



WOOLGROVE SCHOOL

Special Needs Academy

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Headteacher

Mrs Lisa Hall



1st December 2016

Dear Parent/Carers

As the end of term draws nearer the children and staff are busy preparing for our usual Christmas festivities.

John Winder

Our Governors work very hard and devote a lot of their spare time to the school and we would like to say a very fond farewell to Mr John Winder who has resigned after 20 years of service to the school. I am sure you would like to add your thanks to John who has served as Vice Chair for the past 11 years and has always had the best interests of Woolgrove School and its pupils at heart. John was presented with a card they had made when he attended his last meeting a few days ago. We wish John and his family the very best in the future.



Communication

We are very keen to ensure we have excellent lines of communication with you all and that we use the most efficient and practical way to let you know what is happening in and around school. With that in mind we are going to re-launch Parent Mail next term. For those who provide us with an e-mail address or mobile phone number we will be able to send letters, information and details of events in a quick, reliable way that will reduce paper usage and ensure everyone gets messages we send home. We would, therefore, be grateful if you can ensure that we have the most up-to-date contact information. Please let the office know if you have recently changed your mobile number or have a new e-mail address. If you do not have access to an e-mail address we will ensure you receive all information via letters home. There will be more information to follow.

Children in Need

The children and staff made a great effort in dressing up in spots and 'Pudsey Bear' colours for our Children in Need day. Our very own Woolgrove School bear, Spencer, had a day out in celebration. As you can see the children loved taking him into our wonderful Environmental Area... and we think Spencer enjoyed himself too!! We managed to raise a terrific £103.47 on the day so all the effort was most definitely worth while.



Monster Ball

The Friends of Woolgrove organised another fun filled 'spooctacular' when the Monster Ball took place last month. A big thank you to the FoW for all the effort that went into creating such a great event.....everyone, staff, parents and pupils really got into the spirit and had a great time. We really do appreciate the support those attending show for the school. The FoW will announce the final amount of money raised in a separate letter in the near future.



Christmas Events

This is always a busy and exciting time of year for the school and there are a variety of events taking place which are outlined in the Key Dates table at the end of the newsletter. A couple to bring to your attention are the Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 16th December (parents/carers can always come to school suitably dressed too!) and the early closing of the school on the last day of term, **Wednesday 21st December. School will finish at 1.45pm.**

School Raffle

Thank you for those of you that have already bought raffle tickets for our school raffle. If you haven't yet done so we need to have the stubs and money returned as soon as possible. If you would like more tickets to sell then please let us know as the draw will be made on Thursday 8th December after the Junior Christmas performance. We would also be hugely grateful for items to include in the hampers which will be given as prizes... any non perishable food treats or pamper items would be most welcome... remember 'It could be you'. If we could have Hamper items by Tuesday 6th please as it will give the staff and children time to put them together.

School Closures

At this time of year we have to consider the possibility of the school having to close due to severe weather. The decision to close the school is made only when it is considered too dangerous for the children and staff to travel to the school or the site itself is not safe. In the event of the school closing a Closure Message will be sent informing local radio stations and Hertfordshire Council and the information will be available on the HCC website. Transport providers are informed by the school and the drivers will contact their individual parents to let them know that school is closed. Staff will contact the parents of children who walk to school where at all possible. Once we have Parent Mail up and running next year we will be able to send out personal notifications but we will let you know when this facility is available.

School Trips

The children have had the opportunity to go on some fascinating trips in recent weeks. Year 6 had an exciting trip to Letchworth Cinema to see a private viewing of 'The Secret life of Pets' and some of classes in Years 3 and 4 have been to discover the sights and sounds of Hitchin and on another day spent a morning in the countryside in Tewin near Welwyn... ending up having lunch at Mr Turner's mum's house! School trips are an interesting and exciting way of re affirming learning and we try to provide as many opportunities as possible for the children to get out into the big wide world, whether it be to post letters or take a trip to the local supermarket.

Great Effort

A huge 'well done' and thank you' to Mrs Zoe Rayner, one of our parents, for her tremendous fund raising effort recently. Zoe completed the Standalone 10k run at the beginning of October and, as well as managing to complete the course, she also raised a



wonderful total of £507.44 for the school. Zoe recently attended one of our assemblies to present the cheque and we will make sure that the funds get put to great use updating the school library.

More Good News...

Our school kitchen recently underwent a Environmental Health inspection. You will be delighted to hear that the team achieved a 5 star rating so well done to them!



Occasional Day

Just a reminder that school will be closed on Friday 9th December for an Occasional Day

<u>Key Dates</u>	
December	
7th	Junior Christmas Play 1.45pm start
8 th	Junior Christmas Play 6.00pm start
9th	Occasional Day (No pupils in school)
14th	School Christmas Dinner
16th	Christmas Jumper Day
19th	Infants Nativity 2.00pm
20th	Christmas Party 2.00p,m
21st	Term Ends Break up 1.45pm
January	
5th	Term begins

Yours sincerely

Lisa Hall
Head Teacher