



Together Towards Success
With our AIM Values



Diary Dates

Check out the festive diary dates page for all the end of term events.

SCHOOL FINISHES

at

2.15pm

(One hour early)

On Friday 19th December

Pupils Return

On

Tuesday 6th January
2026

Insta / X



Follow us on X & Instagram:

X @WPS_Success

@woodcroft_primary

PSHE Themes

In school we have been thinking about ...

Advent



Christmas message from our Chair of Governors



As we come to the end of the autumn term I want to reflect on just how much has been achieved across our school community this year. Woodcroft's ethos, "Together Towards Success", is not a slogan; it is evident in classrooms, corridors, performances, trips and daily interactions.

Academically, pupils and staff have delivered exceptional outcomes. Our Key Stage 2 SATs were our strongest yet with 85% percent of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and maths. This places Woodcroft 23% above the national figure and 13% ahead of the Barnet average. This builds on previously strong 2024 results which exceeded national outcomes in every subject. These achievements reflect strong teaching, an ambitious curriculum and consistently high expectations. Early Years outcomes continue to improve; phonics remains a strength; and Year 4 multiplication scores sit above national benchmarks. Pupils excel beyond statutory measures too: Woodcroft placed 2nd out of 355 schools in London in the Times Tables Rock Stars competition, with 6C named the top class in London.

Alongside academic strength, Woodcroft pupils benefit from a rich and varied offer. National dance finals, Royal Albert Hall choir performances, ukulele and strings concerts, the WOW Factor Talent Shows, Bushcraft residentials, Thames21 river fieldwork, Bikeability training, intensive swimming, museum visits, VE Mail letters to a WWII veteran and the summer fair all broaden horizons. This year's EYFS garden nomination at the Barnet Young Gardeners Awards was another example of purposeful learning and collective effort, with children tending the garden before summer and staff sustaining it through the heatwave. These experiences reinforce the wider educational journey that characterises the school.

Woodcroft has also taken a leading role in Barnet's move to become the first smartphone-free borough in the country. Our policy supports a calmer, safer learning environment, complemented by AIM@Digital, which promotes purposeful, high-quality use of technology.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I want to pay tribute to Mr Tallon, Mr Russell and the senior leadership team, as well as to every member of staff. The positive climate, strong outcomes and breadth of opportunities our pupils enjoy reflect your professionalism and care. I also thank our families for the trust you place in the school and the support you show throughout the year.

I would also like to acknowledge the Governing Body. Governors volunteer significant time to provide strategic scrutiny and support, helping the school maintain a clear long-term focus. Their contribution is quiet but essential. This term we welcome our new parent governors, whose insight will strengthen the board as we continue to serve the community.

Woodcroft is a diverse, ambitious and values-driven school. As governors, we are proud of what has been achieved. We wish all pupils, staff, parents and carers a peaceful Christmas break and a happy New Year. We look forward to continuing our work in 2026. Together. Towards. Success.

Robert Kulawik

(Chair of Governors, Woodcroft Primary School)

Excellent Year 2 Christmas Performance



This week Year 2 took to the stage to perform a Woodcroft classic, The Three Wise Guys. The singing and acting for the whole year group was outstanding. Thank you all of the Year 2 staff for the amazing work in teaching, rehearsing and arranging costumes for this fantastic show.



Wonderful Year 3 Ukulele Performance



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.



Music Lessons at Woodcroft

If you would like your child to develop their musical talents our instrument teacher, Mr Hughes, has spaces available for Guitar, Piano and Ukulele lessons starting in January. Please contact him directly for information: therosshughes@gmail.com

Alternatively, you can visit our website for more information about instrumental lessons in school ...
<https://www.woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk/music-tuition/>

On Wednesday we enjoyed a special Christmas lunch prepared by our wonderful kitchen staff from ISS Catering. We had wonderful food, crackers with hats and lots of bad jokes ;-)



School Performance Results for 2025



You may be interested to check out the latest primary school performance tables that were published by the Government yesterday. Woodcroft has yet again scored very highly with 85% of pupils passing ALL of their SATS exams. This places Woodcroft as one of the top 20 (out of 129) schools in Barnet and 23% above the national average score.

Visit the "Compare School Performance" government website...

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

Reception and Key Stage 1 are certified 'Germ Busters'



The pupils enjoyed taking part in the Barnet Health Team's Hand Hygiene workshop this week. They learned how to be 'Germ Busters' and memorised the steps of effective hand-washing. After practising this, they used a special black light to check for any germs left on their hands. They also conducted a black pepper experiment to observe the importance of using soap during hand-washing. We are looking forward to Barnet's Oral Hygiene workshop next term!



Class Party Information

Class parties are taking place during the week beginning 15th December - check out the Festive Diary (below) to see which day your child's year group will be having theirs.

Party Clothes

Children **do not** need to wear school uniform on their class party day. They can dress up for their party. However, please make sure your child wears sensible footwear and brings a warm coat.

