrating great atitudes right from the very first lesson.

Application Deadline for Reception Class

REGISTER NOW!

Parents of Nursery age children should now be thinking about applying for your child's Reception class place for September. Generally, these will be children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021.

Online applications need to be completed by Wednesday 15th January 2025. 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/

Woodcroft is going Smartphone Free!

You will already be aware that Woodcroft is going smartphone free from Easter this year. Parents were initially notified at our curriculum meetings in September and then regularly through the Woodcroft Weekly News. Governors formally approved this policy in November and set April as the deadline. After this time NO pupil smartphones will be allowed on site.

You can find out more about the issues surrounding smartphone use and social media on children at this interesting session to be held at Saracens School on Thursday 23rd January at 7.00pm.

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

PAPAYA
Parents Against Phone Addiction in Young Adolescents

PARENTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Supporting parents and schools in **BARNET** navigating smartphones and social media with children

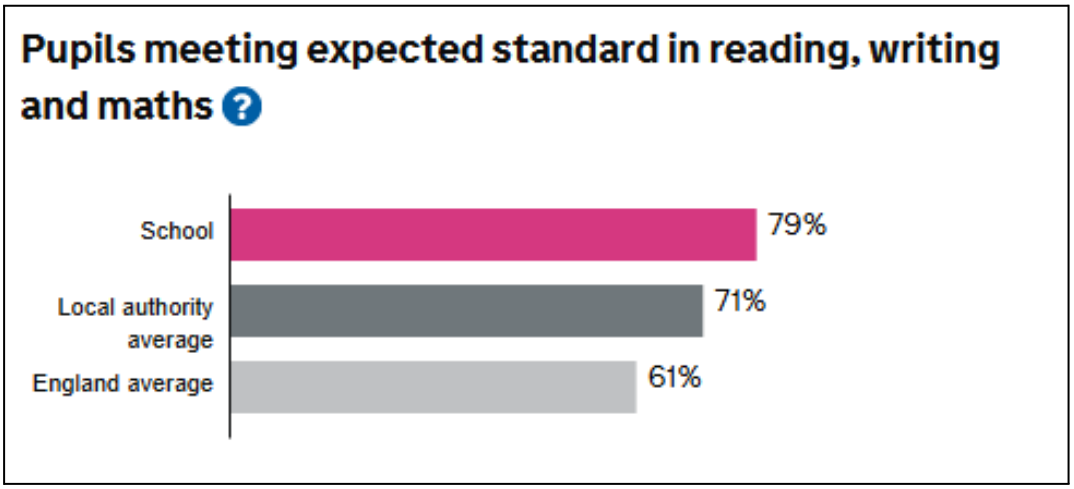
A talk with Children's Mental Health Advocate and SFC North London Regional Leader **Nova Eden** and tech expert **Kevin Tibble**

Thursday 23rd January 2025, 19.00-20.30
Saracens School, Corner Mead, NW9 4AS

Outstanding Results for Woodcroft

The national 2024 KS2 results were published in the final week before Christmas. Woodcroft achieved an excellent 79% combined pass for reading, writing and maths.

Reading, Writing and Maths



These results are significantly higher than both the Barnet and national averages. They demonstrate the high academic standards we expect, and achieve, at Woodcroft.

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

	School	Barnet	England
Grammar, punctuation, spelling at the expected standard	89%	83%	72%

We also achieved a pass rate of 89% in the Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling tests. This was also well above the average scores achieved both nationally and within the local authority.

Nursery and Reception Parents



The Nursery and Reception Team are holding a series of Parent Workshops and Stay & Play sessions this half term. All parents in Reception and Nursery are invited to come along and find out about how to support your child at school.

'Parent Workshops' take place in school on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 – 10:00 am. A crèche will be available for younger siblings if required.

'Stay & Play' sessions occur on alternate Wednesdays and give parents the opportunity to spend some time in class with their child and observe lessons being taught.

