WOODCROFT WEEKLY

ISSUE 573 www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk 17th October 2025



Together Towards Success
With our AIM Values



Diary Dates

21st October Y6 Trip to RAF Museum

24th October International Day

Dress in your national costume or the colours of your flag

Half Term

27th to 31st October

Insta / X



Follow us on X & Instagram: **@WPS_Success**@woodcroft_primary

PSHE Themes

In school we have been thinking about

Diwali







Harvest Festival 2025

Thank you to everyone for their generosity towards our Harvest Festival collection this week. We hope that you had an opportunity to take a look at the class hamper display after school. We were also proud to display the pumpkins grown in



our very own early years garden. This year we were aiming to 'fill the harvest basket' with coins. We will report on the amount collected after half term. The proceeds from our food and coin collections will be supporting the local charity Food Bank Aid (North London).



Homework at Woodcroft - A Guide for Parents

At our parents evening last week we had a number of questions about homework. As a result we have updated our Homework Information Guide for Parents. This document will be emailed separately to families. In the meantime you can download a copy via the link below:

https://cdn.realsmart.co.uk/25c98ca8121dcecef8a222e01ee12a53/uploads/2025/10/17201359/Homework-and-Home-Learning-at-Woodcroft-Parent-Information-Guide.pdf

Homework and Home Learning at Woodcroft: Parent Information Guide

At Woodcroft we believe that homework is an opportunity to extend learning and encourage independence. It also supports families to develop a learning ethos at home. We want homework to be a help and not a hindrance. It should promote good study habits. It is an opportunity for families to talk about what children are learning in school.

Homework expectations vary depending on the age of the child. Broadly, we have three phases. Each phase has different routines and expectations that are outlined separately below. For detailed guidance about a particular year group please also refer to your curriculum information presentation distributed at the start of each academic year and discussed during September's Curriculum Information Evenings.

3 Phases of homework at Woodcroft

- · Foundation Stage (starting school)
- Year 1 to Year 5 (developing independent learning habits)
- Year 6 (preparing for secondary school and SATs)

FREE FRESH FRUIT, VEGETABLES & OTHER PRODUCE at BURNT OAK LEISURE CENTRE on WEDNESDAY 22nd OCTOBER



Burnt Oak Leisure Centre would like to let you know about a huge food drop event taking place there on Wednesday, 22nd October, from 12:00 to 14:00. They are working in partnership with The Felix Project, who will be delivering 8 tonnes of fresh fruit, vegetables, and other produce—all completely **free** for local families and individuals who need it.

Please note that attendees will need to bring their own bags, trolleys, or boxes to collect and carry their food.

They are keen to spread the word as widely as possible to reach those who would benefit most. Take a look at the poster included with this newsletter and inform anyone who you feel might benefit.

Here are the key details:

- What: Free fresh food drop (approx. 8 tonnes of produce)
- When: Wednesday 22nd October, 12:00–2:00 PM
- Where: Burnt Oak Leisure Centre, Watling Ave, Edgware HA8 0NP
- Who: Open to all families and individuals in need no referral required





Year 6 Secondary Transfer Applications - Deadline 31st October



Year 6 families should now complete their applications to select their secondary school choices for transfer next September 2026.

https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/

You can compare Barnet secondary school results here:

https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=302&geographic=la&for=secondary









New Lunch Menu - Starts After Half Term

Take a look at the new lunch menu which will begin after the October half term and run through to Easter 2026. A PDF copy has been emailed to parents but it is also available on our website https://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/school-meals-information/

ISS, our Barnet approved caterer, is the first primary lunch provider in the UK to introduce 'Cool Food'. Don't worry, this is NOT about the temperature we serve the meals, but that they are low-carbon 'hot meals' that produce at least 38% fewer emissions than the average school lunch. We are doing our bit to help reduce global warming!. You can find more information at www.eatcoolfood.org.

This term we are also introducing "mirror menus," where the vegetarian and meat options are designed to look similar.

Take a look at the images below, or download the full menu PDF ... Autumn / Spring Menu 2025/26







Woodcroft International Day on Friday 24th October



We are looking forward to our famous **International Day** on **Friday 24th October**. It is your child's opportunity to dress in their national costume or in the colours of a chosen flag to transform the school into a mass of colour that celebrates our amazing diversity.

Blue PE Kits should not be worn on International Day. If your child's class is scheduled for PE alternative activities will be scheduled for that Friday.

