WOODCROFT WEEKLY

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

Diary Dates

February

Safer Internet Day
11th February

Year 3 Bikeability
27th February

March

Book Week 2025
3rd - 7th March

M&M Theatre 'Pinocchio'
3rd March

Social Media

Follow us on Instagram:
@woodcroft_primary

PSHE Themes

Children's Mental Health Week
3rd - 9th February



Woodcroft is going Smart Phone Free From April

- Pupils will NOT be allowed to bring a smartphone into school.
- Parents will not be allowed to use a smartphone on school premises.



UK Government says NO to pupil Mobile Phones

At Woodcroft we currently 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 current policy on mobile devices is available on our website. However, smartphones can currently be kept in school, but turned off until they leave the school site. This is changing after Easter; pupils will not be allowed to bring in a smartphone to school.

We believe that the problem of childhood phone use is a big problem. Many adults are now realising that children accessing mobile phones (and tablets) can be extremely damaging. Barnet Local Authority are asking **ALL Barnet schools** to go 'smartphone free'.

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

A staggering 83% of 11 year-olds in Britain have a smartphone. This is despite increasing evidence that phones and excessive screen use can damage children's brains, increase childhood mental illness and open the door to inappropriate content.

This week is **Children's Mental Health Week**. We want to encourage every child to be healthy, safe and successful at school. Probably ***THE*** best week to support your child's future is to delay smartphone (and tablet) use for as long as you can.

Remember, essential emergency use can be achieved using a traditional 'brick' feature phone. These will still be allowed for older pupils who independently travel home. However, smartphones will no longer be allowed on site for pupils, and any devices will be confiscated immediately.

Childhood is too short to waste on a smartphone

Early Years Foundation Stage - 'Maths Workshop'

Nursery and Reception Parents enjoyed an informative Maths Workshop on Wednesday led by Mrs Patel and Miss Richards. They learned about the key concepts that we teach in Early Years and how parents can support their child's maths development at home.

All Nursery & Reception parents are now invited to the next stay and play session from 9:00 - 9:45 am on Wednesday 12th February. Come along and see how we teach maths in Reception & Nursery.





Timetable for upcoming 'Parent Workshops' and 'Stay & Play' sessions				
Subject of Parent Workshop	Date of Parent Workshop	Date of 'Stay & Play' session	Workshop leader	Supporting staff
Mathematics	~~05.02.2025~~	12.02.2025	Ms Richards & Mrs Patel	Mr Russell
Half term (17.02.2024 - 21.02.2024)				

Join us for 'Stay and Play' from 9:00 am on Wednesday 12th February

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

Whole School Attendance
⇧ 92.7% ⇧

Weekly Attendance Awards

Y1/Y2 Class of the week: 2B (98.4%) 🏆TOP CLASS🏆
Y3/Y4 Class of the week: 4T (96.3%)
Y5/Y6 Class of the week: 6J (95.0%)





ACORNS CLUB

Open every evening during term time from 3:15pm - 5.45 pm

For pupils from Year R* to Year 6

| Arts & Crafts | Chromebooks | Homework | Games |

***Reception pupils are only accepted once they are settled in to school**

After School Care Provision at Woodcroft

We are now offering places in our after school club for Woodcroft pupils. Parents are able to register their child, and then book them into the club for either a ½ session at a cost £6.50 per child, or a full session at a cost of £10.00 per child.

A snack will be included in the price. Please note, the school does not make a profit from Acorns.

Collection is from the Oak Suite Gate by calling the Acorns After School Club number.

If you are interested in your child attending Acorns After School Club they will need to be added to the register. To do this, please contact the school by telephone, or e-mail. If you have any questions then call the office and we will gladly give you any further information required.

Children are picked up from class at the end of the day by one of our Acorns staff. Children will still get involved in a variety of activities and learn new skills whilst enjoying themselves, in a safe and secure environment.

What next:

1. If you are interested in your child attending Acorns After-School Club please register by calling the school office.
2. Once registered you will be able to book sessions in advance via the Arbor App.
3. The charges are as follows:
   3:15 – 4:30pm = £6.50 ½ Session (1 hour 15 min) until 4.30pm
   3:15 – 6.00pm = £10.00 Full session (2 hours 45 mins) until 6.00pm
4. If you arrive after the allocated time you will be charged a £2.00 late collection fee.
5. Light refreshments are included in the price.

Acorns After-School Club is run at Woodcroft, by Woodcroft, for Woodcroft



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.