Check out the 2025 timetable below:

Subject of Parent Workshop	Date of Parent Workshop	Date of 'Stay & Play' session	Workshop leader	Supporting staff
Phonics	22.01.2025	29.01.2025	Ms Khan	Mr Russell
Mathematics	05.02.2025	12.02.2025	Ms Richards & Mrs Patel	Mr Russell

Our first session is about 'Sounds Write' phonics. This is the approach we use to teach children the letter sounds within words. They then practice 'blending' these together to help them begin to read and write. Come along on Wednesday 22nd January and find out how you can help your child get off to the best start in their reading journey.



Winter Arrangements For Snow



We have updated our extreme weather procedures on our website in case we have to close the school early, or restrict access, due to snow or other extreme weather.

For more information please visit:
https://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/snow-and-extreme-weather-procedures/

Alternatively, look out for this 'snow' warning symbol on our website home page.

Double Tennis Champion



Maxim took part in two competitions over Christmas, and he won both! He was victorious in the Redbridge 9 & under tournament, followed by the Ipswich Christmas Open! These results edge Maxim closer to a national top 10 spot!
Well done Maxim! Keep up the hard work. We look forward to hearing more about your progress.

Remember, we love to celebrate the achievements of our pupils outside of school. This may be, for example, through sports clubs they attend, Cubs, Scouts or Brownies, or competitions that they have entered. You can email the office or let your child bring in their prize or certificate. We then celebrate successes either in assembly or the newsletter.







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

Noa (1S) age 6, Roman (1S) age 6, Sofia (4S) age 9 and Stefan (6C) age 11

Exciting Events for the Spring Term

Take a look at just some of the highlights coming up this term…

Y3 Egyptian Day - Portal To The Past - 15th January

Year 5 Happy Chick Project - 27th January

We get to see chicks hatching in our school

Great Big Dance Off 2025 - 5th February

This year's dance team perform on the stage for the first time

NSPCC Rocks TTRS - Spring Competition - 7th February

Can Y4 stay on top?

Safer Internet Day #SID2018 - 11th February

Create, Connect and Share Respect - A better internet starts with you

Book Week 2025 - 3rd March

Competitions, art projects, challenges, extreme reading, storytelling and lots more...

M&M Theatre perform The Hobbit - 3rd March

A classic story brought to life at school!

The Dance Team perform at

Barnet Dance Festival at the ArtsDepot - 12th March

And

UDOIT Dance National Finals - 26th March

Comic Relief Day - 21st March

Dress-up to make people laugh

The Choir Perform at the Royal Albert Hall - 1st April

Our Senior Choir take to the stage in a gala show

ESFA Schools Football Week 31st - 4th April

Wear your favourite sports kit to School on 4th April

Lots of opportunities to live our Woodcroft values…



Watling Park Playground Consultation



Barnet have allocated funding to improve play facilities across the borough and are now keen to hear your views on the new playground proposed for Watling Park.

Follow this link to view the plans and complete an online questionnaire to share your views.
https://www.engage.barnet.gov.uk/watling-park-burnt-oak-playground-consultation

An artist's plan of the current proposal looks like this …



Reception and Year 6 have their height and weight checks

Every year in England, children in Reception and Year 6 have their height and weight measured as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP). Your child's class will take part in this year's measurement programme in January. The measurements will be carried out by Barnet School Nursing Team at school in a private space away from other pupils. Children will be measured fully clothed except for their coats and shoes.

You will need to register your child to take part. Please visit …

https://parent.schoolscreener.com/BW333/134677

Make Sure Your Child Is Always Prepared For School in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
It will make them more intelligent!



