



Together Towards Success
With our AIM Values



Diary Dates

January

27th Y5 Chick Project

27th Reception & Y6
Height and Weight

29th Lunar New Year -
Special Lunch Menu

29th Cheerleaders Cake
Sale

29th EYFS Stay and Play

Social Media



Follow us on Instagram:
[@woodcroft_primary](#)

PSHE Themes

Lunar New Year



Year of the snake

Classical Music Performance

On Thursday we were treated to an amazing musical recital of pieces from French classical composer Camille Saint-Saën. In assembly, two professional musicians, Hui-ling and Eejun, played 'Odelette' (or "Little Song"), on both the flute and piano. This was then followed by five movements from 'The Carnival of the Animals' in which pupils were asked to identify the different animals through their musical representations.



Piano Lessons

Learn to play with qualified
piano teacher, Hui-Ling Chiu.

邱慧玲
鋼琴老師

Hui-Ling Chiu

Piano Teacher
Qualified ABRSM Grade 8

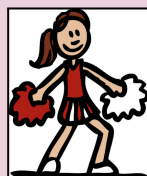
Get in touch

07907713885

hulingteaching@gmail.com

If your child was inspired by pianist Hui-Ling Chiu and wants to learn piano you can contact her for lessons at hulingteaching@gmail.com

Cheerleaders' Cake Sale Wednesday 29th January at 3:15pm



Our amazing Cheerleaders are fundraising to enable them to purchase equipment for their club! There will be a cake sale on Wednesday 29th January at 3:15pm in the main hall. If you are able to donate cakes, please bring them to the school office on Tuesday or Wednesday of next week. - Thank you



Please come along at 3.15pm on Wednesday for a tasty treat!

Early Years Foundation Stage - Phonics Workshop

It was a full house for Miss Khan's Phonics Workshop on Wednesday. Parents and Carers were told all about how Woodcroft teaches phonics using the top rated 'Sounds-Write' scheme.

All the slides from the Phonics presentation have been shared on Tapestry with Nursery & Reception parents. If you missed the workshop there is a link in the presentation for a FREE parent training of the Sounds-Write phonics scheme.

All Nursery & Reception parents are invited to next week's Stay & Play 9:00 - 9:30 on Wednesday 29th January in your child's classroom. Come along and get a chance to see a phonics lesson being taught in Reception & Nursery and some follow up activities for everyone to get involved in.



2025 Timetable for 'Parent Workshops' and 'Stay & Play' sessions

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
Half term (12.02.2024 - 18.02.2024)				
Mathematics	05.02.2025	12.02.2025	Ms Richards & Mrs Patel	Mr Russell

Join us for the first 'Stay & Play' from 9:00 am on Wednesday 29th January

Nursery admissions from age 3 years old

Woodcroft Nursery accepts applications for children to start from the age of 3 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 2024 – 2025 academic year the key admissions dates are:

September 2024 start – born between 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021.

January 2024 start – born between 1st September 2021 to 31st December 2021

April 2024 start – born between 1st January 2022 and 31st March 2022

2025 - 2026 academic year

September 2025 start – born between 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022

January 2026 start – born between 1st September 2022 to 31st December 2022

April 2026 start – born between 1st January 2023 and 31st March 2023



Mapac, our uniform supplier, hosts our online Woodcroft uniform shop. Check out the dedicated Mapac webpage [here](#) and bag a January sale bargain!

Orders can be placed online and delivered free of charge to school. Alternatively, you can select express home delivery and pay an additional charge.



Enter code: **JSP25** at checkout



Happy Birthday to Diba (1D) age 6, Stiliyan (2L) age 7 and Jeddah (5N) age 10

Taekwondo Achievement



We are delighted to share in the success of our pupils outside of school so it is great to find out that Malak (Y6) has continued her taekwondo progress! Malak successfully passed her green belt grading. She had to demonstrate in front of an Olympic judge who praised her performance. Well done Malak.

Don't forget to share your own child's achievements for both our newsletter and in assembly.



What's your child's attendance?

Is it above the expected 96%?

Or is it below 90% and a serious concern?!

If your child's attendance falls below 90%, you are categorised as a Persistent Absentee. You could be required to meet with the attendance team at school or the Education Welfare Officer from Barnet.