Barnet Household Fund Voucher Scheme Half-Term shopping vouchers worth £21.15 to spend at supermarkets



Next week, all children eligible for benefit related free school meals will receive a half-term food voucher from Barnet's LAs 'Household Fund Voucher Scheme'. The local authority has changed their eligibility criteria. Families must now be currently eligible for free school meals.

This means that some families who qualify for Pupil Premium, and would have previously received a voucher, will not now be eligible.

Eligible families will be emailed a £21.15 shopping voucher per child to replace free school meals over the half-term break. The voucher can be used at a range of shops including Sainsbury's, Tesco, Aldi, Asda, Farm Foods, M&S.

Eligible families, in receipt of certain benefits, will automatically receive a voucher on Monday. **If you think you are eligible, but did not receive a voucher, please contact the office** or go to https://pps.lgfl.org.uk/ to check your eligibility.

Do you now qualify for Free School Meals?

If your circumstances have changed, and you think you may now be eligible, please check your status on the government website and then call the school office as soon as possible:

https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

We will then arrange for you to provide your evidence so that you can begin to receive one of our free food or voucher offers.

*Please note: eligibility for 'benefit related' Free School Meals is different from the Universal Infant Free School Meals given to every KS1 and Reception pupils and London Mayors Fund meals provided free to pupils in KS2. You must be in receipt of certain benefits to claim the vouchers.



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

Tuesday 18th November from 9.00am

This term's Parent Coffee Morning will take place on Tuesday 18th November at 9.00am.

We are delighted to welcome our guest speaker, Julie O'Dwyer, to the session.

Julie is an Autism Advisory Teacher in Barnet and supports many of our families with autistic children. She will deliver a bespoke session based on the feedback from the Summer Term Coffee Morning. Topics to be covered include:

- Predictability and routine in the home
- Managing routines around sleeping, eating, toileting & device use
- Coping with dysregulation
- Meeting sensory needs

We look forward to seeing you there. Please speak to Miss Maynard or Jill Smith for further information.

Nursery admissions from age 3 years old

Woodcroft Nursery accepts applications for children to start from the age of 3 years old.

We enrol children at the start of each term. To apply for a place contact our school office.

Earliest 3 Year Old Admission Dates for the 2025 - 2026 Academic Year

January 2026 start – born between 1st September 2022 to 31st December 2022 April 2026 start – born between 1st January 2023 and 31st March 2023

For children that have already had their 3rd or 4th birthday please contact the school office to discuss whether we have any vacancies.

Apply Now

Applications for Woodcroft Nursery are made directly to the school. You can register your child for our waiting list at any age from birth. Please contact the Main Office to register or book a visit.

30 hours FREE childcare

Childcare Parents of three and four year olds that are registered with Woodcroft's Nursery can also apply for the new 30 hours free

childcare offer. Parents need to register in advance for these childcare offers, through the Government website.

https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

Full Time Places

Parents not eligible for the free 30 hours can pay for additional sessions and have their child cared for full time in our Nursery. Speak to our staff for more details.

More information

Visit our website for more information

https://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/nursery-admissions/



Barnet Sports Partnership Newsletter

Included with this week's Woodcroft Weekly Newsletter email is a copy of the BPSS Community Newsletter from our local school sports partnership. This edition is packed with information about ½ term holiday activities and local sports opportunities. You can also click the links below to download your copy ... BPSS Community Newsletter Autumn 1 2025



Autumn Half Term Break Starts Monday 27th October

A reminder that school will be closed for one week for the half term break from Monday 27th to Friday 31st October . Pupils return to school on Monday 3rd November.





at The Loop, Grahame Park Concourse, NW9 5XB from 12pm - 4pm on Monday 20 October

Welcome to Barnet Council's REPAIR CAFÉ at The Loop, Grahame Park Concourse



Hosted by CHANGING PLACES CHANGING LIVES











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part of #CEweek2025

Bring your broken items to our Repair Café at 7/12a, Grahame Park Concourse. Let skilled volunteers help you fix them for FREE!

Date and time

Monday, October 20 · 12 - 4pm

Location

The Loop Grahame Park Grahame Park Way #12a London NW9 5XB



The Birthday Book Club

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



Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Yuvaan (3R) age 8, Abokor (5R) age 10, Ruth (6J) age 11

Whole School Attendance 94.5%

Weekly Class Attendance Champions

Y1/Y2 Class of the week: 2LD 98.9% TOP CLASS

Y3/Y4 Class of the week: 3R 97.0% Y5/Y6 Class of the week: 5N 98.1%