At Woodcroft, in Key Stage 2, that is Years 3 to 6, we like children to have their own pencil case with essential equipment. Not having the right equipment when you need it can seriously affect your learning. If you have to ask your teacher for a pencil, directly after an explanation of the lesson - then guess what? You will forget much of what you have just been told by your teacher. Educational researchers have discovered that our memory only stores things for a few moments unless you begin to think about it yourself straight away. That is why at Woodcroft we expect children to start work immediately - without any distractions. But, if you begin thinking about other stuff, like where to get a pencil, you will NOT learn effectively.

By making sure your child has what they need for school you are helping them to learn. You are effectively helping your child become more intelligent! By the way, we only want the essentials. If your child comes with a fancy pencil case, stuffed with absolutely everything, this then distracts and inhibits their concentration. Thinking about WHICH pencil to use can be just as bad as not having one in the first place! Therefore, we ask for a simple case that contains ONLY the following examples

Does your child have the right classroom kit for Year 3 to Year 6?



Pencil case essentials (for Y3 to Y6):

- Simple pencil case (this should be transparent in Y6)
- Pencil and sharpener
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Basic colouring pencils (10 max)



Optional extras

- Glue Stick
- Protractor
- Handwriting Pen

Year 6 Essential - **A clear pencil case**
Year 6 pupils are only allowed to use a transparent clear pencil case during their SATs exams. With this in mind we encourage year 6 pupils to use a clear pencil case every day!



Refillable Plastic Water Bottles: Always remember your refillable water bottle. We do not want to see disposable single use bottles in school. Not only are these bad for the environment, but they are also a noisy distraction in class. You would be surprised at the noise they make in a quiet classroom when children are concentrating on their learning. The same can also be said for the metal bottles that clatter to the ground and disturb everyone's learning.

At Woodcroft we request **refillable plastic bottles** and NOT metal or disposable ones.

Pupils in KS1 (Y1 and Y2) and EYFS (Reception and Nursery) are asked **not** to bring any equipment or items from home apart from their refillable plastic water bottle. Pupils are provided with everything that they need in class. Items from home can cause a distraction to their learning. Thank you.

Children's Centres

West Locality

Spring Term 06.01.25 – 04.04.25

(Separate half term timetable for 17.02.25-21.02.25)

	Fairway A Sure Start Children's Centre	Silkstream A Sure Start Children's Centre	Wingfield A Sure Start Children's Centre
Monday	**Stay and Play** 9.30 – 11am, 0 – 5 years	**Baby group** 9.30 – 11am, 0 – 18 months **CV Writing Workshop** 10.02.25 **Booking required** – see next page	**Stay and Play at OneStonegrove HA8 8BN** 10 – 11.30am, 0 – 5 years **Baby Group at OneStonegrove HA8 8BN** 12 – 1pm, 0 – 18 months
Tuesday	**Baby Group** 9.30 – 11am, 0 – 18 months	**Stay and Play** 9.30 – 11am, 0 – 5 years **Story, Arts and Crafts workshop** 11.03.25 **Messy Play Workshop** 04.02.25 **Booking required** – see next page	**Stay and Play at Canada Villa NW7 2BU** 10 – 11.30am, 0 – 5 years **Baby Group at Canada Villa NW7 2BU** 12 – 1pm, 0 – 12 months
Wednesday	**Stay and Play at Broadfields School** Roseberry Drive, Edgware, HA8 8JP 9.15 – 10.45am, 0 – 5 years **Ends 26.03.25**	**Stay and Play** 1 – 2.30pm, 0 – 5 years **Chatty Children Workshop** 22.01.25 and 12.03.25 **Booking required** – see next page	**Stay and Play at Greentop NW9 5WR** 12.30 – 2pm, 0 – 5 years
Thursday	**Stay and Play** 9.30 – 11am, 0 – 5 years, **Developmental Baby Massage** 8 weeks to 18 weeks, 13.03.25 – 27.03.25 **Booking required** – see next page	**Baby Group** 1 – 2.30pm, 0 – 18 months **Learning Through Music** 09.01.25- 03.04.25 **Booking required** – see next page	**No Sessions**
Friday	**Baby Group** 1.30 – 3pm, 0 – 18 months **Ends 28.03.25** **Chatty Children Workshop** 14.02.25 **Booking required** – see next page	**Stay and Play** 9.30 – 11am, 0 – 5 years	**Baby Group at Greentop NW9 5WR** 12.30 – 1.30pm, 0 – 12 months