Check the Arbor App and confirm your child's attendance.



Steps for accessing Arbor to check pupil's attendance:

1. From the menu select **Attendance**
2. **Statistics for the Academic Year 2024/2025** are divided into several sections:
 - **Possible sessions** - total sessions for the year
 - **Present sessions** - the actual sessions as a percentage
 - **Lates** - shown as a percentage
 - **Authorised absence** - number of sessions and percentage
 - **Unauthorised absence** - number of sessions and percentage



Check out our updated attendance guide attached to this newsletter.



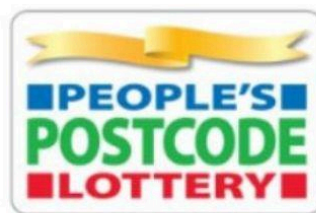
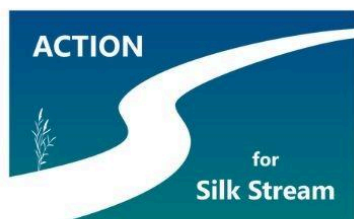
Winter Weather Arrangements



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>



Welsh Harp Half term fun

17, 18, 19th February 2025

Come join us for FREE activities at the Welsh Harp Environmental Education Centre. These activities are part of the **Action for Silk Stream** project who are working in partnership with the **Canal and Rivers Trust** Community Roots Project (Brent) and supported by players of **People's Postcode Lottery**.

	10.30am - 12pm	1pm-2.30pm
Monday 17th Feb	Shelter building & Marshmallow roasting Gather round a camp fire in the woods to roast marshmallows and build a woodland shelter. Age 7+	Pond Dipping & Nature Crafts Discover what lives underwater by pond dipping and join us for nature crafts. Ages 5-12
Tuesday 18th Feb	Reservoir Explorers Guided walk to the reservoir to explore different plants and animals, make clay faces & mini bug hotel. Ages 5-12	Pond Dipping & Nature Crafts Discover what lives underwater by pond dipping and join us for nature crafts. Ages 5-12
Wednesday 19th Feb	Shelter building & Marshmallow roasting Gather round a camp fire in the woods to roast marshmallows and build a forest shelter. Ages 5-12	Help the Woods! Whole family activity to clear ivy and brambles to help woodland habitats and make an apple bird feeder. Ages 5+



silkstream@thames21.org.uk

**Location: Welsh Harp
Education Centre, Birchen
Grove, NW9 8RY**

Scan QR code to book



METIS



Special Chinese New Year Lunch Menu for Wednesday



Join us on

29th January 2025

To celebrate the Chinese New Year!



Happy Chinese New Year!

Chinese Vegetable Fried Rice

Honey & Soy
Chicken Meatballs with Rice

Jacket Potato
with Cheese & Beans

Orange Jelly & Mandarins
or
Fresh Fruit



Busy Bees
February Playscheme

Join us for a Half Term full of fun!

**17TH-20TH FEBRUARY
8AM-6PM**
Deansbrook Junior School, Hale Drive,
Mill Hill NW7 3ED

COOKING **SPORTS** **ARTS & CRAFTS**

Book all 4 days and get the trip FREE



Monday
Dodgeball
Junk Modelling
Banana Loaf

Tuesday
Hockey
Facepainting
Cheese Straws

Wednesday
Badminton
Mosaic Making
Chocolate Chip Muffins

Thursday
Inflatanation trip!!!!
(£15 additional charge)
Make your own Pizzas

Daily activities include:
Puzzles
Pool table
Wii
PS4
Board games
Home corner

Pricing + Offers
9am-5pm
£35.00 PER DAY
ADDITIONAL HOURS
8am-9am £5.00 PER DAY
(Breakfast included)
5pm-6pm £5.00 PER DAY

To book please call 07507178212 or email
busybees_millhill@hotmail.co.uk

Book 4 days and get the trip FREE

Woodcroft Primary School

Attendance Guide for Parents

This guide is for the parents of all children at Woodcroft Primary School. We are aware that there will be occasional exceptional circumstances that will require individual support or alternative arrangements. Staff members are always available to discuss any attendance or punctuality issues parents may be experiencing.

Q.1 When does my child need to arrive at School?

Children can **arrive at school from 8.30am** when supervision is provided. Children are able to enter the school and go directly to their class.

