



Together Towards Success

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Woodcroft Music News



Music Matters At Woodcroft

Welcome to a special edition of Woodcroft News; issue 182 is a Music News Special. We have so many fantastic opportunities for the pupils at Woodcroft I asked Miss Sherring to share and celebrate all these with you. Music enriches the life of the school and has also been proven to help academic achievement. We have got exciting plans for the future as we are committed to ensuring music and the arts are outstanding at Woodcroft.

International Week Success

I would like to thank everyone who supported our International Week. The children looked absolutely fantastic in their traditional clothes on Wednesday; take a look at the photographs on our website. We were also astounded by the quantity and quality of the cakes made for the International Cake Sale! The cakes filled tables stretching down both sides of the hall - and we still had to keep some back because we ran out of space. Your generosity both in donating cakes or buying them at the sale is much appreciated. It made everyone proud to celebrate the rich diversity that makes Woodcroft so special! Well done everyone, we raised over £320!

Year 6 Secondary Applications

Don't forget to complete your Secondary application before the 31st October. If parents miss this deadline they will be considered as late applications and may lose out on one of their choices.

Phil's Child-Minding Services

One of our parents has set up a child-minding business. She is a qualified teacher and is Ofsted registered. If you would like further information pick up a leaflet in the foyer or **call 07956960486**.

1/2 Term Holiday Next Week Pupils Back On 3rd November

Next week is Half Term. School is closed from Monday 27th October and children return on Monday 3rd November. Have a good week.

*Finally...I would like to wish all of our Hindu families a **Happy Diwali**. Thank you for all of the kind gifts of Diwali sweets that have been given to myself and my staff. I hope you enjoyed the celebrations.*

Meet the Music Team

Miss Caitlin Sherring – Music Coordinator

Miss Sherring organises the Music curriculum, ensembles and tuition across the school. She teaches weekly music lessons from Y1 to Y6 and manages the Barnet Education Arts Trust tutors. At Woodcroft we have two Singing Assemblies each week as well as the Woodcroft Choirs and Orchestra. We also aim to perform to parents every term and attend concerts across London as part of the new AIM@Arts provision.

Barnet Education Arts Trust Instrumental Tutors

- ◆ Mrs Valerie Maclean – Violin tutor
- ◆ Mrs Clare Hooker – Cello Tutor
- ◆ Mr Leo Aarons-Richardson – Woodwind Tutor
- ◆ Mr Ross Hughes and Ms Mariela Cingo – Ukulele Tutors

The Wonderful Woodcroft Staff

We are also fortunate to have a supportive and talented staff that lead exciting curriculum music projects, prepare fantastic shows and run a wide range of clubs that enrich the school experience for all pupils.

Attendance Awards: for week beginning

★ KS1 Class of the week: **2M (97%)** - Good Attendance!

★ KS2 Class of the week: **5M (99.3%)** - Almost Perfect!

↓ **Whole school attendance has gone down to 96.2%** ↓

Aim@Arts at Woodcroft

Exciting Events This Year!

As part of the new 'Aim@Arts' curriculum we want every child to be inspired by musical opportunities, performances and events. Every term the pupils of Woodcroft enjoy an outstanding programme of enrichment. Here are some of the many up and coming highlights. Also, take a look at the website (woodcroft.barnet.sch.uk) and watch out for further events to be announced over the course of the school year.



Barnet Education Arts Trust Infant Music Festival SUPPORTING MUSIC IN SCHOOLS

On the 23rd October, our Year 2s performed in the annual Barnet Infant Music Festival. Woodcroft hosted this year's Festival, and pupils from local schools joined us along with staff from the Barnet Education Arts Trust to perform a series of songs based around the theme of St George. Our pupils also prepared their own item for the Festival, *The Princess' Song*. Congratulations to our Year 2s for another wonderful Music Festival performance! Thank you to the Year 2 Staff for preparing the pupils so well

Christmas Performances

Every year Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 prepare and perform fantastic Christmas musicals which parents are invited to see. Miss Sherring also organizes and leads a Carols Assembly every year which includes performances from every child in Key Stage 2, and will also include performances from our Aim@Arts Musicians.

Play On! 2015 - Woodcroft at the Royal Albert Hall!

This academic year our pupils will perform live at this prestigious venue! On 23rd April, our Senior Choir will be performing at the Royal Albert Hall for the Barnet Education Arts Trust *Play On!* concert! They will join young musicians from around the borough to sing a number of songs and take part in an extended opera project to commemorate Shakespeare's birthday. What an experience the pupils will have, performing in one of the world's most famous and prestigious concert venues! More details to come.



Woodcroft WoW Factor 2015



In addition to taking pupils to world class events we will also be showcasing our own talent again at the 2015 Woodcroft WoW Factor. Pupils will be rehearsing and performing this term with the lucky winners for each year group being invited to our prestigious live finals evening show. Look out for more information in Woodcroft News in the Spring Term.