Party Food

Class teachers will inform parents and carers of the arrangements for party food in your child's class. In school we have a number of important things to consider. These include allergies and religious diets. All party food should follow the same guidance. Take a look at our **Party food safety checklist**:

- Only provide items that DO NOT contain nuts – Woodcroft is a **NUT FREE** school
- No chocolate (sweets, cakes and spreads) as these can not be shared!
- No fizzy drinks
- Please, only supply pre-packed cakes and biscuits that come with ingredient lists (*So that means **no home baked cakes** even though they are the best!*)
- Avoid cakes or savoury items that require cutting in school - staff just don't have time!

We want parties to be fun and safe for everyone, so we thank you for your understanding and support on these matters. Take a look at the detailed partyfood guidance later in this issue.



Dates for your diary

Party Time

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 15th
- Y2 & Y4 Party Day is on Tuesday 16th
- Y6 Party Day is on Wednesday 17th

EYFS 'Xmas Stay & Play' and Party Activity Day

EYFS Xmas Stay and Play party is on Wednesday 17th (Nursery & Reception). Parents are invited to join their child in class at ...

- Nursery AM Stay and Play - 8.45am to 9.30am
- Nursery PM Stay and Play 2.30pm to 3.15pm
- Reception 2.00pm to 3.00pm

Festival of Dance

Our dancers take to the stage to showcase this term's routines. Friends and family have been invited to attend on **Wednesday 17th December at 9.30am** in the main hall.

Christmas Tree Display Festival

Christmas Tree Display on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th - 3.15pm to 3.45pm Main Hall

We hope you take the opportunity to come and see our fabulous decorated Christmas trees in the main hall.

The Dance Team Christmas Tombola & Cake Sale

Come along to our Cake Sale and Christmas Prize Tombola and buy your tickets at the event. Join us in the hall on the 18th December at 3.30pm for this exciting climax to our Christmas Tree Festival, and there will be cakes! If anyone would like to donate a cake please send them to the school office next Wednesday or Thursday. Thank you.

Woodcroft Panto

'Oh yes it is!' The Christmas Panto for pupils takes place on **Thursday 18th December**.

End of Term

The final day of term is **Friday 19th December**. We finish 1 hour earlier on the last day at **2.15pm**.

**Whole School
Attendance
95%**

Weekly Class Attendance Champions

Y1/Y2 Class of the week: 1D 94.3%%

Y3/Y4 Class of the week: 4S 96.5% 🏆 TOP CLASS 🏆

Y5/Y6 Class of the week: 6J 93.3%



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.



Happy Birthday to

***Andrei (1T) age 6, Mohammed (2LD) age 7, Nico (4S) age 9
and Hamza (6J) age 11***



PARTY FOOD GUIDANCE

At the end of term pupils will be celebrating with their annual Festive Class Parties. This is a time for some festive fun and games. Food is an important part of any celebration, and families traditionally send in a plate of food for sharing. **We would like this tradition to continue at Woodcroft.** However, in school we have a number of important things to consider. These include children with allergies, vegetarian and religious diets, safe food preparation, government healthy eating guidance and the school food policy. *If only life was simple!* We do have a number of pupils with **severe nut allergies** currently in school, so we have to take these considerations very seriously.

Please note: If you DO NOT wish your child to participate in the food aspect of a class party please let your class teacher know with a message in the Homelink Book. We recommend that parents who withdraw their child from sharing food at parties send in a separately labelled lunch box with party food items for their child. These individual party box items must still follow the checklist below:

Party food checklist:

- Only provide items that DO NOT contain nuts – Woodcroft is a NUT FREE school
- No chocolate sweets / bars
- No fizzy drinks
- Fruit juices should ideally not contain added sugar
- Only supply pre-packed cakes and biscuits that come with ingredient lists (*So that means no home baked cakes even though they are the best!*)
- Please avoid cakes or items that require cutting in school

Suggested party food:

- ❖ Sausage rolls or veggie sausage rolls
- ❖ Sausages / veggie sausages
- ❖ Samosas / spring rolls (*vegetable is best then everyone can share*)
- ❖ Pizza slices
- ❖ Sandwiches (various fillings) – *no nut or chocolate spreads please*
- ❖ Crisps and Popcorn
- ❖ Salad items - cherry tomatoes / mini cucumbers / carrot sticks
- ❖ Small fruit (satsumas, small bananas, washed cut grapes, etc)
- ❖ Non chocolate biscuits or individual cakes (in packaging with an ingredients label)

We understand the difficulties; however schools have got to consider the well-being of every individual. Thank you for your understanding and support on this matter.

Reminder about Birthday Bags and Treats: Please **do not** send in cakes & sweets for birthdays

Because of severe food allergies and individual dietary requirements we need to closely monitor all food in school. Unfortunately, this poses a problem when birthday treats are brought in – often late in the day! We therefore **DO NOT accept sweets and cakes as birthday treats**. We realise that this can be frustrating, however please understand that teachers are responsible for the health of all of the 30 children in their class!

For this reason we promote our **Birthday Book Club** scheme and suggest a book instead of sweets.



Reminder: Children can come to school in party clothes on the day of their party. A suitable coat and footwear for break time and lunch are essential!