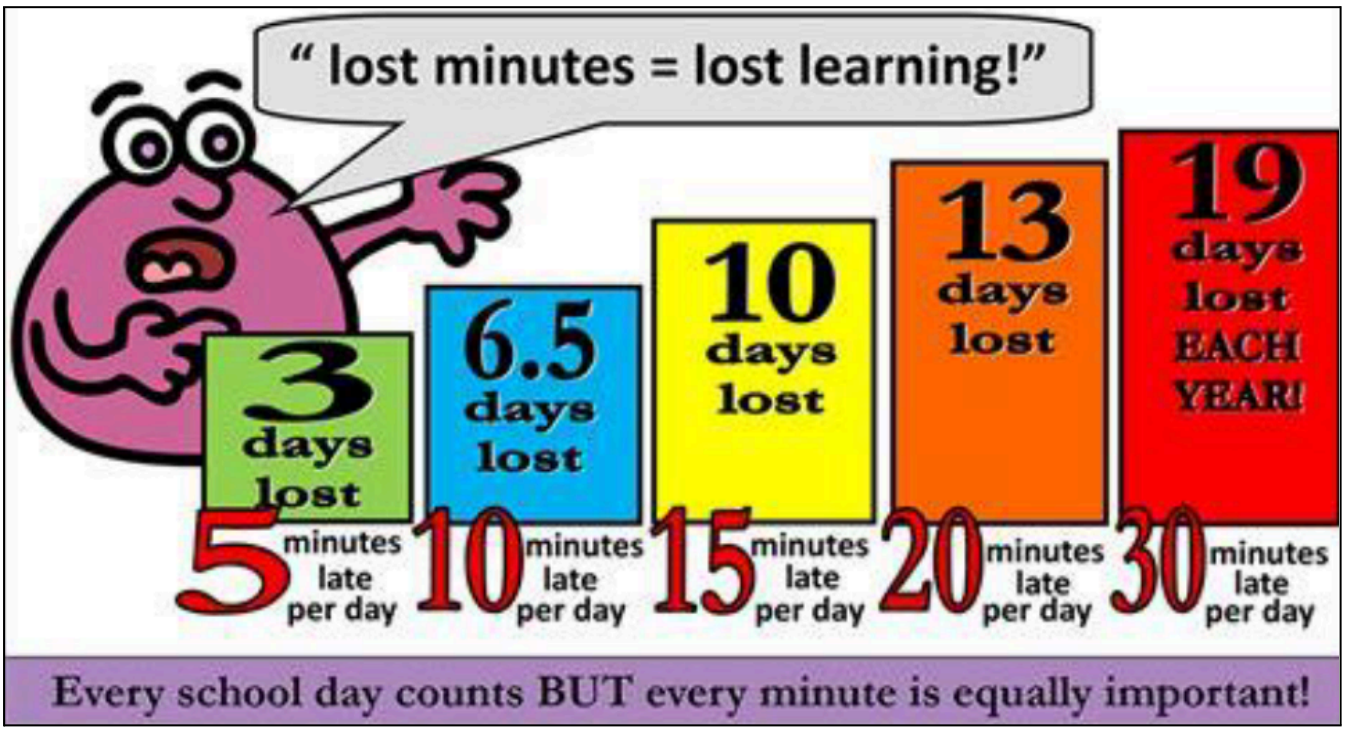
Happy Birthday to Ella (4S) age 9

Punctuality is important!

Punctuality for school is essential! If a child arrives late it not only disrupts their learning, but also that of the whole class. **Lessons start promptly at 8.45am**, and if a child misses the introduction to a session it can have an impact for the whole lesson.

Can we remind all parents that **school opens at 8.30am*** (*8.00am for Breakfast Club)

Children are able to go directly to class at 8.30am where class teachers are waiting to receive them. Teachers then take the register at 8.45am and we then aim to make a prompt start to learning. We do understand that there will be rare occasions when children are late to school due to unforeseen circumstances. But lost minutes can equal lots of lost learning. Just 5 minutes per day can add up to missing the equivalent of 3 days of school each year and 30 minutes per day is almost equivalent to a calendar month of learning at school!



APPLICATIONS FOR SPECIAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE

If you wish to take your child out of school during term time you must get prior approval from the Headteacher. Pupil leave is only granted in exceptional circumstances. Please note, family holidays during term time will not be authorised.

To apply for your child's leave from school during term time you will need to complete an application form that can be collected from the school office.