Music Clubs and Aims

Woodcroft offers a fantastic range of music clubs and extra-curricular activities. This is down to the commitment and dedication of our school staff. Clubs are lead on a voluntary basis and offered for FREE so that every child has an equal opportunity of access. One of our aims this year was to improve the provision of music clubs in KS1, and extend the provision to KS2. Mr Huckerby is running two Guitar clubs this year for students in both KS1 and KS2, and Miss Sherring extended the choral provision last year to include two new choirs. All of these fantastic ensembles will be continuing this year, and parents will once again be invited to the end of term concerts. We are also very excited to announce the creation of the Woodcroft Orchestra and a String ensemble, both of which will be overseen by Miss Sherring and Miss Blyth.

Thank you to our sponsors!

We are very excited to announce that our music enrichment provision has gained the support of two sponsors this year: **Coreco** and **Tutor Hunt**. Thanks to the generous financial support of these wonderful companies, we are now able to extend the amazing opportunities we provide our pupils further.



Extra Curricula Activities

Here is a timetable of the extra curricula music provision that we currently offer at Woodcroft. If your child is interested in learning to play an instrument please speak with Miss Sherring or look out for information in the weekly newsletter.

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Y3 Ukulele			KS2 Violin	
Lunch time	Woodcroft String Ensemble	Woodcroft Orchestra	Year 2 & 3 Guitar Club	KS2 Violin	Young Woodcroft Singers Choir Y1, 2 & 3
Afternoon			KS2 Woodwind	KS2 Violin	KS2 Cello
After School			Guitar Club		Senior Choir Y4,5 & 6

Autumn Term Music Dates

October

13th: Year 4 visit Royal Albert Hall for Primary Proms

23rd: Infant Music Festival (Woodcroft hosting)

November:

24th: Year 3 Ukulele performance to families

25th: Young Woodcroft Singers and Senior Choir performance to families

27th: Strings and Woodwind performance to families

December

8th: Y2 Christmas Play to families

10th: Y1 Christmas Play to families

11th and 12th: Foundation Stage Christmas Play to families

The Music Curriculum ‘Together Towards Success’

In line with the National Curriculum, singing forms the basis of musical learning at Woodcroft. Musical learning is focused through the development of life skills such as developing confidence in creating and sharing ideas and exploring each child’s individual creative ability. This is done through performing, arranging, creating and moving. The music curriculum at Woodcroft is designed to allow every child a safe environment in which to share and develop their talents in order to become independent and creative learners.

KS1:

Every child in KS1 is provided numerous opportunities throughout the year to perform to the whole school and the wider school community. These opportunities include: Year Group Christmas Plays; Year 2 performing at the Barnet Infant Music Festival with students from other schools in the Borough; and opportunities to perform in weekly KS1 Singing Assemblies. This is in addition to weekly performances to classmates in class music lessons.

Year 1

Pupils in Year 1 learn to differentiate between their speaking and singing voices, and discover ways to effectively use both to create interesting performances. They have opportunities to explore a variety of percussion instruments and use these to create and perform their own music.

Year 2

Music learning in Year 2 is designed to reinforce, extend and develop skills gained in Year 1. Pupils extend their vocal range and begin to learn songs with more challenging structure. Year 2 pupils are encouraged to be more creative in decision making and begin to incorporate more challenging rhythms into their compositions.

KS2:

Every child in KS2 is provided numerous opportunities throughout the year to perform to the whole school and the wider school community. These opportunities include: each Year Group taking charge of leading one carol at the school Christmas Carols Service; incorporating singing and movement into Year Group Topic Assemblies; and performance opportunities in KS2 Singing Assemblies. This is in addition to performances to classmates in each weekly music lesson. Every child in KS2 is taught to perform in both solo and ensemble contexts in line with the National Curriculum.

Year 3

In conjunction with weekly music lessons, pupils in Year 3 also learn to play ukulele through whole-class instrumental tuition. The skills learned in the tuition consolidate the work done in weekly music lessons. In Year 3, pupils are encouraged to explore their independence and confidence in creating and performing music, drawing on skills developed in KS1.

Year 4

Pupils in Year 4 are offered the opportunity to continue instrumental lessons begun in Year 3 in small group situations, which provide focused and individualized musical learning opportunities. In weekly music lessons, pupils explore a variety of music genres through singing, moving, active listening activities and arranging musical works in creative ways. The curriculum is consolidated by attending a performance of classical music at the Royal Albert Hall, which provides pupils real-life experience of music of the ‘great’ composers studied in class.

Year 5

Pupils in Year 5 are able to continue instrumental lessons begun in Year 3 or begin learning a new Instrument in small group situations. In weekly music lessons, pupils explore and utilise all the inter-related dimensions of music through arranging and performing known songs into new and creative works which they then have opportunity to perform to the whole school.

Year 6

Musical learning in Year 6 consolidates skills in performing, arranging, composing and moving which were developed in earlier years, culminating in the performance of the Year 6 Leavers’ Show in the Summer Term. It is expected that, by the end of Year 6, all pupils will have developed the confidence to perform creative and musically sensitive items in solo, small group and large group situations. Students are encouraged to be independent learners, taking charge of musical decision making and drawing on the full range of the inter-related dimensions of music to adapt known works or create interesting compositions.

Thank you for your continued support of music provision at Woodcroft.
