



WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

Special Needs Academy

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Headteacher

Mrs Lisa Hall



September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back after the summer break. The children have had a busy first week but are settling in well to their new classes. It was lovely to see so many smiling faces on Monday and to see how keen the children were to be back at school again. Welcome to all the new children who have joined us over the past few days.

Staffing Update

There are a few staffing changes to note. Firstly I would like to introduce myself as your new head teacher. I previously worked here several years ago and then moved on to be head teacher at two mainstream schools. As a result I am familiar with this fabulous school and am delighted to return to lead it. Thanks go to Mrs Selley for all her hard work over the past few years. We also welcome Mr John McGrath who has replaced Mrs Maureen Flowers as office manager and Mr Simon Fawcett, Year 4/5 class teacher. Over the summer holidays there were also two weddings so many congratulations to Catherine and Coral!

Driveway

The school driveway has recently been resurfaced and not only looks so much better but is safer now there are no potholes to avoid. When driving into the school please remember to follow the one way system which is clearly marked out to ensure that all transport is driving the same way. Please also remember that vehicles should not be double-parked in the bays as this causes congestion. The school site is very busy at the beginning and end of the day so following these rules will help keep everyone safe.

School Uniform

School sweatshirts, cardigans, baseball/legionnaire caps, swimming bags and book bags are available to purchase from the school office. Please contact Jo or John for further information. Please can you also make sure that all school uniform and bags are clearly named. Thank you!

Contact Details

If any of your contact details (e.g. telephone numbers, addresses or email) have changed recently please let the office staff know.

School dates

Term dates for this academic year 2016/17

AUTUMN	Inset day	Thursday 1 st September
	Inset day	Friday 2 nd September
	Children start back	Monday 5 th September
	Half Term	24 th ó 28 th October
	Inset day	Monday 31 st October
	Occasional day (No pupils)	Friday 9 th December
Term ends	Wednesday 21 st December	
SPRING	Children start back	Thursday 5 th January
	Half term	13 th ó 17 th February
	Term ends	Friday 31 st March
SUMMER	Inset day	Tuesday 18 th April
	Children start back	Wednesday 19 th April
	Half term	29 th May ó 2 nd June
	Inset day	Monday 5 th June
	Term ends	Friday 21 st July

Communication

Effective communication between home and school is key so please remember to keep us informed of anything happening outside of school which you think may affect your child. You can do this by writing in the home/school book, which is checked daily, or by emailing/telephoning in. Whatever the issue please do not hesitate to let us know - we are here to help. Thank you.

Friends of Woolgrove (F.O.W.)

The F.O.W. will be having a meeting on Monday 26th September at 7pm here at school. They are a group of parents and staff who organise events to raise money for the school as well as providing opportunities to socialise and make new friends. They do a fantastic job and would welcome some new members so please do come along and find out more.

Environmental Area

We were very happy to receive a makeover from Messrs Willmott Dixon, a construction firm with their headquarters based in Letchworth, in the summer holidays. They chose our school for their Community Day and about 50 of their employees worked very hard to help us develop our Wildlife Area.

The work included: treating the outdoor classroom which is now green; marking two trails with colour coded logs which means we now have 3 marked trails; building a minibeasts village area for hunting for minibeasts;

building a new raised flower bed in the sensory garden and generally tidied it up; building a log balance circle; providing log benches by the pond and log seating around the fire pit and treating the gazebo and benches in the playground.

We are extremely grateful for all this work which they also funded through fundraising activities they undertook prior to their visit. We are very lucky to have such an amazing outside environment for our children to use. I am sure you agree it all looks wonderful.



Coffee Morning

There will be a coffee morning for parent/carers on Monday 19th September from 9.30am to 11.30am here at school. Our family support worker, Anne, will be sending out another letter with more details but we really hope you can come along.

End of school finish time

Just to confirm that that the school day here finishes at 3.05pm for all children.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Lisa Hall
Head teacher