The latest your child should arrive in school is by 8.45am when registration takes place.



Q.2 What happens if my child is late?

Registration is at **8:45am** prompt.

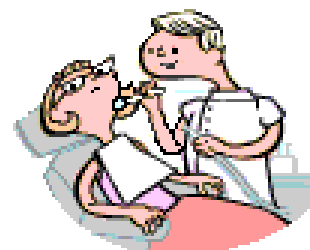
If your child arrives between 8:45 am - 9:15 am they should report directly to the office and will be marked late in the register. If your child arrives after **9:15 am** they will receive an absence mark U-code, which is classified as 'Unauthorised absence' instead of a late mark. Where children arrive after **9:15 am** parents are required to explain the reasons for lateness. If an acceptable explanation is not received for lateness your child will be recorded with an unauthorised absence.

Q.3 Does the school need letters explaining my child's absence or will a phone call do?

We would expect a parent to telephone the school before 8:45 am on the first day of absence and each subsequent day. A message can be left on the school answer machine 24 hours a day. However, we appreciate a written explanation on your child's return to school.

Q.4 What reasons does the school accept for absence?

- Genuine illness
- Unavoidable medical/dental appointments.
- Day of religious observance
- Family bereavement
- Participation in approved public performance



Except in the case of illness, you should ask for permission for your child to be granted leave of absence well in advance, (preferably 2 weeks) giving details of the reasons for your request. In cases of medical/dental appointments, please show the appropriate appointment card, letter, email or text, so it can be coded in the register and children are expected to return to school unless the appointment is late in the afternoon. In cases of recurring absences for illness, you may be asked to produce medical evidence.

Q.5 What is an unacceptable reason for absence?

The school will not authorise absences for:

- Day trips
- Birthdays
- Visiting relatives
- Family holidays
- Looking after siblings **This list is not conclusive**

Q.6 Will the school contact me if my child is absent?

Woodcroft Primary School operates a daily Text Message Service whereby staff will make every effort to contact families where children have failed to attend school in time for morning registration. However, it should be noted that you are still expected to contact the school yourself on the first day of your child's absence. If on the third day the school has received no contact from the parents/carers a member of staff will telephone, and a referral will be made to our Education Welfare Officer and a home visit will be carried out.

The school number is...0208 959 3244

Letters and phone calls will be sent alerting you to attendance issues. Parents can also access Arbor for their child's attendance. These follow Government guidelines which state that a child's attendance at school should be at least 96% if they are to achieve their full potential.

It is vital for emergency purposes that we have your most up to date contact details. If you, or your listed contacts, change a number, please inform the school immediately.

Q.7 Can we take family holidays during term time?

Family holidays must be taken in the school holidays. If, in exceptional circumstances, you need to request permission for your child to be granted leave of absence during term time, please make an appointment to see the Headteacher. You will be asked to complete a leave of absence request form (available through the school office). This form will need to be completed at least two weeks in advance of the leave of absence.

The Headteacher has the right to refuse a request for leave of absence having given consideration to whether the request falls into exceptional circumstances. If leave has not been granted, a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) may be issued for the unauthorised leave.

Q. 8 What can I do to encourage my child to attend school?

Make sure your child gets enough sleep and gets up in plenty of time each morning. Ensure that they leave home in the correct clothes and properly equipped. Look in their school bags, check homework diaries and communicate with your child's teachers. Show your child, by your interest, that you value their education.

Q.9 My child is trying to avoid coming to school. What should I do?

Contact a member of staff immediately and discuss your worries. Your child could be avoiding school for a number of reasons:

- Difficulties with school work
- Friendship problems, etc.

In some cases, you may find it helpful to discuss the circumstances of your child's difficulties with the Education Welfare Officer, based at Woodcroft Primary School or the Attendance Team - Mrs Hurley or Mr Russell. They hold bi-weekly drop in Attendance Surgeries and are here to help.

New 'Updated' Attendance Policy

You can read a draft of our new attendance policy by following the link below:

<https://cdn.realsmart.co.uk/25c98ca8121dcecef8a222e01ee12a53/uploads/2025/01/24145936/Draft-Updated-Woodcroft-Attendance-and-Absence-Policy-Jan-2025.pdf>