You should be aware that if the school approves this absence, your child will be expected to return on the date specified on the form. Failure to do so will result in any extra time being classified as unauthorised absence.

If you take your child on holiday without prior authorisation, or if they have unauthorised absences, and a child has missed 5 days, Barnet Local Authority will issue Fixed-penalty Notices of £80, (per parent, per child), rising to £160 if not paid within 21 days, (Section 444(1) Education Act 1996). In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Year 5 Chickens Visit The Oak Suite

Some of our Year 1 pupils have been learning all about chicks this week. They were so excited when the chicks came to visit them in the Oak Suite. Thank you to Year 5 for being so kind and sharing their Chicks Project with other pupils around the school.








Exciting Events Coming Up This Month

Take a look at just some of the highlights coming up in the next month …

Safer Internet Day #SID2025 on 11th February

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

Year 3 Bikeability Training on 27th February

An opportunity to learn important cycling skills

Book Week 2025 - 3rd to 7th March

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

M&M Theatre perform Pinocchio on 3rd March

In a change to the original advertised booking - we will now have this classic story brought to life!

Our core curriculum and extra events support the Woodcroft Values



Barnet SENDIASS Online Information Session The Role of The Autism Advisory Team

Barnet SENDIASS is pleased to announce an online information session for parents/carers of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities who attend a Barnet setting.
This is a free event hosted by Barnet Autism Advisory Team (AAT) who will be giving a short presentation on their role in supporting children and young people with Autism and there will be an opportunity to ask general questions.

- Date: Wednesday 12 March 2025
- Time: 10.00am to 12.30pm
- Location: Online via MS Teams
- Presenters: Barnet Autism Advisory Team (AAT)
  Theme: Overview of the role and ethos of the Barnet Autism Advisory Team in supporting children and young people with Autism.

The session will include:

- A description of how schools and settings are supported
- A brief introduction to some of the key strategies used by the team
- Support available to parents/carers

To register please click here
If you have any questions, please contact: sendiass@barnet.gov.uk
Ablavi Dagbo (Manager, Barnet SEND Information Advice & Support Service)

Childhood Flu Vaccine

Information from Barnet Public Health



It's not too late for your child to get a free flu vaccine.
Flu can be dangerous and cause serious illness. In recent weeks, London has seen an increase in hospitalisations of children and young people becoming extremely ill from flu

Protect your child and others with the free childhood flu vaccine.

- Vaccinating children protects them against serious illness such as pneumonia
- It also stops them from passing on flu to older relatives and other vulnerable groups, who can suffer from the complications of flu.

There is still time to get a free flu vaccine for your child this flu season which continues until the end of March:

- Children aged 2 or 3 years: Any child aged 2 or 3 on 31 August 2024 (which includes those who may have turned 4 since then), can still get a flu vaccine at their GP surgery.
- School aged children (Reception to Year 11): Any primary school children (reception to Year 11) will usually get the flu vaccine at school. If they missed this, they should book an appointment via Vaccination UK's community catch-up clinics across Barnet.
- Children with certain long-term conditions age child aged 6 months to 17 years can receive the flu vaccine at your GP surgery or a community catch up clinic.

The nasal flu vaccine prompts "natural" immunity without making your child ill:

- The nasal flu vaccine contains a live but weakened version of the flu virus. This prompts the immune system to produce its own protection against the influenza

To learn more about the child flu vaccine *... click here*

Woodcroft Primary School
School Term and Holiday Dates - 2025/26

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Autumn #1

Pupils Return Wednesday 3 September 2025

Half-Term Holiday Monday 27 October - Friday 31 October 2025

Autumn #2

Pupils return Monday 3 November

Final Day of Term Friday 19 December 2025

Christmas Holiday Monday 22 December – Monday 5 January 2025

SPRING TERM 2026

Spring #1 2026

Pupils Return Tuesday 6 January 2026

Half-Term Holiday Monday 16 February - Friday 20 February 2026

Spring #2 2026

Pupils Return Monday 23 February

Final Day of Term Friday 27 March 2026

School Easter Holiday 30 March - 13 April 2026 (Easter Weekend 3 April - 6 April)

SUMMER TERM 2026

Summer #1 2026

Pupils Return Tuesday 14 April 2026

May Day Bank Holiday will be taken on Monday 4 May 2026

Half-Term Holiday Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May 2026 (Bank Holiday 25 May *2026)*

Summer #2 2026

Pupils Return Monday 1 June

Last day of Term Friday 17 July 2026