Caring for people, our places and the planet

Activities offered weekly unless otherwise stated

FAMILY FRIENDLY BARNET

BARNET LONDON BOROUGH

Children's Centres

Fairway

A Sure Start Children's Centre

Fairway Children's Centre (based at Fairway School)
The Fairway, Mill Hill NW7 3HS
Tel: 020 8359 3730 • childrenscentre@fairwaycc.barnetmail.net

Silkstream

A Sure Start Children's Centre

Silkstream Children's Centre
Silkstream Road, Edgware HA8 0DA
Tel: 020 8905 7605 • Silkstreamcc@barnet.gov.uk

Wingfield

A Sure Start Children's Centre

Wingfield and Stonegrove Children's Centre
C/O Barnet and Southgate College, Colindale, 7 Bristol Avenue
(formerly Lanacre Avenue) London NW9 4BR
Tel: 020 8359 3510 • childandfamilyhub-west@barnet.gov.uk

For more information about Children's Centre visit:
www.barnet.gov.uk/childrenscentres

Find us on Facebook and Instagram
'Barnet Child and Family Early Help'

West Locality

Learning Through Music – A music based course to support your child's listening and attention skills. Have fun together supporting your child to get ready to learn. Age 18mth-5years **Silkstream** Starts 09.01.25- 03.04.25, 10-11am **Booking required** No session half term
Messy Play Workshop - Enjoy a chance for you and your child to get messy together and learn about the benefits of messy play. Ages 2-5 years **Silkstream** 04.02.25, 1.30-2.30pm **Booking required**
Story, Arts and Crafts workshop - Listen to a story and make some spring time crafts together to take home. Ages 2-5 years **Silkstream** 11.03.25, 1.30-2.30pm **Booking required**
CV Writing Workshop – The team from Boost will be here to support you to write your CV and increase your chances of getting an interview. **Silkstream** 10.02.25, 12.30-2.30pm, **Booking required**
Chatty Children Workshop – Practical advice and fun ways to encourage your child's talking and understanding. Age 2- 5 years **Silkstream** 22.01.25 and 12.03.25, 10 – 11am **Booking required** **Fairway**: 14.02.25, 10 - 11am, **Booking required**
Developmental Baby Massage Workshop – 4 week course for babies 8 – 18 weeks old **Fairway**: 06.03.25 to 27.03.25, 1.30 - 2.30pm, **Booking required**

Health Promotion Workshops at Silkstream
1.30-2.45pm **Booking required**

Introduction to Solids (suitable from 5-6 months)	14.01.25 25.02.25
Sleep Management and Routines (suitable from 8 months plus)	21.01.25
Managing Mealtimes (suitable from 8 months plus)	28.01.25
Toilet Training (suitable from 18 months plus)	11.02.25



Baby Self-Weighing Services

Fairway *Please call to book*	Thursday 9am – 3pm
Silkstream *Please call to book*	Thursday and Friday 9am – 4pm

Caring for people, our places and the planet

FAMILY FRIENDLY BARNET

BARNET LONDON BOROUGH

Childhood Immunisation

Pop-up clinic

Free vaccinations available.
Walk-in, no need to book.
You do not need an NHS number or to be registered with a GP.

For ages:

0-5Yrs

Silkstream Children's Centre
On
Thursday 16th of January 2025
Address: Silkstream Road
Burnt Oak
HA8 0DA
Time: 1- 4 PM



Questions about vaccinations?

Ask your GP, nurse, health visitor or pharmacist.

Scan QR to find out more

Designed by NHS North Central London Integrated Care Board